
Report To: Education & Communities Committee **Date:** 10 September 2013

Report By: Corporate Director of Education,
Communities and Organisational
Development **Report No:** EDUCOM/65/13/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 RECOMMENDATION

- 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

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 and 2012/13 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 2013/14.

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 Communities Committee Meeting – 10 September 2013

SCHOOL SESSION 2013/14

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 2013/14 Improvement Plan of each early years establishment, and primary, special and secondary school in Inverclyde.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards (June 2013)

In June 2013, 36 young people from Inverclyde received a gold Duke of Edinburgh Award at a ceremony in Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh.

Senior Phase

Secondary Head Teachers have been meeting with Education Services' Senior Management Team to consider a future model for the senior phase. This has involved considering the timing of option choices for pupils and the number of courses to be studied in S4 and S5/6. A consultation exercise involving staff, parents and pupils will take place from August to October 2013. It is anticipated that following this exercise, a briefing paper and associated presentation will be organised for members of the Education and Communities Committee in November 2013.

S3 Profiles

An evaluation of the authority template for S3 profiles that was used during session 2012/13 will be undertaken early in the new session.

Green Charter Update

Trips and outdoor activities have been successfully embedded into the curriculum as part of the awareness of the Country Code and to highlight biodiversity issues. A new Scottish Natural Heritage project 'Teaching in Nature' took place in 5 of our primary schools (Kilmacolm, Aileymill, St John's, St Andrew's and All Saints), and a display of the work undertaken by each of the 5 schools was showcased in the McLean Museum during the Summer break.

The Recruit 2013

At time of writing this report, The Recruit programme is coming to a conclusion with just 2 challenges to go. Once again the programme (and ultimately our young people) have benefited from more new companies joining the programme this year. The programme has seen a challenge, event or activity during all but 2 days of the whole Summer break. The young people have demonstrated total commitment and have given approximately 500 hours to the programme. The

programme will conclude on Friday 16th August 2013 with the Finale Dinner and should see a minimum of 7 young people gain job opportunities, maybe more. The young Recruits have certainly impressed host employers at every challenge or event. This year's programme is on target to raise £7,000 plus for chosen charity – Ardgowan Hospice.

CPD for Supply Teachers

During the school Summer break 2 CPD sessions were organised for Inverclyde's registered supply teachers with a particular focus on those teachers who have been away from the classroom for a period of time. Topics covered during the professional development sessions were Assessment is for Learning; Curriculum for Excellence, Child Protection and introduction to the use of the interactive whiteboards.

School Leaver Destinations

Inverclyde Council has been short-listed for an APSE award (Association for Public Service Excellence) for our School Leaver Destination programme under the category of 'Best Public Partnership Working' initiative. The awards will be announced at a charity dinner in Liverpool on 5 September 2013.

Co-operative Learning Academy

A Co-operative Learning Academy will take place for teachers across all sectors from 16-18 September 2013 to support their professional development in the area of effective learning and teaching.

Texas Instruments Support

In 2011, Texas Instruments awarded a 3 year grant to Education Services to develop learning and teaching skills, and subject knowledge, for teachers of maths and science in our secondary schools. The first year of the programme concentrated on developing the learning and teaching skills of the maths and science teachers with a particular focus on Co-operative Learning strategies. The second year focused on developing the subject knowledge of staff by working in partnership with other organisations such as Scottish Schools Education Research Centre (SSERC). This session has seen the distribution of scientific calculators, related wireless equipment and software to all of our maths and science departments. In addition, subject networks will be developed to allow maths and science teachers to meet in order to share good practice which will include opportunities for peer observation.

Examples of Good Practice

Blairmore Nursery, Glenbrae Children's Centre, Aileymill Nursery, Wemyss Bay Nursery Class and Kilmacolm Nursery Class will be piloting an early level planning and tracking system in the coming session. There will be opportunities for reflection and evaluation of the pilot tracking system including contributions from Primary 1 teachers as this system will provide a means of planning for, assessing and tracking children's progress across and through the early level.

In June 2013, a group of S2 pupils from Notre Dame High School won the Environment category in the national TeenTech awards 2013 with their 'Chargicle' invention which is an innovative bike attachment which charges electronic devices, such as ipads or tablets through pedal power. Notre Dame High School was the only Scottish school to be represented at the Awards Final which took place in London.

Science Curriculum – Early Years

Inverclyde schools and early years' establishments have the opportunity to work with The Edina Trust which is a charity which focuses on funding activities which enhance the teaching and learning of Science in primary schools and early years' establishments. The Edina Trust was founded by Sir Ed Southern following the success of his work on DNA. The scheme will run in Inverclyde for 3 years. Primary schools and early years' establishments can bid for £550 a year for the next three years to provide funding for a variety of activities such as Science Weeks, Science Visits, Science Equipment, Gardening Clubs or Science Subscriptions. Schools will be supported by a science specialist. The Trust has worked previously with a number of education authorities in Scotland.

Fair Trade

Several of our schools have been working towards achieving Fair Trade status and we anticipate that we will have 17 schools with Fair Trade status by the end of the year.

Commonwealth Games CPD

In partnership with the Co-operative Education Trust (CETS), 30 staff from primary and secondary schools attended a twilight CPD session relating to CfE lesson plans linked to the 2014 Commonwealth Games as well as other online resources developed by CETS to support CfE delivery.

Social Enterprise Awards

In June 2013 All Saints Primary School, Glenburn School and Clydeview Academy were awarded a Social Enterprise Award in Edinburgh for their projects which provided benefits to the local community.

Scottish Learning Festival – 25/26 September 2013

A small group of our schools will represent Education Services at this year's Scottish Learning Festival in September 2013 where they will showcase work on the theme of 'Nurturing Inverclyde'.

Inverclyde School of Football

Significant progress has been made with the Inverclyde School of Football which is a fully funded project in partnership with the Scottish Football Association (SFA). The School of Football is a project aimed at developing the social and academic skills of young people during their first and second year in secondary school. The project works on the basis that many skills developed while working in a football environment are transferable to school, work and social situations such as team work and communication skills. The Port Glasgow Community Campus has been identified as the School of Football in Inverclyde and the project will start once the pupils in Port Glasgow High School and St Stephen's High School move into the new Community Campus in October 2013.

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).