South Ayrshire Council

Report by Director of Education to Cabinet of 27 September 2022

Subject: South West Educational Improvement Collaborative – Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to publish the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative (SWEIC) Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet approves the SWEIC Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23 (Appendix 1).

3 Background

- 3.1 The Scottish Government established six regional improvement collaboratives across Scotland towards the end of 2017. South Ayrshire forms part of the South West collaborative along with East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway. Each collaborative submitted their first plan to Education Scotland in January 2018. This plan is the fifth SWEIC regional improvement plan to be submitted.
- 3.2 During 2021/22, the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative (SWEIC) made very good progress implementing the regional improvement plan.
- 3.3 High level critical indicators and SWEIC performance data have been used to measure performance where appropriate, however this data should be treated with caution as it was gathered during the pandemic and is not comparable with previous years (Appendix 2).
- 3.4 Although there are High Level Critical Indicators taken from the benchmarking tool INSIGHT, advice on the use of this data is that the results for 2021 should not be directly compared to those in previous years or future years as they are estimated grades. The 2021 Insight data cannot be used to directly demonstrate subject, school, authority or RIC improvement compared with previous years.
- 3.5 Feedback from online professional learning and network events are very positive with participants appreciating the time and space to collaborate with colleagues, sharing their practice and potential solutions to challenges. This has impacted

- positively on school improvement as staff now have wider networks in which to collaborate, sharing and deepening their expertise.
- 3.6 A summary of progress made by each workstream during 2021/22 is attached as (Appendix 2).
- 3.7 The SWEIC Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23 has been refined to reflect the pressures that education staff at all levels are under, responding to rapidly changing situations in schools and appreciates that staff are fully focussed on engaging with children, young people and families. The plan reflects our intention to support school recovery, reconnect with staff and learners and take forward our learning from lockdown.
- 3.8 The Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23 is supported by a grant from the Scottish Government amounting to £548,221. This grant will fund seconded officers who will support collaborative work and fund e-learning and professional learning activities. The plan has been submitted to Education Scotland in draft however it is subject to approval by the four Councils who form part of the collaborative.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Cabinet agrees the Regional Improvement Plan 2022/23 (Appendix 1).
- 4.2 It is also proposed that the SWEIC Regional Improvement Plan is published on all four Council's websites for members of the public and other stakeholders; the plan is made available in other languages should it be requested and the plan is made available on the intranet site for staff.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no funding implications for South Ayrshire Council and in the event of less funding being given than is sought, the collaborative will operate within the funding made available. Dumfries and Galloway Council are the host authority for funding.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 SWEIC seconded posts are employed in the local authority where the member of staff lives or currently works. Additional temporary posts will only be created within the funding made available by Scottish Government.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

8.2.1 The risks associated with rejecting the recommendations are the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative will be less effective without the plan in place and the associated funding bid for resources to operate the collaborative.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as Appendix 3.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 **Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Commitment 2 of the Council Plan: Closing the Gap/ Reduce poverty and disadvantage.

13. Results of Consultation

- 13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.
- 13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Stephen Ferry, Portfolio Holder for Education, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.
- 13.3 Consultation has taken place with SWEIC Strategic Officers, Lead Officers and Seconded Officers and other associated groups and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes

14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Director of Education will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Cabinet in the 'Council and Cabinet Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

Implementation	Due date	Managed by
Confirm approval of plan with Education Scotland	30 September 2022	Director of Education
The plan will be uploaded to the Council website and The Core	31 October 2022	Director of Education

Background Papers South West Educational Improvement Collaborative Regional

Improvement Plan 2022/23; SWEIC Funding Bid 2022

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Date: 21 September 2022

South West Educational Improvement Collaborative:

Plan 2022/23



Educational Improvement
Collaborative



Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative plan for 2022/23.

Since the introduction of the Regional Improvement Collaboratives to the national educational landscape in 2017, our aim in the South West has been to add value to what hard pressed senior leaders, class teachers and education practitioners do each day. From the outset we have tried to add value by building collaborative capacity through opportunities to meet, share effective practice and provide peer-to-peer learning and challenge.

We know that there are no easy answers to the truly complex problems that face us in education today. Together, we are responsible for over 75000 children across East, North and South Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway. As leaders at all levels throughout the SWEIC, we are working together to learn, plan and cultivate the conditions where collective wisdom emerges to help us respond to the challenges we face and improve the life chances for children and families who live in the South West.





We have achieved a lot together over the past year.

Our SWEIC <u>Blog</u> and <u>Twitter</u> accounts continue to be used in tandem to share information across the four Councils and we have a growing audience. Following the consultation with you and young people across the schools in the South West we have agreed this plan for next session. While we know there are many planning and reporting requirements already on us, this plan is focussed and practical. It is based on themes we have been working on already and is a development aligned with your own authority Education Plans, as well as Community Learning and Development plans and the Child Poverty Plans from the four Councils.



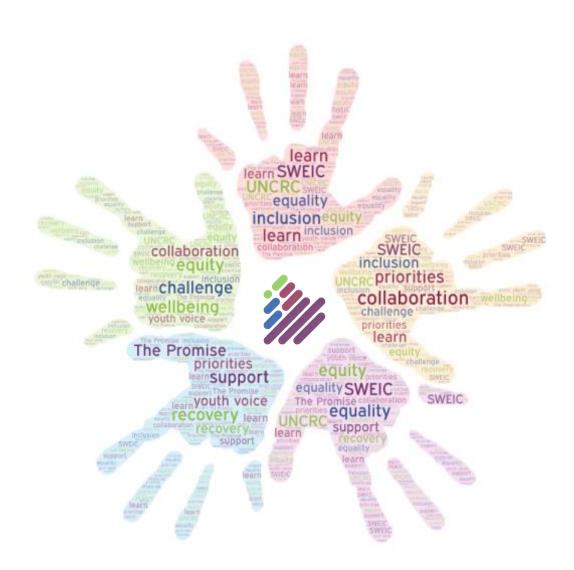
Our young people gave us a strong message on the importance of wellbeing and in having their say on education matters. Our plan, aligned with priorities you have set within your own Councils, reflects the common threads of inclusion with a particular focus on wellbeing, recovery and equity and equality for all.

The South West Education Improvement Collaborative is, at its simplest, us – working together to support one another to benefit the communities we serve. I know it has been a hard year for all of us and next year will bring its own difficulties, but this plan sets out our ambition to come back together stronger. I am very grateful to those who have shared their time and expertise to support colleagues across the SWEIC. In particular my thanks to Sheelagh Rusby, Liz Candlish, the workstream leads and my fellow Directors and Heads of Education across the four Councils for their support.

I hope you choose to be involved and I look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Dr Gillian Brydson, Strategic Lead, SWEIC

Director for Skills, Education and Learning in Dumfries and Galloway Council





SWEIC Plan

Since spring of 2020, children, and young people across the South West, as with the rest of Scotland, have faced a period of significant change and at times disruption in their learning as a consequence of the COVID 19 pandemic. Across our learning communities, staff have ably led flexible and creative responses to providing continued support for children and young people in their learning and wellbeing. There is an opportunity now to build on the innovation and positive outcomes which emerged at this time despite the challenges and ensure that every learner has the opportunity to build the resilience, skill and mindset that empowers them to become successful learners, responsible citizens, confident individuals, and effective contributors.



