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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education &amp; Communities Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> March 2015</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; OD</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUCOM/32/15/WB</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Robertson Health &amp; Wellbeing Development Officer</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712979</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Update Paper: Breakfast Clubs and Free School Meals P1 – P3</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to –

- a) Update members regarding the initial stages of the implementation of the Universal Free School Meal Programme for P1 – P3 pupils
- b) Update members regarding the current position with regard to Breakfast Club Provision in Inverclyde primary schools

## 2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 As Members will be aware, in 2014 the Scottish Government committed to give all children in P1 to P3 the option of a daily, free school meal from January 2015. Details of the financial allocation to support this initiative were made known to Councils in July 2014, and reported to Committee in November 2014. This update report will provide some early information and figures about the first month of the initiative and operational experiences to date within Inverclyde.

2.2 In addition, at the January Education & Communities Committee meeting, it was requested that an update paper be brought forward showing a position statement with regard to Breakfast Clubs in Inverclyde, which this report also includes.

### **Free Meal Entitlement – P1-P3**

2.3 17 new (part time) members of catering staff have been recruited by Facilities Services, to accommodate a higher volume of school meals activity. A number of existing members of staff have also taken on additional hours to support new staff within the initiative. This has been funded entirely through the Scottish Government allocation of funding.

2.4 Schools were asked, at the end of the first week of term, to provide feedback on their initial experiences. In general, the comments from schools highlighted no concerns. Any worries about the time required to deal with larger numbers of pupils coming through the canteens was balanced with there being no need to deal with financial transactions for their youngest pupils.

2.5 Funding to support the Free Meals P1-P3 initiative was set based on an assumption of uptake levels at 75%. This is the average figure taken from the pilot authorities for the programme. To date, uptake is at 73%; therefore the increased activity as a result of the initiative is, at present, fully covered by the Scottish Government's allocation.

### **Breakfast Clubs**

- 2.6 Members will be aware that, over the past 3 years, all Primary Schools in Inverclyde have been given the opportunity to have a Breakfast Club. Prior to this, a number of schools had provision from their involvement in the former Integrated Community Schools, but this did not include all schools.
- 2.7 At present, 18 of our 20 primary schools are currently operating Breakfast Clubs, with only St Mary's and Kilmacolm Primaries without provision. St Mary's are currently recruiting Breakfast Club Assistants from their parent body, and will therefore start their provision within the 2014-15 school session, and Kilmacolm have consulted with their parents and are still considering the viability of a Breakfast Club within the school. Ardgowan's Breakfast Club has been suspended due to their current decant status. Their provision will resume when the school returns to its Newton Street premises. As Kilmacolm Primary is also due to go into decant, should the school decide to start a Breakfast Club, no provision will be established until after their refurbishment is completed. St John's decided to retain their Breakfast Club during decant, due to significant number of pupils still living close to the St Stephen's building; this is very different from Ardgowan's position, where almost all children need transported.
- 2.8 The long-standing Breakfast Clubs operate 5 days per week; however the budget available has only enabled 2-3 days provision as the other schools have come on line. A number of the schools have requested consideration of a 5 day Breakfast Club. Costings have been provided to show what the additional funding requirement would be to achieve this. These can be found in **Appendix 1**. App 1
- 2.9 All pupils in each participating school are eligible to attend Breakfast Clubs and no criterion has been set to enable access. 14% of Inverclyde's Primary School Pupils currently benefit from Breakfast Club provision and uptake ranges from 6% to 30% across individual schools. The schools with the highest percentage of uptake are generally those with 5 day provision.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Education & Communities Committee notes the content of this report.
- 3.2 That the Education & Communities Committee considers the future development of Breakfast Clubs within Inverclyde.

**Patricia Cassidy**  
**Corporate Director for Education, Communities and Organisational Development**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 “Food and Health” is one of the six Organisers of Health & Wellbeing within Curriculum for Excellence. In Inverclyde, we have developed the understanding across our establishments that Health & Wellbeing extend beyond merely what is taught in the classroom, and is equally, if not more, about the choices we make and the behaviours we choose to adopt in our day to day lives.
- 4.2 When considering “Food and Health” therefore, the role of the school meals service, and the existence and development of our Breakfast Clubs are as vital to delivering Curriculum for Excellence for our young people as would be a lesson on nutrition, delivered in a classroom.

