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# **Curriculum for Excellence: working with primary and secondary schools**

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## What we will deliver in 2014-15?

This booklet provides a concise overview of the work we are undertaking in the primary and secondary school sectors, including in curricular areas, from April 2014 to June 2015.

Our approaches to working with primary and secondary schools include:

- building networks and communities
- providing resources and opportunities for professional dialogue
- using evidence to ensure we are focusing on the right things.

In addition to each team's specific areas of work, we are working on the following:

- Publish guidance on planning for learning and assessment, and features of effective learning and assessment across 3-18. The guidance will relate to overall curriculum design, each curriculum area, selected cross-curriculum themes and the contributions made by all partners, eg colleges, community learning and development (CLD), and will be guided by the new Curriculum, Learning, Teaching, Assessment and Support (CLTAS) National Forums
- Identify and share good practice in learning and assessment using outreach activities such as professional dialogue, conversation days, support visits to schools and online materials (including those published on Glow). These will promote better outcomes for learners through the broad general education and the senior phase across the curriculum. There will be a particular focus on learning which drives motivation and engagement for learners. There will also be a particular focus on learning which is relevant to preparation and skills for the world of work and employability.

Through our programme of school inspections, including continuing engagement activities following inspections, we aim to:

- evaluate the quality of a school's work at a given point in time, thus providing assurance to stakeholders
- bring about improvement through professional dialogue and sharing good practice
- provide evidence to inform national policy development.

We are working towards publishing a revised version of How Good is Our School?

We have also begun work to consider future approaches to school inspections.

We are establishing national Curriculum, Learning, Teaching, Assessment and Support (CLTAS) forums the purpose of which is to secure, consolidate and embed improvements to the curriculum, learning, teaching, assessment and support, and to maintain their relevance to deliver high-quality outcomes for all learners.

## Sectoral teams

### Primary sector

Alison Drever, Senior Education Officer

#### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- A series of five national conferences for primary school leaders
- An online toolkit to support primary headteachers in evaluating and improving the primary curriculum, which will be updated termly
- Work with schools, cluster groups of schools, larger groups of headteachers and local authority staff to provide support in their further development of the curriculum and identify any support needs
- Sharing of examples of interesting and innovative practice
- A termly e-bulletin for primary practitioners.

### Secondary sector

Fiona Robertson, Senior Education Officer (acting)

#### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Achievement pathways from the broad general education to the senior phase
- Final set of recommendations for action from the Successful Transitions to University Working Group (chaired by Education Scotland)
- Continued support for National Qualifications (NQs) including:
  - events and engagement with local authorities and teaching staff
  - route maps for every subject for National 4 – Advanced Higher
  - learning and teaching advice for National 1 units
  - support materials for all National 1 units and National 2 courses
  - route maps for learning, teaching and assessment and course materials for each of the 35 Advanced Higher (AH) courses
- 50 school visits to gather information on where schools are with Curriculum for Excellence and provide an opportunity to inform Education Scotland's planning for support
- Taking the Next Steps in Curriculum Planning – a programme of work to encourage secondary school headteachers to consider how curriculum planning could be radically different to support Curriculum for Excellence
- CfE Leadership events for secondary school leaders.

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## Gaelic Education

Joan Esson, Lead Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- An advice document on Gaelic Education
- Support for the delivery of Gaelic Learner Education (GLE) in primary schools
- Development and translation of key learning and assessment materials to support Gaelic Medium Education (GME)
- Progression frameworks for GLE and GME
- Advice on the methodology and principles of GME
- Gather the views of stakeholders on current professional learning needs of teachers and deliver Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) on Glow for practitioners of Gaelic Education
- Advice on the role of Gaelic Education in a 1+2 approach to language learning
- Support for Advanced Higher Gaelic (Learners) and in Gàidhlig.

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## Curriculum area teams

### Expressive Arts

Ron Cowie, Senior Education Officer

#### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Opportunities to build practitioner confidence and skills through the provision of training and resources (with national education partners)
- National Working Group meetings in each of the four areas of expressive arts and for music composition
- Creation of a national network of local authority officers with responsibility for expressive arts
- Support for Advanced Highers in Art and Design, Drama and Music
- An online gallery in Glow for 2014 Advanced Higher Art and Design exhibition at Tramway Theatre
- Support for local authority partnership agreements.