As a Regional Improvement Collaborative in considering the challenges that lie ahead, we are well placed across the South West to work together to support our agenda of 'coming back together stronger'.



The National Improvement Framework

The National Improvement Framework 2022 sets out an ambitious plan which working alongside partners the ambition to develop an empowered and collaborative system, where young people have an equal voice, and everyone's contribution is heard and valued and improving children and young people's outcomes is at the heart of everything that is done. The second phase of the Scottish Attainment Challenge also sets out the expectation for us to accelerate progress, without overburdening the system.

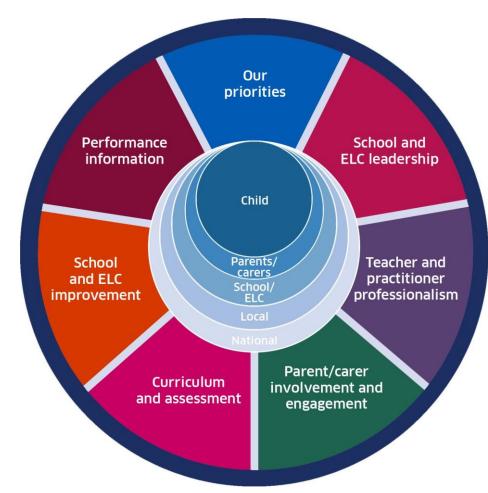


Key priorities of the National Improvement Framework (NIF) 2022

- Placing the human rights and needs of every child and young person at the centre of education.
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing.
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people.
- Improvement in skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people.
- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy.

The drivers of improvement in the outcomes achieved by children and young people through education are:

- School and ELC leadership
- Teacher and practitioner professionalism
- Parent/carer involvement and engagement
- Curriculum and assessment
- School and ELC improvement
- Performance information





Priorities

The four local authorities who come together as the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative had already broadly similar priorities within their Education Plans for 2022, as Councils aligned their priorities against key national agreements such as The Promise, the Morgan Report, and the Education Scotland Corporate Plan.

In considering how our SWEIC plan best supports this work, our aim is therefore to further develop our culture of collaboration through prioritising the NIF priorities and drivers alongside our focus on inclusion to improve the educational and life chances of the 75,000 children and young people who live and learn in East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway.

This has enabled us to place front and centre in our plan the principles of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), placing our children and young people and their interests at the heart of all that we do. This approach is underpinned by children's rights and its principles and reflect the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which are embedded in all our planned workstream activity.













Common Threads

Common threads for our planned inclusive approach can be identified through the strands of leadership, curriculum 3-18, 'getting it right for all our learners' with a particular focus on wellbeing, recovery and equity and equality for all.

Common threads for our planned inclusive approach can be identified through the strands of:

- NIF priorities and drivers
- Curriculum 3-18
- Getting it right for all our learners' with a particular focus on wellbeing
- Recovery
- Equity and Equality for all
- Leadership
- Refreshed Scottish Attainment Challenge

Emerging
common themes
Education Scotland
Corporate Plan
LOCAL AUTHORITY
EDUCATION PLANS

GIRFEC UNCRC
The Promise
The Morgan Report
Realising the Ambition

NATIONAL POLICIES

Curriculum
for Excellence
The National
Improvement
Framework and
Drivers 2022



Revised SWEIC Priorities and Drivers 2022-23

Priority Focus	Priority
Inclusion and Equalities	Embrace diversity and equality by embedding inclusion as a priority for learning and teaching to remove systemic barriers to learning.
Recovery	Build on the innovation and strengths that have emerged over the past 2 years to support our children and young people move from pandemic to post pandemic, through a refocused approach with an emphasis on wellbeing and inclusion through Getting It Right For all Learners.
Leadership	Support empowerment and collaboration to enable leaders at all levels provide effective leadership at a time of significant change, prioritise appropriate learning experiences aligned closely with the needs of learners, targeting of resources, the school and its community's context.
3-18	Support the development of pathways which best meet the needs of our children and young people through the delivery of a progressive, inclusive curriculum, developing skills and knowledge required to cope and adapt to life in the 21 st century, regardless of the challenges and enabling them to thrive in a future which is increasingly unpredictable.



Having agreed these revised priorities and drivers through a range of consultation activities, the workstreams remits for 2022- 23 have been refocused to support delivery by adding value and collaborative opportunity to enhance local authority activity. Each workstream will be supported by a number of additional subgroups which will report directly into the workstream.

In order to achieve our priorities and our vision of 'improving outcomes for learners by offering and facilitating peer to peer, school to school and authority to authority professional learning that is built upon collaboration without borders' each workstream has therefore developed their plans to:





SWEIC Structure 2022/23

	SWEIC Ma	anagement	SWEIC Team	SWEIC Workstreams	Workstream Subgroups		ner SWEIC Groups
nent	Regional Lead Officer		Workstream Leads	Curriculum Innovation	@South-West Connects Digital Leads DYW Early Years BGE: Primary/S1-3 Senior Phase	Centres, Early Years, dary	Staffing CLPL LA Leads Education
Scottish Government	LA Strategic Leads SWEIC Quality Improvement Manager	Quality Improvement Manager Data Analyst	Equity and Equality for All	CLD Wider Achievement Outdoor Learning Network Recovery Teachers Equity and Equality	ols: Early Learning Cen Primary and Secondary	Psychologists Early Years Strategic Leads SAC	
	Education Scotland Senior Regional Advisor		Digital Support Officer	Getting it Right for All Learners	Inclusion Literacy Numeracy Wellbeing QAMSO Leadership: Leaders of Pedagogues	Families of Schools:	LA Leads Learning for Sustainability CLD LA Network Leads
ar	hief Executives nd Education Convenors		Educ	ation Scotland Re	egional Improvement Team		

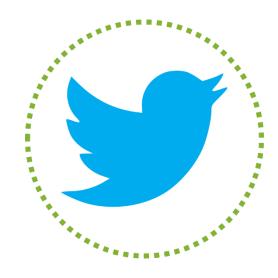


Communication: Blog and Twitter

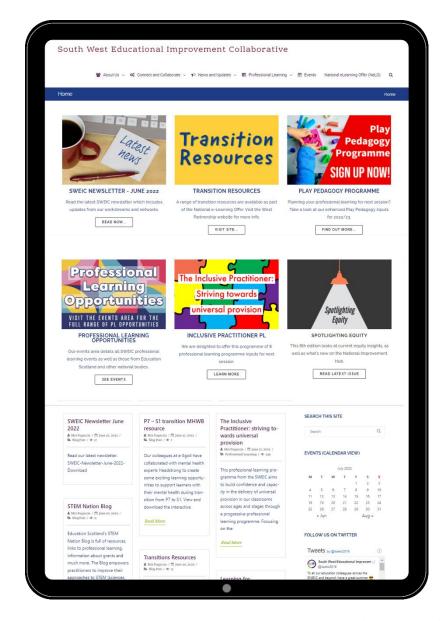
The SWEIC Blog is our main line of communication to teachers, staff and management across the collaborative. It lets us keep you informed and provide resources in a single location – a one-stop-shop. Content on the Blog is provided mainly by workstreams, and partners such as Education Scotland.