### **Free Meal Entitlement P1-P3**

- 4.3 In the November 2014 report to Committee it was noted that the Scottish Government used the Healthy Living Survey (HLS) from 2014 as the baseline for determining the financial allocation for the P1-P3 initiative. Schools in Scotland will be completing the 2015 HLS in w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Changes in reporting have been consulted on – how do authorities represent the eligibility for Free Meals in P1-P3 now, as compared with P4-P7 or S1-S6? How will FME as a measure of deprivation be determined, given the universal eligibility in the first 3 years? Guidance has come out from ScotXed which will ensure that the approach to recording and reporting, in addressing these questions is standard across all 32 authorities.
- 4.4 The P1-P3 initiative was successfully launched on the first week of the January 2015 term. As has already been noted, close communication was maintained with the schools to quickly address any initial issues or concerns from both education and facilities management.
- 4.5 During the period of session 2014-15 prior to January 2015, an average of 53% of P1-P3 pupils received a school meal (either free or paid). 26% of the P1-P3 population were entitled to Free School Meals. With the universal entitlement for these school stages, the uptake of school meals has increased from 53% to 73%.
- 4.6 These figures will be monitored on an ongoing basis, both for reporting back to Scottish Government, and for local intelligence gathering / forward planning.

### **Breakfast Clubs**

- 4.7 The rationale for providing Breakfast Clubs is well documented:
- Poor diet in childhood is associated with poor child and adult health
  - Missing breakfast may have adverse health effects in the long term, and adverse educational and social effects in the short term
  - Eating breakfast has been associated with improved academic outcomes, improved concentration, increased school attendance, decreased school lateness and improved mood at school
  - Breakfast Clubs can provide a safe place for children to have appropriate social time with friends before school
- 4.8 Schools have autonomy over the provisions served at Breakfast Clubs, within the parameters of a reduced list of “acceptable items” included in the range of breakfast options offered by the supplier. Generally, schools will offer 3 different healthy cereals and toast made with white / wholemeal bread. Butter and jam are also available. Milk, orange juice and apple juice are also provided. A number of schools have used their breakfast clubs as a means of encouraging children to eat different types of food – offering dried fruit, fresh berries and porridge on occasion. These are not necessarily foods that pupils are accustomed to: the Breakfast Clubs assist in the food education of children.

- 4.9 Currently, 18 of Inverclyde's 20 primary schools have some form of Breakfast Club Provision. Those with 5 day clubs are generally the schools which were included in the Integrated Community Schools which formerly operated in the area. Most other schools have since come on line, but as all provision has been developed within the existing budget of £120,600, all "newer" schools provide only 2 – 3 day Breakfast Clubs. Kilmacolm and St Mary's are yet to come online (see section 2.7) and a number of changes / conditions exist due to differing school decant arrangements (also section 2.7).
- 4.10 The cost of extending provision to 5 days per week across all schools would be significant, with additional budget required for both provisions and staffing. Members are directed to **Appendix 1** of this report which outlines the cost implications of expansion to a universal 5 day provision. The appendix also outlines the current average uptake across the existing Breakfast Clubs. The clubs operating over 5 days generally have a higher level of pupil uptake than the 2-3 day clubs. All clubs are free at the point of delivery to all attending pupils.

App 1

## 5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that ongoing monitoring of the uptake and practical arrangements of FME for P1-P3 continues.
- 5.2 It is proposed that consideration be given to the cost implications of expansion of Breakfast Clubs and decision made regarding following this course of action.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

- 6.1 Below is a summary of the costs associated with the current / proposed delivery of Breakfast Clubs in Inverclyde, and also a reminder of the budget provided to the Council to deliver the P1-P3 Free School Meals Programme.

#### Financial Implications:

##### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

##### Annually Recurring Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
Various (see App. 1)	<b>Breakfast Clubs</b>	Current	120.6	N/A	Current cost of Breakfast Club provision
Various (see App. 1)	<b>Breakfast Clubs</b>	April 2015	232.91	N/A	Each cost centre is listed in appendix – costings presented here reflect universal 5 day provision

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
All Primary Schools	Free School Meals P1-P3	Jan 2015	505.293	N/A	Entirely funded by Scottish Government

### Legal

6.2 There are no legal implications at this time.

### Human Resources

6.3 Additional Catering Staff have already been recruited to support the P1-P3 Free Meals, as well as additional hours being offered / accepted by existing staff.

6.4 Should a decision be made to extend the Breakfast Clubs beyond their current levels, there will be staffing implications to this, all of which are noted in **Appendix 1**. App 1

### Equalities

6.5 There are no equalities implications at this time.

### Repopulation

6.6 Although only a small measure, the provision of support to families via services such as Breakfast Clubs can assist in the promotion of Inverclyde as a place to live, work and bring up children.

