

Report To: Education & Lifelong Learning **Date:** 13 March 2012

Report By: Corporate Director Education and Communities **Report No:** EDUC/12/12/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 their 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 RECOMMENDATION

- 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 of 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 £58,000 to Inverclyde for 2011/12 as part of a funding allocation to local authorities to support quality assurance and moderation of assessment as part of the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence. The allocated sum is based on local authority teacher numbers.

The Scottish Government has confirmed that this funding will continue for the next 3 years.

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 – 13 March 2012

SCHOOL SESSION 2011/12

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.

The implementation of Curriculum for Excellence is a key priority in the 2011/12 Improvement Plan of each early years establishment, and primary, special and secondary school in Inverclyde.

In-service Day – 15 February 2012

All establishments had a focus on Curriculum for Excellence on the recent in-service day. Authority support materials on the 'responsibility of all' areas (literacy, numeracy, and health and well-being) were produced for all establishments to support the in-service programme or be used at some other time eg staff meetings between now and the Easter break.

Co-operative Learning Academies

A successful 3 day co-operative learning academy for secondary Maths and Science teachers took place in February 2012. A further 3 day academy is planned for 21-23 March 2012 along with a one day Co-operative Meetings seminar for those staff who have a management role and/or lead working groups.

Parent Council Chairs Meeting

At the meeting of Parent Council Chairs in February 2012, a presentation on the authority's planned model for progression into the senior phase was given by Mr Grant McGovern, Head Teacher (Notre Dame High School).

Seminar for Heads of Establishment – January 2012

A seminar was organised for all Heads of establishment on the topic of assessment and reporting. The keynote speaker was Mary Hoey (HM Chief Inspector – Education Scotland) who has been leading work on assessment and reporting at a national level. Follow-up discussions about this seminar took place at the Heads of establishment meeting on 1 February 2012.

Partnership Working – Greenock and District Scouts

Greenock and District Scouts have been working successfully in partnership with Inverkip Primary School where experiences and outcomes from Curriculum for Excellence have been matched to Scout Challenge Badges. Pupils' scouting achievements are recorded by pupils on record cards in school, recognised at school assemblies, and included on a wall of scouting achievement set up in the school.

This partnership working had extended to involve St Patrick's Primary School, Kilmacolm Primary School and Glenburn School. Participating schools have an adult Scout contact known as a CfE Champion.

The Greenock and District Scouts have already approached other primary schools, such as St Mary's Primary School, who have pupils who are scouts to involve them in this programme, and there are plans to extend to programme to secondary schools.

In February 2012 the Scottish Scout Organisation launched a Curriculum for Excellence section on their website where the Inverclyde Model was highlighted as leading the way forward for engaging with schools and recognising the wider achievement of children and young people.

School/College Partnership

Our partnership working with James Watt College continues to develop with Skills for Work courses in Construction, Engineering, Hair and Beauty, Sport and Childcare being on offer next session to S3 pupils and S4 pupils who will have completed year one of their chosen Skills for Work course. The college is looking to expand the current courses on offer to S3 pupils and bring Sound Engineering into the S3 programme. Progression for S4 pupils who wish to continue their Skills for Work course into S5 has been confirmed. We are awaiting confirmation from the college that Higher Grade Psychology can be offered to senior pupils during session 2012/13.

This session a pilot Employability Award course has been successfully running in Inverclyde Academy for 20 fifth year pupils who are undertaking Intermediate courses. The Employability Award course runs for 2 periods a week and involves input from James Watt College staff. The Employability Award is an introduction to the world of work for participating pupils and focuses on generic employability skills to enable a successful move to the job market. This SQA qualification will be at Intermediate 1 level.

James Watt College is planning an Awards Ceremony for S4 and S5 pupils in April 2012. College certificates will be awarded to one pupil from each course in recognition of their effort, commitment and attitude throughout session 2011/12.

Show Racism the Red Card

As part of our work with schools on Equalities, the Show Racism the Red Card initiative has been taking place across our primary schools between January – March 2012. This successful initiative, has been running in Inverclyde for a few years now and involves workshops for P6 pupils which are presented by former professional footballers. The workshops have a twin focus on racism and anti-sectarianism, and the pupil and teacher evaluations about the workshops

continue to be very positive. This initiative is supported nationally and locally by the EIS who continue to be very supportive of our Equalities work in schools.

Other Information

A 7th Curriculum for Excellence newsletter is planned for issue to all Heads of establishment in March 2012 which will provide an update on CfE support initiatives at both local and national levels.

Members of the Quality Improvement Team have been focusing on progress with Curriculum for Excellence during the programme of Quality Visits scheduled for February/March 2012.

Curriculum for Excellence continues to be a key focus of Directorate Management Team meetings with M Mallon, HM District Inspector, Education Scotland.

Authority CfE Papers To Date

Listed below are the authority papers that have been produced to date and issued to all Heads of establishment. They are all available via the Inverclyde 'Curriculum for Excellence' site ('share resources' section):

The main items issued fall into three groups:

Framework Documents: These are major pieces of work, and are available for:

- Maths (including the Maths planners)
- Numeracy
- Health and Wellbeing

Advice Papers: These were produced by the five advisory groups. They cover:

- Assessment and Moderation
- Parental Involvement
- CPD
- Communication and Glow
- Tracking, Reporting and Recognising Achievement
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- Self-evaluation

Guidance Papers: These are shorter and tend to focus on one issue. The two issued so far are on

- Pace and progression
- Skills for learning, life and work

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).