Each week we publish a post titled "What's New?". The post is brief, providing a snapshot of news and upcoming events from across the SWEIC and nationally.

We also have a Twitter account, which we use in tandem with the Blog.



https://twitter.com/sweic2019



blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/sweic/

Curriculum Innovation

- Curricular Networks and Families of Schools
- Curricular Refresh
- Pedagogy/Play Pedagogy
- eLearning including @South-West Connects, NeLO and widening access opportunities
- Understanding and using relevant data
- Learning for SustainabilityDYV

Equity and Equality for All

- Getting it Right for Every Child
- The Promise
- UNCRC
- Understanding Poverty
- Wider Achievement / Outdoor Learning
- Family Learning
- Leadership
- Understanding and using relevant data

Getting it Right for All Learners

- Inclusive practice in the Classroom strengthening approach to universal provision
- Pedagogy/Play Pedagogy
- Literacy, Numeracy and Wellbeing
- Assessment and moderation
- Understanding and using relevant data
- Leadership
- Youth Voice

NIF: Key Priorities 2022

- Placing the human rights and needs of every child and young person at the centre of education
- Improvement in children and young people's H&WB
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people
- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy

South West Educational Improvement Collaborative - Our Plan on a Page

Working together across our local authorities, along with national colleagues the workstreams will focus their priorities on adding value to the following areas for improvement/development:











Workstream Work Plans

- Curriculum Innovation
- Equity and Equality for All
- Getting It Right for All Learners (GRIFAL)
- SWEIC Leadership Plan

GIRFAL Subgroups

- Health and Wellbeing
- Numeracy and Maths
- Literacy



Educational Improvement Collaborative

Workstream Plan - Curriculum Innovation

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
@South-West Co	nnects:		
Further develop @South-West Connects to enable widening access of the curriculum for young people across the SWEIC at SCQF level 6 & 7.	Building on the success of the year 1 pilot, extend the range of subject options available to young people to study via @South-West Connects. To include activity around: Delivery of an increased offer and evaluation of year 2 of pilot Extend number of subjects on offer and develop system for identification of future offer based on key data (LMI etc) Build capacity of @SW teachers through provision of effective digital pedagogy programme Engagement in national developments and sharing of practice	 E-Learning delivery model developed which provides learners from across all four LAs access to learning at SCQF Level 6 and 7 in a range of subjects. LA Case studies highlighting improved curricular offer Number of young people engaging in study via this model Number of schools actively engaging with @SW Connects Range of subjects offered / increased number of teachers delivering in model Engagement and Attainment data Stakeholder responses to evaluation activity 	Donna Kirkwood- Emery Lesley Watson Liz Candlish LA Leads – Graeme Johnston (EA) Alison Chambers (DG) Barry Wilson (NA) Gavin Pitt and Mark Anderson (SA) SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia RIT
Working with LA inclusion leads support the pilot of a virtual alternative curriculum offer.	Working with LA inclusion leads support the pilot of a virtual alternative curriculum offer for those young people with identified need post pandemic (interrupted learners). To include activity around: Deliver and evaluate initial pilot over summer term 2022	 Improve education re-engagement of identified young people. Number of young people fully engaging in the pilot throughout timescale Baseline assessment and improvement data (attendance) Engaging IDL model piloted 	Donna Kirkwood- Emery Lesley Watson Liz Candlish Vicky McWilliam LA Leads – Hew Smith (D&G) Scott Mulholland (SA)

	 In conjunction with LA inclusion leads consider the evaluation and review possible next steps if appropriate Engagement in national developments through NeLO – i-Sgoil pilot and Tayside NQ 1-3 development 	Establish links with NeLO interrupted learners' provision	Philip Gosnay (NA) Catherine Rodger/Julie Muir (EA) SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia RIT
Develop a sustainable model for @South-West Connects. Digital Leads:	 To include activity around: Review of current spending and financing. Identification of possible future funding models for consideration. Audit and review other models nationally. Prepare plan for sustainable model moving forward (funding / leadership). 	Proposals ready to share with Directors by October 2022.	Donna Kirkwood- Emery Lesley Watson Sheelagh Rusby
Share practice across the SWEIC to improve digital skills and access.	 To include activity around: Establish SWEIC Digital champions network to ensure sustainable and appropriate change - education network group/IT staff network group From the digital needs analysis create a RIC digital vision which aligns with National digital learning and teaching strategy Share approaches to digital progression to support stakeholders Share approaches to supporting 1:1 devices (infrastructure and provision) Working together, share practice and development work around Cyber resilience, CEOP ambassadors, Wellbeing digital schools etc 	SWEIC Digital champions network established to ensure sustainable and appropriate change. RIC digital vision aligns with National digital learning and teaching strategy. Linked to digital needs analysis. SWEIC case studies and Examples of good practice and the work of the digital champions Number/% Staff reporting increased confidence in digital skills	Donna Kirkwood- Emery Laura Fugaccia LA Education Network/IT Network Leads: Lynn Robertson and Amanda Brougham-Pickard (SA) Susan Lauder (NA) Rosslyn Lee (NA) D. Kirkwood-Emery (EA)

	 Offer a range of professional learning to support staff in delivering high quality learning and teaching 		David Maxwell and Anne Harkness (DG) SW RIT Links with ES National Technologies Network
Developing Your	ng Workforce (DYW):		
DYW practice is shared across the SWEIC to support a range of pathways, leading to improved positive and sustained destinations.	To include activity to support regional and national activity through key groups including: DYW Partnership forum - to meet quarterly to share practice and address key priorities. Established network of DYW Coordinators - regular meetings to share practice from the 4 local authorities. Skills working group. Activity to include DYW priorities for example: Curricular innovation. Developing a Skills programme and offering professional learning around this. Effective use of data. Developing Pathways for all learners. Exploring digital opportunities to support DYW activity. Offering DYW education support programme for NQTs across the SWEIC.	DYW priorities embedded in approaches to curricular innovation. SWEIC case studies exemplify positive approaches. Professional learning offered to schools across SWEIC. A DYW e-solution is supporting young people prepare to move into positive and sustained destinations. Strong destinations data. Number of schools engaging in events.	Lesley Watson Klaus Mayer – SW RIT DYP Partnership Forum DYW Coordinators

