
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	12 March 2013
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/36/14/AE
Contact Officer:	Angela Edwards	Contact No:	01475 712824
Subject:	GIRFEC Champions Launch		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to update and inform Committee of Education Services' approach to taking forward 'Getting it Right for Every Child' (GIRFEC) and the implications of the associated Children and Young People's Bill in educational establishments.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 In Spring the Children and Young People's Bill will go to parliament. This will bring legislative duties and recommended practices to authorities around the GIRFEC agenda
- 2.2 Inverclyde has a clear strategic vision to 'Get it Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community' and develop a 'Nurturing Inverclyde' across our services. This places the authority in a very good position for taking forward the aspects in the Bill which focus on children and young people.
- 2.3 In September last year our Heads of Establishment attended a seminar which focused on their leadership roles in this agenda. In February, each establishment nominated 2 GIRFEC Champions to attend a follow-up seminar and who would play a lead role in the implementation process across our establishments.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee note and support the GIRFEC Champions approach in our educational establishments.

Albert Henderson
**Corporate Director Education,
Communities and Organisational Development**

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Purposes

Following the success of the initial Leadership GIRFEC seminar in September, it was decided to look closely at a suitable implementation model for this essential development.

- 4.2 Inverclyde has a clear strategic vision to 'Get it Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community' and develop a 'Nurturing Inverclyde' across our services. This places the authority in a very good position for taking forward the aspects in the Bill which focus on children and young people. Many schools are already taking forward innovative work in using the core well-being outcomes of GIRFEC in their work with children and young people and driving towards all young people being: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.
- 4.3 In consultation with a few Heads of Establishment and other agencies it was decided to adopt a GIRFEC Champions approach. This would allow establishments to take ownership of the development work and ensure practitioners were the key influences in the direction of travel at the planning and implementation stages
- 4.4 It is important to emphasise the GIRFEC and Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) are not two separate agendas. The GIRFEC principles sit at the heart of the delivery of CfE.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 The launch of the GIRFEC Champions in Inverclyde involved the following key elements:

- It shared the overarching vision for the authority, within which this sits.
- The Scottish Government development Officer for GIRFEC shared with practitioners the key messages associated with the GIRFEC practice model, ensuring that a consistent approach will be developed across our establishments
- Existing good practice in this area was shared with the Champions. This included, Nurturing Approaches and using well-being outcomes for planning to meet pupil needs
- GIRFEC Champions engaged in a change management workshop to look at how to take this work forward. This will result in an implementation action plan which will reflect the views of all practitioners who attended.
- Interested officers from other authorities attended the event with a view to future collaborative work.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The implementation of GIRFEC will require careful planning with all partners and stakeholders.
- 6.2 A few establishments have volunteered to pilot a new GIRFEC self-evaluation toolkit for national use. This will also support future work in Inverclyde.

6.3 Financial

No financial implications at present.

6.4 Legal

Legislative context

The policy is set within a strong legislative context. The table below states the policy's purpose in supporting the relevant legislation and national policy guidance:

- Children and Young People's Bill (due Spring 2013)
- Standards in Scotland's Schools etc ACT 2000
- Additional Support for Learning act 2009
- Curriculum for Excellence (CfE)
- Included, Engaged and Involved (IEI)

6.5 Human Resources

No implications

6.6 Equalities

Promotes Equalities Act 2010.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 The enthusiasm of the GIRFEC Champions who attended this event will ensure the successful implementation of GIRFEC and the duties of the Children and Young People's Bill across Inverclyde.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A