### Health and wellbeing

Suzanne Hargreaves, Senior Education Officer

#### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- A series of national conferences across all aspects of Health and Wellbeing (HWB) and Outdoor Learning (OL)
- A programme of practitioner engagements to support professional dialogue and learning and build capacity at local level
- Online examples of interesting and innovative practice
- A quarterly HWB and OL e-bulletin
- Joint-working with partnership agencies based in areas of multiple deprivation (including hard to reach communities, with particular focus on young parents) on aspects of HWB based on local needs
- Online resource for HWB at all stages of the curriculum
- Support material for Advanced Higher courses in physical education and health and food technology
- Online resource for PE in the broad general education
- Online resources for Better Movers and Thinkers, Gymnastics/Dance, and Adventurous Learning Outdoors
- A new national HWB and OL Glow site for practitioners
- A conversation day for HWB to enhance development and understanding of HWB in teacher education
- A programme of GlowMeets and twilight sessions across Scotland to provide high-quality professional learning to support HWB and OL.

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## Languages and Literacy

Louise Glen, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

#### Literacy and English

- Literacy Network meetings to share literacy strategies and good practice at local authority level
- Update to the SSLN Literacy Professional Learning Resource
- Primary One Literacy Assessment and Action Resource (POLAAR)
- Online resource – Literacy as Responsibility of All – and related events for practitioners
- Professional learning events for the new National Qualifications in English
- Online support materials for Advanced Higher English
- Professional learning community via Glow.

#### Modern Languages

- ‘Train the trainers’ course for local authority representatives with the responsibility for training primary practitioners in modern languages (in partnerships with SCILT, Scotland’s National Centre for Languages)
- Dedicated area on the Education Scotland website for 1+2
- Series of GlowMeets for those involved in the delivery of 1+2
- Support materials for Advanced Higher in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese and Latin
- Case studies to support modern languages in the senior phase
- Case studies for language (L3) within 1+2
- Experiences and outcomes for First Level modern languages.

#### Scots

- Professional learning and capacity building at local level to develop the use of Scotland’s indigenous languages
- Work with Local Authorities, provide inputs in schools, and create Scots resources for publication on the Education Scotland website (in partnership with Local Authorities and schools)
- Professional learning community via Glow
- Scots Language Ambassadors’ scheme for schools.

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## Numeracy and Mathematics

Carol Copstick, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Development of a virtual numeracy hub
- Strengthened partnership working across local authorities via:
  - National Numeracy Network meetings
  - engagement with local authorities across Scotland, promoting and developing good practice in numeracy and mathematics
- A National Numeracy Progression Framework to support planning for progression from Early to Fourth Level
- SSLN professional learning resources in numeracy, covering the concepts of time and number and number processes
- Support material for Advanced Higher courses in mathematics
- Sharing good practice road shows and support events for curriculum leaders
- Professional learning sessions in partnership with SQA
- A parental information leaflet to support transition between primary and secondary school.

## Religious and Moral Education (RME)

Joe Walker, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Case studies and support materials to exemplify effective transitions from primary to secondary in relation to RME
- Online support materials to exemplify higher order thinking skills in RME
- Online publication of materials supporting the delivery of specific topic areas in RME/RERC
- Online exemplification of approaches to Outdoor Learning using RME/RERC contexts
- Online support materials for Advanced Higher RMPS
- RME development visits and online GlowMeets to support implementation of the recommendations in the 3-18 impact review for RME
- A series of national events for school leaders addressing the implications of the 3-18 impact review for RME
- A route map through Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) in RME/RERC for online publication
- A series of national engagement events for practitioners exploring learning and teaching in RME/RERC
- A Briefing Paper for practitioners on Religious Observance, and subsequently a guide for parents on Religious Observance
- Establishment of a working group of local authority officers to support local authority policy and practice in Religious Observance
- Materials outlining the value of RERC in the senior phase for parents and pupils
- Materials outlining the value of senior phase RME for parents and pupils
- A pupil-led conversation day exploring aspects of great learning
- National reference groups of practitioners in RME and RERC
- Engage in strategic support activities with respect to psychology and philosophy.