Curricular Netw	Curricular Networks:				
Develop curricular stage networks to share practice.	Through the family of schools' networks provide opportunities to support schools and share practice. Building on the success of the Early Years network establish further 'stage' networks of support for teachers/ practitioners and school leaders. Make appropriate links with national curricular networks to provide opportunity for further collaboration share practice.	Self-sustaining curricular stage support networks established and are functioning. We of schools signed up and attend to be part of network Number of staff engaging in networks Engagement with national networks	Lesley Watson Liz Candlish Families of Schools SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia All LA Workstream Representatives SW RIT		
Learning for sustainability (light touch sharing).	Facilitate sharing meetings (2/3 per year).	Improved sharing practice between LAs.	Lesley Watson LA Leads - Learning for Sustainability		
Support the facilitation of Initial curricular innovation discussions.	Facilitate as appropriate sharing meetings (2/3 per year - as appropriate) to meet need for example around curriculum redesign discussions/sharing practice around Innovation, Shaping, 3 – 18, Routes to success, and Curriculum to success.	Collaboration and sharing a of approaches and practice is supporting schools revisit curriculum redesign Sharing of case studies to highlight range and variety of approaches across the SWEIC	Lesley Watson Families of Schools LA Leads – Curriculum Curricular Networks SW RIT		

Workstream Plan - Equity and Equality for All

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Share practice to support improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people and other identified learners experiencing significant barriers to learning to achieve and attain their full potential.	Offer a range of professional learning opportunities to share practice and support the delivery of effective inclusive practices, raise awareness of appropriate legislation and in providing appropriate proportionate, proactive support for care experienced children and young people and other identified learners experiencing significant barriers to learning. To include activity around: A focus on the HGIOS 4 output QI 3.1 – Ensuring Wellbeing, Equality, and Inclusion Creating a number of support networks to share practice e.g., care experienced teams, ASL staff In conjunction with the GIRFAL workstream offer a range of professional learning opportunities to support staff in taking positive and proactive steps to ensure barriers to learning are minimised so improving outcomes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people	Across the SWEIC qualitative and quantitative data shows improved outcomes for our care experienced children and young people and other identified learners experiencing significant barriers to learning: Attendees at CLPL events reporting increased confidence in supporting inclusion Case studies show how barriers have been removed/engagement increased and impact on attainment/achievement Number of support networks created / Number of members involved in each network/number from each LA. Number of staff who report opportunities to share information/resources/CLPL evaluations is good or better	Fiona McAvoy Graham McGinn Liz Candlish All LA workstream representatives SW RIT Attainment Advisors LA Care Experience Teams LA ASN SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia
Support the development of a shared understanding of how poverty (including hidden poverty) is affecting families	In conjunction with CPAG and other key partners offer a programme of poverty awareness sessions to complement existing LA work - identified by need offer a suite of on-going CLPL opportunities for schools, ELC settings and networks.	Schools across the SWEIC demonstrate in their policy and practice an understanding of how poverty including hidden poverty is impacting on the lives of children and young people.	Fiona McAvoy Graham McGinn Liz Candlish All LA workstream representatives SW RIT Attainment Advisors

within their context and place.	Through forums, networks and communication channels share practice around implementing poverty aware approaches to support raising attainment, attendance, family engagement across schools and ELC settings, including examples of policies and practices to support for example reducing the cost of the school day, the best use of Scottish Attainment Funds – e.g., Pupil Equity Fund and support income/benefits advice and management for families.	 Percentage/Number of practitioners reporting increased awareness of the impact of poverty and have/or are reviewing practice/procedures as a result Number of schools using for example the equity and equality toolkit to support practice and policy development Number of participants over time engaged in CLPL Case studies to show changes to practice due to increased understanding 	SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia CLD CPAG
Strengthen the professional capacity of staff by supporting the implementation of 'The Promise' and UNCRC through a professional learning offer.	Professional learning opportunities / sharing practice focussing on The Promise including as appropriate learning around the 5 Priority Areas: The rights to a childhood Whole family support Supporting the workforce Planning Building Capacity The Promise Education Briefing Autumn 2020.pdf Professional learning opportunities around UNCRC including as appropriate further opportunities to build capacity – train the trainer events.	Staff show an Increased awareness and understanding through everyday practice of their roles and responsibilities in the delivery of the expectations of The Promise and UNCRC. Number of staff having undertaken professional learning around The Promise and UNCRC Attendance and exclusion data Case studies to show changes to practice due to increased understanding	Fiona McAvoy Graham McGinn Liz Candlish All LA workstream representatives SW RIT SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia Champions Boards Representatives
Across the SWEIC work streams	In conjunction with young people and key LA partners explore ways to extend and support greater collaboration	Across the SWEIC there is increased youth participation and evidence of youth voice influence.	Fiona McAvoy Graham McGinn Liz Candlish

promote youth participation and voice.	and engagement with young people with a particular focus on capturing and celebrating wider achievement. Establish a Wider Achievement network to support collaboration and share practice in capturing and celebrating wider achievement. Share practice on accreditation and award pathways across the SWEIC area. Amazing Things (5th edition) Youth Scotland In conjunction with young people develop a SWEIC youth forum and blog to support collaboration – linking to Curriculum Innovation and GIRFAL workstream activity on Climate Change/Learning for Sustainability.	 Case studies to demonstrate impact of youth voice and participation Case studies sharing practice around wider achievement Data gathered through the wider achievement network demonstrates youth participation in awards and accreditation across the SWEIC 	All LA workstream representatives SW RIT SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia CLD Third Sector Young People MYP
Encourage collaborative partnerships between schools/ ELCs and their communities, parents and families.	Offer a series of professional learning and sharing practice opportunities around: Building strong, positive relationships with parents, families, and communities Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) Equality, diversity, and inclusion And as appropriate working with PIE census data outcomes to support improvement.	Family engagement/learning programmes are providing opportunities for parents and carers to build capacity in supporting their children. Case studies sharing impact of partnerships/working with communities	Fiona McAvoy Graham McGinn Liz Candlish All LA workstream representatives SW RIT SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia CLD

Workstream Plan - Getting It Right for All Learners (GIRFAL)

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Strengthen professional capacity and teacher confidence to support robust assessment judgements.	Continue to extend the professional learning opportunities for practitioners which will improve the quality of Assessment and Moderation and bring about greater consistency in teachers' professional judgements of Curriculum for Excellence levels across the regional improvement collaborative. To include activity around: A review of the 4 stages of progress Sharing practice sessions across all 4 LAs Learning, teaching and assessment cycle – professional learning to include specific input for NQT / ECT Continue to develop self-sustaining subject/specialist networks. To enable as appropriate subject networks moderation (NQ as appropriate) Local / Regional / National QAMSO activity – development of the QAMSO role	Across the SWEIC teachers are confidently and consistently making robust accurate assessment judgements. Qualitative and quantitative data which shows: Increased number from 21/22 of practitioners attending moderation events Practitioner confidence evaluation data showing improvement from baseline Case studies that evidence deeper knowledge and understanding Local authority exemplification that demonstrates good moderation practice Number of NQT/ECT engaging with SWEIC activities Increased numbers of QAMSOs across LA Improved attainment outcomes	Liz Candlish Julianna Gordon Gavin Pitt (SA) Alastair Young (DG) Gail Elder and Robert McCallum (EA) Fiona Hopkins (NA) Sharon Johnstone (NA) QAMSOS SW RIT SWEIC Team — Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia
Develop and share practice to support improving outcomes for the most vulnerable	Deliver a range of professional learning opportunities to support staff in taking positive and proactive steps to ensure barriers to learning are minimised so improving outcomes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.	Across the SWEIC qualitative and quantitative data shows improved outcomes for our most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.	Liz Candlish Julianna Gordon Gavin Pitt (SA) Alastair Young (DG)

