

Dingwall Academy Standards and Quality Report 2004-2005

Achievement and Attainment



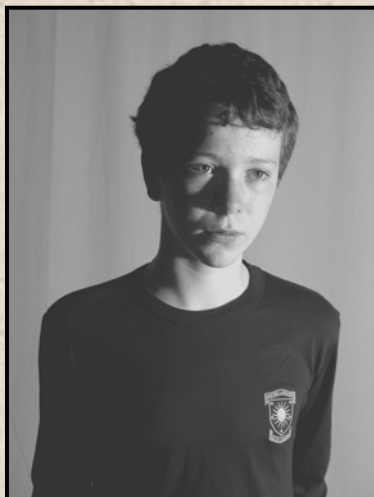
In curricular attainment 5-14 English and Maths assessments are above target level and above National and Highland averages. Standard Grade pass rates continue to be above or broadly in line with National average and in 2004 there was a marked improvement in Standard Grades with pupils gaining 5 or more Foundation awards and those pupils gaining 5 Credits or better. The number of pupils achieving one Higher rose from 37% to 49% and those attaining three Highers rose from 25% to 28%. The number of pupils gaining five or more Highers has stabilised at the improved level of around 12% and is above both Highland and National levels. The school is now very well provided with ICT and this is linked to the curriculum to give pupils appropriate opportunities to learn.



Worldwide Gifts
By Elizabeth Case

We are very proud of the contribution of Dingwall Academy pupils, parents and staff to local and national charities. This year the charities to have benefited from substantial fundraising initiatives include the following: LEPR, Macmillan Cancer, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Big Heart Highland Day, Working with Street Children in Calcutta, the Tsunami Appeal, Muscular Dystrophy, Youngsters in Gambia and the local Women's Refuge. The amount raised by the youngsters for charitable organisations is in excess of £8000.

There have been a significant number of remarkable achievements by our youngsters over the course of the session. Robert Mackenzie has become a champion in the field of climbing and he will represent his country in Beijing in China amongst other places during the course of the summer. Jennifer MacLennan has consistently proved to be amongst the top fencers in her age group in Britain. Joanna Shepherd has developed into an outstanding orienteering champion. Roya Maclean can almost make an accordion talk and she has won a variety of medals and titles during the course of the session. The Drama Group were again successful in competitions in Elgin and in Tain. The newly formed Wind band entertained patients at the local hospital and contributed to a charity event in aid of the Puffin Pool.



We had our usual batch of Gold, Silver and Bronze Maths Challenge Awards and a number of youngsters did extremely well in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; one particularly noteworthy event in this context was the Gam-Scot Expedition which involved students from various Highland schools and HRC IT technician and group leader Roddy Ross going to Gambia to take up the challenge of installing a fully functioning IT computer suite in a school in only a week. Malcolm White, Kerry Cannon, Jamie Munro and Morag Cole represented the academy in this Fujitsu sponsored event. Also of note was Kathleen Cronie's success in winning a Rotary Club competition whereby she was asked to go to the European Parliament in Brussels in order to represent Highland Youngsters.