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## Sciences

Ian Menzies, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Professional learning and strategic support to secure improvements in sciences education
- Support for the work of the Scottish Schools Education Research Centre (SSERC) to provide professional learning for science teachers
- A programme of GlowMeets and twilight sessions to provide high-quality professional learning to support the sciences in the primary sector
- Opportunities for cross-authority collaboration and co-development of course materials to support the implementation of the sciences National Qualifications
- Establishment of a sharing practice network to support the sciences National Qualifications and innovation in the sciences in the senior phase
- Collaboration with Energy Skills Scotland, Skills Development Scotland and other partners to develop a strategy for promotion of careers in the energy sector
- Promotion of relevant and innovative contexts for interdisciplinary learning in Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering (STEM) including community resilience, the circular economy and citizen science
- Website to support learning and teaching about the giant pandas and learning relating to conservation and citizen science.

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## Social Studies

Lynne Robertson, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- A numeracy resource for social studies across the broad general education
- A skills resource for social studies developed for use across the broad general education
- Continued development of Social Studies Local Authority Network
- Continued development of the Global Citizenship Local Authority network
- Good practice materials to support transitions within the social studies area
- Exemplification materials for the social studies areas which will help practitioners to identify the levels at which learners are working
- Resources which put Scotland's unique geography into the Learning about Scotland website
- Additional Great Scots materials
- World War I online resources.

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### Game on Scotland

- Post games legacy activities including sessions at the Scottish Learning Festival 2014, Velodrome sessions and updating the Game on Scotland website
- A series of athlete visits to schools
- A national conference for children and young people to celebrate and share the learning that took place around the Games
- Evaluation of the Game On Scotland programme and sharing of the outcomes nationally.



## Technologies

Kirsty McFaul, Senior Education Officer  
Jim Fanning, Head of Emerging Technologies

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Formally establish the computing science working group
- Practitioner conversation days for ITE/Teacher education, Business Education and Food & Textiles
- Publish the Technologies Impact Review and establish a national technologies network
- Publication of a Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) improvement framework
- Support materials and resources from primary to Advanced Higher for computing science
- Support for the development of the Glow Programme Help & Support catalogue for teachers
- Support for the development, use and evaluation of the Glow Programme broadcasting solution
- A Numeracy and Technologies resource
- Support the development of the Glow online Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to enhance career-long professional development
- Curriculum exemplars promoting digital learning, through the Glow based Learning Together Hub
- An online planning tool enabling educators to plan learning experiences for CfE
- A catalogue of teacher narratives to illustrate the application of mobile technologies.

## Assessment

George Sinclair, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Advice on transitions from the broad general education to senior phase (in partnership with SQA)
- Identification and sharing of practices in profiling at transitions, and in the senior phase to support transition to positive destinations
- Further development of approaches to assessing progress and achievement, including exemplification of work typical of achieving a level
- Improvements to the National Assessment Resource (NAR) for practitioners
- Further NAR exemplars, including exemplars relating to the transition between the broad general education and the senior phase
- Simplify, and improve access to, key resources in the assessment section of the Education Scotland website
- A suite of assessment messages and resources for practitioners
- Take forward actions relating to the Report of the Working Group on the First Year of the New National Qualifications and report of the Working Group on Tackling Bureaucracy
- With partners, provide advice on assessment for parents, including exemplars on approaches to reporting.

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## Developing our Young Workforce

Peter Kormylo, Senior Education Officer

### What we will deliver in 2014-15

- Development and understanding of skills for learning, life and work (3-18) promoted amongst learners, parents, carers, practitioners and employers through:
  - Skills Conversation Days
  - a range of online resources, including CfE briefing paper: Developing Skills
  - World of Work network
  - Inter-Authority (Emerging Practice) Skills network
  - Symposium for employers held to raise awareness of how CfE paves the way to employability
- Programme of support developed to implement the relevant recommendations of the Developing Scotland's Young Workforce report within broad general education and the senior phase.

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