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and disadvantaged children and young people.	 To include activity around: Development and delivery of an inhouse / partner developed inclusive practitioner CLPL programme A sharing of ASL Review LA Plans – share practice to promote actions / support improvement A CLPL programme focussing on support for ASN learners in the classroom Sharing practice sessions in supporting care experienced young people and other identified learners experiencing significant barriers to learning to attain and achieve their full potential. Play pedagogy CLPL with a focus on ASN Development of SWEIC EAL /ESOL network 	Qualitative and quantitative data which shows: Improved attainment and achievement outcomes Case studies that evidence improved outcomes to include partner engagement Practitioner engagement and evaluation of inhouse / partner developed inclusive practitioner CLPL programme LA evidence which reports improved inclusive practice	Gail Elder and Robert McCallum (EA) Fiona Hopkins (NA) Sharon Johnstone (NA) LA ASN CLD Third Sector SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia
Develop opportunities to support collaboration to increase youth participation and youth voice influence.	In conjunction with young people and key LA partners explore ways to extend and support greater collaboration and engagement with young people to provide opportunities to increase youth engagement and youth voice influence across the South West regional improvement collaborative. Working with partners: Identification and sharing of current youth participation and representation structures in local authorities. Create a baseline picture of youth participation and youth voice mechanisms across the SWEIC.to include information on barriers to participation Offer professional learning and sharing practice opportunities around children's rights and participation Create a network of LA youth participation leads to share practice Explore the potential to create an opportunity to bring young people from across the SWEIC together to	Across the SWEIC there is increased youth participation and evidence of youth voice influence. Qualitative and quantitative data which shows: Young peoples' voice is recognised, recorded and implemented in the delivery of SWEIC GIRFAL and other workstream activity Case studies that evidence increased youth participation and evidence of youth voice influence across LAs Data from young people network collected and analysed to inform further work / identify need	Liz Candlish Julianna Gordon Gavin Pitt (SA) Alastair Young (DG) Gail Elder and Robert McCallum (EA) Fiona Hopkins (NA) Sharon Johnstone (NA) SWEIC Team – Gwyneth Fairbairn Laura Fugaccia CLD MYPs / Children and Young People

	discuss need, current issues and identify ways to increase youth participation and youth voice influence Establish and contribute to a SWEIC Youth Person's network group	•	Young person network is empowering young people to undertake leadership opportunities that will develop their skills for lifelong learning and the world of world evidenced through evaluation data	LA Pupil Forum Representatives LA Representatives
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GIRFAL Workstream Subgroups - Health and Wellbeing

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Supporting recovery and building on previous collaborative work in health and wellbeing with a continued focus on pedagogy and practice which leads to improved learning teaching and assessment outcomes for all. Promote the use and development of research to increase the use of evidence-based	SWEIC HWB group members collaborate to enhance local authority developments and professional learning programmes through continued formal and informal collaboration taking place across the four authorities with Education Scotland. Create leadership opportunities through building of professional networks and supporting practitioner development. Signposting to CLPL and resources on the SWEIC HWB Team to support planning, learning, teaching and assessment for all SWEIC practitioners including: Sharing of LA practice Learning and Teaching fortnightly bulletin to be distributed SWEIC-wide NQT / ECT focus Inclusive Practitioner Programme	other authorities (shared practice)	LA Leads - HWB network SW RIT HWB Officer SWEIC Leads

practice learning and teaching and outcomes. Development of training programme of HWB mentorship.	 Building partnerships across the SWEIC to enhance the experience of young people and support practitioners in high quality learning and teaching measured through engagement data and evaluative feedback (linking this to SCQF level 4 Mental Health and Wellbeing Award quantitative data) 	
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GIRFAL Workstream Subgroups - Maths and Numeracy

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Supporting recovery and building on previous collaborative work in maths and numeracy with a continued focus on pedagogy and	Strategic Leads within the SWEIC maths group collaborate to enhance local authority developments and professional learning programmes.	 Continued formal and informal collaboration taking place across the four authorities with Education Scotland and ITE partners Programmes and CLPL supported and influenced by work across other authorities (shared practice) 	LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer University of West of Scotland (UWS) University of Glasgow (UoG)
practice which leads to improved learning teaching and assessment outcomes for all	Offer a range synchronous and asynchronous CLPL opportunities throughout the session via the SWEIC Numeracy and Maths Professional Learning MS Team.	 Range of professional learning opportunities on offer for practitioners in relation to planning, learning, teaching, and assessment Number of practitioners engaging in CLPL opportunities Shared examples of classroom practice 	LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer UWS UoG
and development of research to increase the use of evidence-based	development Supporting the development of the SWEIC Numeracy Leader Network.	7 dantona tranning	SWEIC Numeracy Leaders LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/Maths

practice learning and teaching and outcomes.		 Delivery of training within education partnerships A range of Qualitative and Quantitative Measures 	SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer
	Embed the National Response to Improving Mathematics (NRIM) recommendations into SWEIC Numeracy and Maths PL inputs.	 Use the NRIM recommendations to inform SWEIC CLPL programmes Recommendations from NRIM embedded in PL inputs 	SWEIC Numeracy Leaders LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/Maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer
	Develop and enhance partnerships with other RICs and the Education Scotland Numeracy and Mathematics Team to provide a wider range of professional learning and collaboration opportunities for SWEIC practitioners. Build on current partnerships to share developments and CLPL provided by other RICs and by Education Scotland e.g., SWEIC/SEIC Higher Applications of Maths Group. Representation of strategic member of the group in national working groups e.g., National Response to Improving Mathematics (NRIM) Partnership Board and Working Groups.	 A range of Qualitative and Quantitative Measures 	LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/Maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer NRIM Board Chairs Strategic Lead Participation and Collaboration in NRIM Short Life Working Groups
	Arrangement and signposting to CLPL and resources on the SWEIC Numeracy and Maths MS Team to support planning, learning, teaching and assessment for all SWEIC practitioners.	 A range of professional learning opportunities for NQT and Early Career Teachers in relation to planning, learning, teaching and assessment to support NQT and ECT programmes is available SWEIC CLPL available to all practitioners 	LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer

Continue to develop partnerships with UWS and University of Glasgow ITE to discuss developing collaborative work, develop CLPL modules and provide support for ITE programmes.	The dapporting division protectional learning	LA Strategic Leads Numeracy/Maths SW RIT Numeracy and Maths Officer UWS UoG
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GIRFAL Workstream Subgroups - Literacy

