

Report To: Education & Lifelong Learning **Date:** 25 January 2011
Report By: Corporate Director Education and Communities **Report No:** EDUC/10/11/WB
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Subject: Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Committee members with information about the progress being made with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.
- 1.2 A regular progress report on Curriculum for Excellence was requested by members of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee at the last meeting which was held on 11 May 2010.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Curriculum for Excellence aims to transform the Scottish education system to achieve better outcomes for all children and young people aged 3 to 18, and prepare them for life in the 21st century.
- 2.2 This report provides an update of the work currently being undertaken at authority level to support Inverclyde schools and early years establishments with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Education and Lifelong Learning Committee is asked to note the ongoing progress being made with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence in Inverclyde.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director Education and Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum from 3 to 18.

The curriculum includes the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated.

The purpose of Curriculum for Excellence is encapsulated in the 4 capacities – to enable each child or young person to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 None

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

The Scottish Government has provided grant funding of £47,400 to Inverclyde (for the financial year 2010/11) for quality assurance and moderation activities which are required to support the implementation of assessment approaches for CfE.

This is part of a national £3m funding allocation to local authorities to support quality assurance and moderation of assessment for 2010/11. The allocated sum is based on local authority teacher numbers.

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications

6.3 Personnel

There are no personnel implications

6.4 Equalities

Curriculum for Excellence aims to improve outcomes for **all** children and young people aged 3-18.

7.0 CONCLUSION

This progress report on Curriculum for Excellence outlines the current progress that is being made across Inverclyde schools and early years' establishments with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

APPENDIX 1

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee Meeting – 25 January 2011

SCHOOL SESSION 2010/11

CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE UPDATE

Curriculum for Excellence aims to transform the Scottish education system to achieve better outcomes for all children and young people aged 3 to 18, and prepare them for life in the 21st century through the development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Curriculum for Excellence Implementation Strategy Group

The CfE Implementation Strategy Group has met 3 times to date. This group has a central role in relation to support for schools and early years establishments. Its remit includes vetting materials going out to educational establishments, and all materials produced by CfE Advisory Groups require approval from this Strategy Group.

Heads of establishment will be kept up-to-date with the work of the CfE Implementation Strategy Group via Heads of establishments meetings, and through a newsletter which is scheduled to be issued to all Heads prior to the Christmas break.

Advisory Groups

- The authority Advisory Groups (Assessment and Moderation; Communication and Glow; CPD; Parental Strategy; and Tracking, Reporting and Recognising Achievement), tasked with producing guidance for Inverclyde schools and early years' establishments, have been given fairly tight timescales to work to:
 - The Assessment and Moderation Group has been asked to report by the end of January 2011.
 - The other groups have been asked to report by the end of March 2011.

S1-S3 Curriculum Model Working Group

- Secondary Head Teachers' are continuing their working group role tasked with devising a curriculum model for S1-S3 which will ensure a smooth transition for pupils as they move from a broad general education in S3 to the senior phase in S4. Current discussions are focusing on subject choice, number of courses to be undertaken, and presentation for SQA exams.

CPD

A new format for Heads of establishments has been implemented this session. Time has been built into the agenda to allow Heads of establishment to discuss matters associated with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence. This provides Heads of establishment with a valuable opportunity to share practice and discuss any issues they are facing with Curriculum for Excellence implementation.

A successful inter-authority twilight seminar for secondary Teachers of Modern Languages took place in October 2010 where colleagues from Inverclyde and Renfrewshire shared good practice with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence in the curriculum area of Modern Languages. As a result, plans are underway to organise an Inverclyde twilight seminar for all Secondary Teachers of Modern Languages. It is hoped that this seminar will take place before the Christmas break.

Inter-authority Working

Following the recent successful inter-authority seminar for Teachers of Modern Languages, it is anticipated that similar twilight sessions will be held for other secondary subject areas during the remainder of this session.

Monitoring of Implementation

- Quality Visits by members of the Quality Improvement Team to all schools and early years' establishments took place in November/December 2010. The focus of discussions between Quality Improvement Officers (QIOs) and Heads of establishment during the Quality Visits was on progress with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence. QIOs also had the opportunity to undertake classroom observation during their Quality Visits with a particular focus on Co-operative Learning.
- Our annual programme of school reviews will also provide us with information on the progress being made with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence at establishment level.
- Information on establishment support needs can be gathered from discussions at sectoral Heads of establishment meetings.
- Heads of establishment can also contact any member of the CfE Implementation Strategy Group to raise issues relating to Curriculum for Excellence implementation.

Additional In-Service Day – 2010/11

- An authority-led in-service day took place on Monday 29 November 2010 with a focus on supporting all establishments with assessment and moderation. The Assessment and Moderation Advisory Group produced support materials for all establishments which included:
 - An introduction to assessment consisting of a powerpoint presentation on the principles of assessment, reflective questions, and detailed presenter's notes
 - Materials were provided on the National Assessment Resource Facility (NAR)
 - Reflective questions on moderation for participants
- The week prior to the in-service day, Head Teachers and/or Depute Head Teachers had the opportunity to attend a meeting to be taken through the support materials that would be used on 29 November 2010.

- Feedback from Heads of establishments on the Assessment and Moderation materials, and future support needs in relation to assessment and moderation is currently being collated for the CfE Implementation Strategy Group.

Additional Support from HMIE

- As part of HMIE's plans to work in partnership with local authorities between August and December 2010 to support the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence, the following 3 clusters had 2 days direct support from HMIE during October/November 2010:
 - Inverclyde Academy cluster
 - Notre Dame High School cluster
 - Port Glasgow High School cluster
- The focus of this support was on assessment, transitions and curricular design. Feedback from Heads of establishment involved and pastoral Quality Improvement Officers has been very positive.

More Choices, More Chances

A separate Committee Paper has been submitted on the subject of School Leaver Destination Results 2010.

National Publications

All national publications and associated papers relating to Curriculum for Excellence, along with exemplars and examples of good practice are available from the national Curriculum for Excellence website (www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence).