

Top marks for educational achievement

Sàr choileanadh ann am foghlam



The standard and quality of education provided by The Highland Council for its 33,000 pupils is very high both in terms of the breadth of curriculum and educational achievement. Plans for new primary and secondary schools across the area are being implemented to ensure education facilities meet and surpass those expected in the 21st Century.

Children in both primary and secondary schools are also introduced to concepts such as enterprise and innovation, laying the foundations for future

prosperity. Grades of pupils in S4 and S5 generally improve each year and often outperform national averages, making the Highlands a great place for young people to live and learn.

UHI Millennium Institute (UHI) is a partnership of 14 colleges and research institutions, allied to more than 50 local learning centres, which provides access to a wide range of degree and other undergraduate courses, some of which are specific to the Highlands, its people, culture, landscape and natural resources.



Sabhal Mòr Ostaig - the Gaelic college on Skye

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig – colaiste Ghàidhlig san Eilean

*Highland Spotlight
Sùil air a' Ghàidhealtachd*



As one of the key component parts of the prospective University of the Highlands and Islands, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college, on the Sleat peninsula of Skye, has more than 100 full-time students being educated on a range of courses.

More than 70 people are employed at this campus which makes a significant impact on the local economy. Dynamic education, advanced technology and inspiring architecture meet at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in a high quality environment that is truly awe inspiring.

It is Scotland's only college of further and higher education which teaches solely through the medium of Scottish Gaelic. The courses are practical and relevant and studying at the college can equip students with the transferable skills and knowledge that ensure a bright and successful future.

From an employment perspective, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig is a good example of the wide variety of opportunities that can be found throughout the Highlands. Rural areas - once the preserve of farming, forestry and fishing, currently have greater economic diversity, with technology and research providing high quality alternatives in many areas.

Skills and further education

sgilean is foghlam adhartach



With education, learning and skills at the heart of a 'Smart Successful' Highlands, the further education system has a range of opportunities for those involved in both teaching and research and development.

UHI Millennium Institute (UHI) includes Inverness College UHI which employs around 400 teaching and support staff and North Highland College UHI in Thurso, which is at the forefront of skills development in the Dounreay decommissioning process.

UHI hopes to have full university status by 2007.

It provides access to a wide range of degree and other undergraduate courses, some of which are specific to the Highlands, its people, culture, landscape and natural resources.

UHI offers flexible entry points to help meet the needs of students who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to study at university level. It is also at the forefront of using innovative learning techniques through the use of technology to deliver education to some of the remotest parts of the area. It also helps foster a greater number of research opportunities - a key feature of every successful economy in the world.

Young Highlander

Gàidheal Òg



The Highlands offer a stimulating environment for young people to live, play and learn. To enhance this the High Life – Young Scot card affords young Highlanders discounts at many shops and leisure facilities.

Increasingly young people are being given their say on local and national issues. The Highland Youth Voice is an elected parliament of 70 teenagers from throughout the area, who ensure that policy makers and decision takers take heed of their views.

Plockton, in Lochalsh, is home of the National School of Excellence for Traditional Music and throughout the Highlands music is popular with our young people.

Sports facilities are improving as increasing effort is dedicated to promoting a healthy lifestyle for the young.

The Highlands are developing as a place that young people will wish to return to after their college or university studies.