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Supporting recovery and building on previous collaborative work in literacy with a continued focus on pedagogy and practice which leads to improved learning teaching	Strategic Leads within the SWEIC literacy group collaborate to enhance local authority developments and professional learning programmes through continued formal and informal collaboration taking place across the four authorities with Education Scotland.	Programmes and CLPL supported and influenced by work across other authorities (shared practice). A collaborative culture of sharing practice across the 4 LAs is supporting stakeholders at all levels. Across the SWEIC qualitative and quantitative data shows improved outcomes in literacy for all children and young people.	LA Strategic Leads Literacy SW RIT Literacy Officer SWEIC Leads
and assessment outcomes for all. Promote the use and development of research to increase the use of evidence-based practice learning and teaching and outcomes.	Develop a focus to improve and enhance reading for pleasure through: Collaboration with Scottish Book Trust Partner involvement Local libraries Local authors Linking of schools / pupils Linking of staff Family learning and parental engagement networks Monthly support sessions for staff facilitated by SBT/Ed Scot / LA leads Development of a shared space for resources	 Improving reading for pleasure across the SWEIC evaluated through the number of schools undertaking SBT awards programme Support achievement of SBT award through support networks evidenced by number of schools achieving SBT award in the academic session 22/23 Improve collaborative spaces and opportunities through increased 	LA Strategic Leads Literacy SW RIT Literacy Officer SWEIC Leads CLD

	Setting up of mentor school programme to ensure sustainability	number of stakeholder networks (quantitative data) A culture of leadership professional learning is supporting improvement and outcomes. Improve collaborative spaces and opportunities through network	LA Strategic Leads Literacy
	Sharing of LA practice Focus on local contexts e.g., authors, texts, partners Learning and Teaching fortnightly bulletin to be distributed SWEIC-wide NQT / ECT focus A Literacy focus within EY play pedagogy programme 1+2 focus extended Development of SWEIC EAL/ESOL network	 (quantitative data) Enhance collaboration and leadership opportunities within subject network spaces (engagement numbers and focus groups) Building partnerships across the SWEIC to enhance the experience of young people and support practitioners 	SW RIT Literacy Officer SWEIC Leads
•	Develop and embed SWEIC Literacy Fortnight through: Collaboration with partners – focus on local/Scottish heritage Involvement of parents/carers Increase involvement of learners in developing inputs Writing competition	 Building partnerships across the SWEIC to enhance the experience of young people and support practitioners 	LA Strategic Leads Literacy SW RIT Literacy Officer SWEIC Leads

SWEIC Leadership Plan - incorporated into all Workstreams

Priority	Summary of Action	Intended Outcome / Impact / Measures	Outcome Lead / Collaboration
Increase range of opportunities for practitioners across the SWEIC to participate in high quality, collaborative leadership learning.	Working with partners and LA CLPL leads continue to extend the range of accessible leadership development opportunities which supports identified needs by sector/stage/ theme/ subject. To include activity to support: In conjunction with the North Ayrshire professional learning and leadership development team continue and extend delivery of 'Leaders of Pedagogues' to middle leaders – 2 Secondary cohorts / 1 Primary pilot cohort Promote and support the delivery of Evolving Systems Thinking programme Further develop systems to enable more effective: sharing practice /access to resources / signposting to guidance and support to support empowerment and leadership development Working across the four LAs share practice which could lead to the development of a collective coaching/ mentoring and associated CLPL framework to support leaders at all levels in aspects of their role and enable them to build capacity in others Through the Maths and Numeracy subgroup support the delivery of 'Critical Friends' programme by University of West of Scotland Through the GIRFAL workstream support the	Across the SWEIC practitioners at all levels are benefitting from access to high quality, collaborative leadership learning programmes. A collaborative culture of sharing practice across the 4 LAs is supporting stakeholders at all levels within an empowered system. Qualitative and quantitative data which shows: Increased numbers of practitioners engaging in professional learning activity supporting leadership learning Number of new leadership professional learning apportunities. Number of participants that report professional learning activities offer is a good or better opportunity to collaborate A culture of leadership professional learning is supporting improvement and outcomes particularly in relation to HGIOS 4 process QIs 1.2 and 1.3. (Leadership of Learning and Leadership of Change)	Sheelagh Rusby SWEIC Workstreams SWEIC Team LA Leads - CLPL Liz Candlish Christine Grace Joanne Maclean Robert McCallum and Maths/ Numeracy subgroup SW RIT
	development and delivery of an inhouse/ partner developed inclusive practitioner CLPL programme	A calendar of CLPL opportunities is delivering an increased number of	

	Where relevant explore 'train the trainer' opportunities to develop capacity and sustainability	opportunities to support stakeholder professional learning and is meeting identified need	
Continue to develop a growing range of networks at all levels to enhance learning and leadership.	In consultation with practitioners continue to expand opportunities for sector specific families of schools and subject networks to support effective collaboration across the South West regional improvement collaborative. To include: Continued improvements to SWEIC communication processes to share information, resources and CLPL activities/ opportunities across the SWEIC In conjunction with a representative group of headteachers further develop the families of school's networks (ELC/ Primary and Secondary) to include an optional calendarised offer reflecting workstream activity Extend facilitator training/ train the trainer opportunities for practitioners to collaborate to plan and facilitate professional learning and leadership activities for others across the themes of the SWEIC plan in a sustainable way Further develop approaches to online collaboration	An increase in the use evidence-based research is influencing classroom practice, learning and teaching and outcomes. A culture of 'inhouse' train the trainer activity is supporting a self-sustaining CLPL programme. Networks and families of schools are self-supporting and are supporting a culture of self-improvement and empowerment. An active, refreshed and up to date SWEIC blog is supporting improved communication and processes to share information and resources across the SWEIC.	SWEIC Team SW RIT LA Leads - CLPL Subject Networks HTs – Families of Schools
	 and engagement through the development of subject specific networks Through the networks provide opportunities to support and promote the use and development of research to increase the use of evidence-based practice learning and teaching and outcomes 	show: Families of Schools engagement Number of subject networks created	

 Further develop cross RIC opportunities to share practice 	 Number of members involved in each network
	Number from each LA
	 Number of members who report opportunities to share information/ resources/ CLPL evaluations is good or better
	 Numbers involved in cross RIC collaboration activities
	 Number of stakeholders undertaking train the trainer activities and subsequently delivering
	Blog/Twitter engagement data

Current High Level Critical Indicators for SWEIC

To be reviewed Session 22/23 in line with individual local authority stretch aims

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
% of Children Meeting Developmental Milestones 27 – 30 month review	78	82	83	83	82	88*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening)	70	70	72		60	76*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	60	61	63		48	68
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	83	82	84		72	85
Percentage point difference (pp) of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) Gap between most and least disadvantaged	23	21	21		24	16
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy	74	78	78		69	81*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	66	72	70		59	75
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	84	87	89		81	88

