

Report To: Education & Communities Committee
Date: 22 January 2013

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
Report No: EDUCOM/08/13/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 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Education and Communities 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
Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 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 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 continued this funding for 2012/13.

Additional financial support has been provided by the Scottish Government to support secondary schools with preparations for the new National Qualifications. The amount of funding allocated to Inverclyde secondary schools is anticipated to be in the region of £50,000.

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.

6.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation implications

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 Communities Committee Meeting – 22 January 2013

SCHOOL SESSION 2012/13

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 2012/13 Improvement Plan of each early years establishment, and primary, special and secondary school in Inverclyde.

Senior Phase - SQA Update

Secondary Head Teachers have been meeting to discuss the move from the Broad General Education to the Senior Phase for the current S3 cohort as they move into S4 in August 2013. Plans are underway to review our current interim secondary school curriculum model during 2013.

S3 Profiling

Through the work of the authority S3 Profiling Working Group, an authority template for the S3 Profile has been agreed. The profile will print as a double-sided A4 sheet and contain the following headings:

Side 1:

- My Personal Statement
- My Personal Achievements
- My Skills for the Future
- plus the option of adding a photograph and signatures of pupil, teacher, parent/carer and date

Side 2:

- will enable pupils to reflect their achievements across curricular areas, including literacy, numeracy, and health and well-being.

Every S3 pupil will have a profile by June 2013.

Plans are underway to produce an information leaflet for parents which will contain information under the following headings:

- What is the S3 Profile and why do we use it?
- What information does it contain?
- What are skills for learning, life and work?

S3 Profiling cont'd

- How is the process managed?
- How can I support my child?

Example of Good Practice: St Michael's Primary School Rights Respecting School Award

St Michael's Primary School recently achieved Rights Respecting School status. The entire school has been involved in preparing for the Rights Respecting Award which has included learning about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child which underpins the ethos of St Michael's Primary School. Weekly school assemblies focus on different rights, and pupils have been able to showcase their learning to each other at assemblies.

Children's Rights are central to the vision and work of St Michael's Primary School, and Rights and Responsibilities are embedded in learning and teaching across many curricular areas. The pupils have learned that with rights comes responsibilities and as well as a school and playground charter, pupils in each class have produced their own classroom charters all of which help to contribute to the positive ethos of the school.

Learning about Children's Rights has enabled to pupils of St Michael's Primary School to become Responsible Citizens, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors and Successful Learners. It has also contributes greatly to the development of pupils' skills for life.

Example of Partnership Working: Ardgowan Hospice

Ardgowan Hospice has been working closely with a small number of primary schools helping pupils to understand what is meant by bereavement and loss through death.

In addition, the Hospice recently hosted a visit for S3 pupils from St Columba's High School. During their visit pupils found out about the work of the hospice, met staff and patients, and had an opportunity to share in groups their own thoughts and ideas about the work of the Hospice.

SEEMIS Training

Training for staff took place in December 2012 on the use of the Seemis for tracking and reporting purposes.

Parent Council Chairs

At the Parent Council Chairs Strategy Group meeting on 27 November 2012, presentations were given to parents on assessment and tracking procedures in schools. Angela Kennedy (Head Teacher of St Patrick's Primary School) and David McArthur (Depute Head Teacher in Port Glasgow High School) shared their school's practice in assessing and tracking pupils' progress in learning.

School Reviews by the Continuous Improvement Team

A new model of School Reviews was piloted with 2 primary schools and one secondary school in November 2012 by members of the authority's Continuous Improvement Team. This involved a 2 day visit to each establishment to look at key aspects of the school's work including progress with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

Education Scotland – Project 66

We have been involved in Education Scotland's Project 66 which focuses on developing Assessment and Achievement Progression Pathways in all curricular areas. One of our Quality Improvement Officers has contributed to the work on Maths and Numeracy. The project pathways are scheduled to be published in the new year.

Other Information

Plans are underway to hold cluster events for parents around March 2013 which will demonstrate Curriculum for Excellence from early years to the senior phase.

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
- Self-evaluation

Guidance Papers: These are shorter and tend to focus on one issue:

- Pace and progression
- Skills for learning, life and work
- New Flexible Work Experience Model

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).