## 7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Appendix 1 – Costing for Universal 5 day Breakfast Club provision

2014/15 Breakfast Club Budget (Applying £21.5k reduction) 17% to staffing in order to balance budget											
School	Cost Centre	HR Code	No. of Days	Budgeted Staffing	Sessions	Current Pupil Roll	Current Daily Uptake	Provisions	2014/15 BUDGET STAFFING	Hourly Rate = £7.65 per hr 2 Hour Sessional Rate = £16.94 (incl. 10.74% uplift for holiday pay)	TOTAL COST
Allymill	02799	6922	5	3	15	230	28	800	8,024	8,024	8,824
All Saints	02800	6923	5	4	20	357	102	2,916	10,689	10,689	13,603
Arggowan	02809	6932	2	3	6	359	50	575	3,210	3,784	3,784
Gourcock	00353	7028	3	3	9	236	32	549	4,814	5,363	5,363
Inverkip	00354	6188	2	3	6	257	20	229	3,210	3,438	3,438
Kilmacolm	02797	6920	2	3	6	191	27	306	3,210	3,515	3,515
King's Oak	02796	6919	5	3	15	321	60	1,715	8,024	9,739	9,739
Lady Alice	02805	6928	2	3	6	233	15	172	3,210	3,381	3,381
Moorfoot	00384	7024	2	3	6	289	40	463	3,210	3,672	3,672
Newark	02795	6918	5	3	15	473	39	1,115	8,024	9,139	9,139
St. Andrew's	02853	6964	5	3	15	261	54	1,544	8,024	9,568	9,568
St. Francis	02801	6924	4	3	12	226	26	595	6,419	7,014	7,014
St. John's	02804	6927	3	3	9	194	25	429	4,814	5,243	5,243
St. Joseph's	02808	6931	5	3	15	145	30	658	8,024	8,682	8,682
St. Mary's	02798	6921	2	3	6	307	43	491	3,210	3,701	3,701
St. Michael's	02802	6925	3	3	9	262	47	806	4,814	5,620	5,620
St. Ninian's	00383	7023	2	3	6	325	46	520	3,210	3,730	3,730
St. Patrick's	02803	6926	2	3	6	281	28	320	3,210	3,530	3,530
Wemyss Bay	02810	6933	2	3	6	152	29	332	3,210	3,541	3,541
Whinhill	02431	6986	3	3	9	275	29	497	4,814	5,312	5,312
					197	5,374	179	15,230	105,370	120,600	120,600

2014/15 Breakfast Club Budget operating at 5 days per week											
School	Cost Centre	HR Code	No. of Days	Budgeted Staffing	Sessions	Current Pupil Roll	Current Daily Uptake	Provisions	2014/15 BUDGET STAFFING	Hourly Rate = £7.65 per hr 2 Hour Sessional Rate = £16.94 (incl. 10.74% uplift for holiday pay)	TOTAL COST
Allymill	02799	6922	5	3	15	230	28	1,330	9,656	9,656	10,986
All Saints	02800	6923	5	4	20	357	102	4,845	12,874	12,874	17,719
Arggowan	02809	6932	2	3	6	359	50	2,387	9,656	9,656	12,043
Gourcock	00353	7028	3	3	9	236	32	1,520	9,656	9,656	11,176
Inverkip	00354	6188	2	3	6	257	20	950	9,656	9,656	10,606
Kilmacolm	02797	6920	2	3	6	191	27	1,270	9,656	9,656	10,926
King's Oak	02796	6919	5	3	15	321	60	2,850	9,656	9,656	12,506
Lady Alice	02805	6928	2	3	6	233	15	713	9,656	9,656	10,368
Moorfoot	00384	7024	2	3	6	289	40	1,922	9,656	9,656	11,578
Newark	02795	6918	5	3	15	473	39	1,853	9,656	9,656	11,508
St. Andrew's	02853	6964	5	3	15	261	54	2,565	9,656	9,656	12,221
St. Francis	02801	6924	4	3	12	226	26	1,235	9,656	9,656	10,891
St. John's	02804	6927	3	3	9	194	25	1,188	9,656	9,656	10,843
St. Joseph's	02808	6931	5	3	15	145	30	1,425	9,656	9,656	11,081
St. Mary's	02798	6921	2	3	6	307	43	2,042	9,656	9,656	11,687
St. Michael's	02802	6925	3	3	9	262	47	2,233	9,656	9,656	11,888
St. Ninian's	00383	7023	2	3	6	325	46	1,461	9,656	9,656	11,817
St. Patrick's	02803	6926	2	3	6	281	28	1,330	9,656	9,656	10,986
Wemyss Bay	02810	6933	2	3	6	152	29	1,378	9,656	9,656	11,033
Whinhill	02431	6986	3	3	9	275	29	1,378	9,656	9,656	11,033
					197	5,374	179	36,572	196,335	232,907	232,907