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
Percentage point difference (pp) of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy Gap between most and least disadvantaged	18	15	19		22	13
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening)	84	88	86			90*
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	75	79	75			84
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	94	94	90			95
Percentage point difference (pp) of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) Gap between most and least disadvantaged	19	15	14			10
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy	85	90	90			91*
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	75	85	83			84
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	95	95	96			96
Percentage point difference (pp) of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy Gap between most and least disadvantaged	20	10	13			11
% of leavers achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better	64.1	64.9	63.97	65.82	68.61	71*
% of leavers achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better	33.7	31.9	32.65	36.33	38.52	**40.16

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
% of school leavers achieving SCQF Level 5 in Literacy	80.5	80.8	81.25	80.9	83.25	**81.8
% of school leavers achieving SCQF Level 5 in Numeracy	70.3	69.6	68.05	70.62	71.62	**71.03
Exclusion Rates – All Pupils (Rate per 1000 pupils)	26		18		12.72	**11.87
Exclusion Rates – LAC status Pupils (Rate per 1000 pupils)	77		118			**152
Attendance Rates – All Pupils	93.0		92.66		91.8	**92.0
Attendance Rates – LAC status Pupils	91.0		87.0			**87.0
Initial School Leaver Destinations (% in positive destinations)	94.1	94.2	94.38	94.3	95.8	95
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for learning, teaching and assessment QI 2.3 (Academic Year)	52.2 (12/23)	65.2 (15/23)	60.7 (17/28)	76.2 (16/21)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for leadership of change QI 1.3 (Academic Year)	54.5 (12/22)	63.6 (14/22)	63.2 (12/19)	72.7 (8/11)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for Raising attainment and achievement QI 3.2 (Academic Year)	61.5 (16/26)	65.5 (19/29)	65.5 (19/29)	85.7 (12/14)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion QI 3.1 (Academic Year)	70.0 (14/20)	66.7 (16/24)	69.6 (16/23)	81.8 (9/11)		80

^{*} Midpoint value from NIF indicators

^{**} National Average



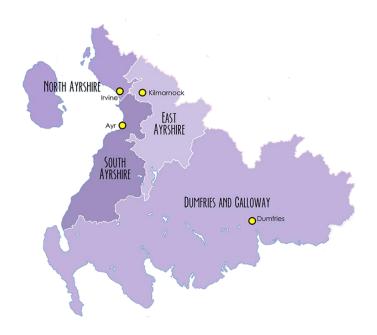
Report 2021/22

July 2022

The South West Educational Improvement Collaborative is a collaboration of four local authorities across the south west of Scotland: Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire. It represents 512 educational establishments, early learning centres, primary, secondary and special schools and over 5000 teachers delivering to over 80,500 children and young people serving both urban and rural communities.

This report covers the period April 2021 – March 2022 detailing the work and of the SWEIC's three key workstreams – Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap, Planning for Learning Teaching and Assessment and e-Learning Implementation. Alongside these three key areas Early Years and Leadership outcomes have been embedded throughout the plan.

During this time, the country continued to deal with the impact of the COVID -19 pandemic with social distancing, school closures, working from home and self-isolating pupils and staff being among the constant mitigating factors facing schools throughout this time.





early learning centres, primary, secondary and special schools





Contents

- Background
- SWEIC Team
- SWEIC Governance Structure 2021/22
- Communication
- Data
- Professional Learning
- Planning for Learning Teaching and Assessment Workstream Highlights
- Closing the Gap Workstream Highlights
- e-Learning Implementation Workstream Highlights
- Early Years Highlights
- Partnership with Education Scotland
- Additional Groups
- Resources
- Moving forward next steps
- Appendix 1 High Level Critical Indicators
- Glossary

Background

In preparing the SWEIC Regional Improvement Plan 2021/22, it recognised and respected the enormous pressures that education staff at all levels were under, responding to rapidly changing situations in schools and appreciated that staff were fully focussed on engaging with children, young people and families. Our plan for 2021/22 therefore reflected our intention to support school recovery, reconnect with staff and learners and take forward our learning from lockdown.

Due to social distancing measures, school closures and lockdown, all SWEIC events and professional learning opportunities have continued this session to be delivered online. By offering SWEIC opportunities digitally, we have made very good progress towards implementing the SWEIC's recovery plan and have been able to engage with a much broader group of practitioners however it has not been possible to deliver all aspects of the plan due to limited capacity during education's response to the pandemic. In moving forward our new plan 2022/23 will very much build on what has been achieved so far and will have a strong focus on 'coming back together, stronger'.

Throughout the session we have continued to facilitate peer to peer, school to school and authority to authority collaboration using digital technologies, allowing colleagues to engage with each other in ways which suit them best at this time of uncertainty and constant change. The successful development and launch of @South-West Connects has provided a forum for greater collaboration across our secondary schools and is providing a platform from which we can build.

SWEIC Team

Session 2021/22 saw changes in the personnel leading the operational and day to day management of the SWEIC. The Regional Lead Officer (RLO) and the SWEIC Quality Improvement Manager (QIM), both from Dumfries and Galloway took up their positions in summer 2021 replacing previous post holders from South Ayrshire. Part funding of Regional Lead Officer (RLO), funding of 0.6fte Quality Improvement Manager (QIM), three x 0.4fte seconded workstream officers, alongside a part time data analyst and a digital support officer continue to increase the operational and leadership capacity of the regional improvement collaborative.

The SWEIC strategic leadership team comprising of the RIC lead and the other local authority strategic leads, Education Scotland Senior Regional Advisor (SRA) and the SWEIC QIM meet regularly to discuss progress within the plan and next steps along with next steps for planned activity. This forum has also proved to be a very useful and supportive platform to share practice and discuss issues during the pandemic.

A monthly report is produced for the SWEIC local authorities' Chief Executives. This is followed up with a meeting with the RIC lead where the content of the report is further discussed. This is providing a valuable endorsement and is raising awareness of the work being undertaken more widely.

Following a review of milestone and impact measures to support the impact reporting and evaluation of the improvement plan, the QIM along with the seconded workstream officers have since been better able to review progress and agree next steps.

This work continues to be supported by the regional improvement team and is providing a framework to support the SWEIC demonstrate coordinated and collective impact.

The part time Data Analyst has supported collaborative approaches to improvement by providing data to support RIC planning, evaluating and reporting of workstream activity. Given the wide range of qualitative and quantitative available and consultation with other RICs, Power BI training has been undertaken to support the data analyst develop wider connections across the data.

A Governance structure has been developed for the SWEIC to support improvement in communication channels and to provide a clear structure which demonstrates the interlinking of the various groups.

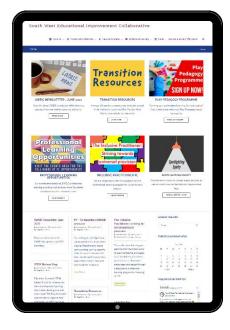
Throughout the 2021/22 session the SWEIC team of seconded officers and regional improvement team members have jointly undertaken professional learning led by Education Scotland Evolving Systems Thinking Team.

