

Attendance, Attainment and Achievement

The majority of our pupils are achieving at the expected levels in literacy and numeracy. Most pupils in Nursery are meeting their developmental milestones. We have continued to develop our approaches to meeting our learners needs. All pupils who are not on track to attain in literacy or numeracy are receiving planned and targeted support.

We have used our Pupil Equity Funding to continue to support the development of literacy and numeracy, particularly in phonics and spelling supports. We have also invested in training to begin our journey to Forest School accreditation. We have continued to ease the financial burden of schooling on families. Throughout this school year, we have ensured that no families were asked to provide financial contributions for visits or school activities. All children have access to a free breakfast too.

We have continued to focus on celebrating the achievements of all learners through our school value awards and house system. We continue to provide wider learning opportunities and have strengthened several significant partnerships in the local area, including regularly engaging in Forest School activities on the Blair Atholl Estate as well as taking part in activities that Live Active provide.

Our average attendance rate for 2024/2025 was 95%.

Improvement Priorities for Session 2025/2026

Our capacity for school improvement is good and our Improvement priorities for 2025-2026 are:

- Writing – Stephen Graham
- Nurturing Schools
- Play beyond Nursery



Blair Atholl Nursery and Primary School Standards and Quality Report 2024/25

Our Vision

We believe in Blair Atholl. We strive together for a Nursery and School community in which all children, staff and families feel respected, nurtured, and included and everyone is encouraged and supported to realise their full potential.

We will do this by providing a welcoming, happy, and safe learning environment in which everyone's strengths are recognised, and achievements are celebrated. We want to ensure stimulating, engaging, and relevant learning experiences taking full advantage of our unique Highland setting.

Our Values



Kind

Proud

Together

School Self- Evaluation	
1.3 Leadership of Change	Satisfactory
2.3 Learning, teaching, and assessment	Satisfactory
3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equity, and inclusion	Good
3.2 Raising attainment and achievement	Satisfactory

Learning

Nursery children are active, independent learners who engage deeply with both indoor and outdoor environments. Their learning is supported by a nurturing, responsive staff who plan around the children's interests, encouraging open-ended play and safe risk-taking. Weekly forest visits enhance their exploration of nature. Strong collaboration with a Family Learning Practitioner provides additional support through family-focused learning opportunities.

The pupils of Blair Atholl school are highly motivated to learn, especially when they can be outside. The use of outdoor learning approaches supports well-being for almost all of the children. The teachers also plan a variety of lessons indoors that promote problem solving techniques, build resilience and allow the pupils to question and wonder. The adults have planned the curriculum based on the children's interests which has increased the engagement and enjoyment for all learners.

The pupils have many opportunities to participate in a range of both sporting and cultural events including, Football, Cricket and Rugby coaching, as well as weekly Gaelic lessons, engaging with visiting specialists and enjoying performances and workshops.

The staff have worked meticulously to plan the best way to meet individual's needs. This work continues and is having a good impact to support children to rehearse key skills and deepen key concepts that they may be unsure of.

We are continuing to embed the use of learning resources during literacy sessions. This is supporting the methodical teaching of phonics which will in turn impact on reading and writing skills. We have engaged in the National Writing Improvement Framework this session. This work has supported us to be clear on our learning and explicit with our next steps. We wish to continue this journey next session.

Leadership

Leadership is a core focus at Blair Atholl, with all staff taking on leadership roles to support learner development. This culture of leadership extends to pupils through house group activities that encourage cross-age collaboration and student-led planning. In addition, new pupil leadership opportunities have been introduced, including a School Council, Eco Council, and Health and Well-being Champions. These initiatives are in their early stages but are set to expand in the 2025/26 session.

As a school community, our vision and values are regularly revisited. Our values awards now play a central role in our celebrations, reinforcing these principles within our pupils' everyday school life. The school continues to strive to be a key part of the local community, engaging positively with residents and businesses to make the school the best it can be. This has included hosting a village celebration for VE Day, supporting Rotary with their fundraising and supporting the local community to create shared spaces for the community to enjoy. The Parent Council work in close partnership with the school to bring about positive changes for the whole community.

Our Curriculum Rationale is based on our five Northern Stars – Numeracy, Reading, Writing, Health & Wellbeing, and Citizenship. These guiding principles light our path towards an inclusive, balanced educational approach, deeply rooted in our shared values of being Kind, Proud and Together. It embodies our continued commitment to equipping learners with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to thrive in an ever-changing world, with a significant emphasis on outdoor learning, digital literacy, and individual achievements.

Staff engage in activities and discussions to reflect what is going well and what our next steps need to be. This self – evaluation is critical to continue to improve outcomes for all of the learners in our school. Staff are keen to seek the views of pupils and families to support this process.

Dawn Hunter –Headteacher, Blair Atholl School. June 2025