Three bespoke training sessions were planned and delivered which had a specific focus on leadership for system improvement, capacity building practices and data use and planning priorities. These proved to be very useful sessions with the teams collaborating well together.

SWEIC Governance Structure 2021/22

			Lead	Workstreams	Workstream subgroups		Other Groups linked to SWEIC plan							
	Regional Lead		Fe		Maths and Numeracy	ns: p								
	Officer		Digital	Planning for	Literacy	reams	– ASN							
ŧ			آقًا ا	Learning, Teaching and	QAMSOs	workstreams I Leadership	Educational							
Jime	I A Stratogia	SWEIC	SWEIC	welc uality	Association	Accoccmont	SQA	/ork	Psychologists					
/err	LA Strategic Leads	Quality	ty				Curriculum Networks	all w and	CommunityLearning and					
Government		Manager		Recovery Teachers	ي ك	Development								
ish	Education			Attainment –	Outdoor Learning	ded Yea	(CLD)							
Scottish	Scotland			naly	naly	naly	naly	naly	naly	naly	naly	Closing the Gap	Families of Schools	Embedded Early Year
S	Senior Regional Advisor	Data A	e-Learning	@South-West Connects	E iii	Early YearsStrategic Leads								
		Education Scotland Regional Improvement Team												

Local Authority Chief Executives and Education Convenors



Communication

As part of the concentrated focus across the SWEIC to improve communication and ensure information gets to the class teacher a new SWEIC website was launched in August 2021. This work is led by our part time Digital Support Officer who also provides technical support for @South-West Connects.

Monitoring, which is reported on a monthly basis has shown a good level of engagement in the SWEIC blog and therefore improved opportunities for collaboration for all. An example of this would be in January 2022 the Blog received 8878 views up 48% on the previous reported month (Nov 21). 62% of Blog visitors come direct to the Blog, 15% via Twitter and 14% from search engines. Twitter followers also continue to grow.

In addition to the new SWEIC blog, termly Sway newsletters have been produced. Through this forum and the website, staff are actively encouraged to contribute to share their thoughts around what they want from the SWEIC as well as highlighting ways to become involved and share good practice. Recent professional learning which was recorded can also be accessed on the site for those unable to attend.

Data

Due to the challenges facing schools at this time our schools have not been able to carry out their normal full range of ongoing assessment, standardised assessments, SNSA assessments and moderation activities that they would normally undertake to enable them to gather robust achievement of a level information and pupil progress data in a common format. Despite this however all primary schools submitted to the Scottish Government in June 2021 teacher judgement ACEL (Achievement of a Level) data for P1, P4 and P7. No national data was collected during session 20/21 for S3.

Given the unique set of circumstances schools have found themselves in over the past two years it is difficult to make accurate comparisons or to draw any conclusions from attainment data. Mindful of this our High-Level Critical Indicators (Appendix 1) have been updated but no detailed analysis has been undertaken beyond that that would support workstream activity planning.

In 2021, further cancellation of exams and external assessment of coursework took place. All secondary schools were required to use the SQA Alternative Certification Model. This model was based on demonstrated attainment over the course of the session with robust assessment judgements being made by teachers and lecturers and submitted to the SQA.

The impact of this and the previous year's disruption to SQA has meant that care has to be taken when making comparisons over time. So, although there are High Level Critical Indicators (Appendix 1) taken from our benchmarking tool Insight, advice on the use of this data is that the results for 2021 should not be directly compared to those in previous years or future years. The 2021 Insight data cannot be used to directly demonstrate subject, school, authority or RIC improvement compared with previous years.

Professional Learning

A wide range of professional learning opportunities and facilitated, themed online conversations organised by workstream seconded officers. and the improvement team have continued to take place throughout the session. Professional learning has been delivered using a range of platforms, Glow, MS Teams and V-scene. Whilst attendance has varied over the course of the year due to Covid, with a number having to be cancelled, feedback from professional learning online events has been positive with participants appreciating the time and space to collaborate with colleagues, sharing their experiences, their practice and potential solutions to common challenges being faced.

The online events have generally had a focus on recovery so have been able to impact positively on school recovery. In February 2022, an online event was held for primary headteachers which over 120 engaged in. The activities



for this session focussed on supporting the development of a culture of collaborative action research within groups of 'similar' schools across the SWEIC, providing a framework to support schools inform recovery planning for session 2022/23, support the gathering and analysis of data to inform improvement planning session 2022/23 and planning for refreshed SAC funding spend using a data driven template.

Feedback from this relaunch of the families of schools' event indicated that it was welcomed as headteachers felt that through this reconnecting and introductions opportunity they have accessed wider networks in which to collaborate and share their practice. The event was supported by the Education Scotland Evolving Systems Thinking team. Secondary heads who previously had not engaged in families of schools' events have asked for the introduction of secondary groupings for a similar purpose. This is very positive and evidence of reach and recognition of the perceived benefit of working across the RIC by secondary HT. It is hoped that these networks will continue to expand with evidence of practitioners being proactive in this and taking ownership of their own development.







Collaborative Opportunities during session 2021/22 included:

Date	Target Audience	Theme/Title
Apr	EYPs	Transitions in a Covid world
Мау	EY leaders	Parental Engagement – Sharing Practice
Apr/May	P1 & P2 practitioners programme	P1 Literacy Pedagogy and Practice
Apr/Jun	Practitioner networks – EYP, Early, 1st & 2nd level; Covid education recovery teachers; secondary staff.	Various facilitated themed conversations – remote learning; transitions; interventions & impact.
Apr	EYPs	Transitions in a Covid world
May	EY leaders	Parental Engagement – Sharing Practice
Мау	EY Froebel Leaders' network	Froebel
Sep/Jun	Practitioners in first four years of teaching	Maths and Numeracy Professional Learning for NQT's
Aug/May	Early / First Level teachers	Building Block of Literacy
Sep/May	QAMSOs	QAMSO
Sep/May	EY – teachers, EYPs	Play Pedagogy Moving Forward
Sep	BGE Practitioners	Effective Differentiation in the BGE (2 sessions)
Sep/Oct	Recovery Teachers	Focus on Recovery Interventions
Oct	SWEIC Numeracy Leaders	Introduction/Reengagement and Plans for the session as NLs
Oct	SWEIC NQT/RQTs	Drop-In Session 1 Introduction
Nov	Practitioners – all sectors	Outdoor learning's place "within a holistic, coherent, and future-oriented approach to learning 3-18."
Nov	Froebel leaders	Remote learning – Support and Collaboration
Nov	EY leaders	SWEIC Families – an EY model
Nov	Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC QAMSO Sharing Practice Event – SA
Dec	SWEIC Numeracy Lead	Bar Modelling Discussion Forum
Jan/Feb	Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC Languages Week Engagement across week from primary and secondary practitioners – 32 inputs
Jan	Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC QAMSO Sharing Practice Event - EA
Jan	SWEIC Numeracy Lead	Mathematical Reasoning using Manipulatives

Jan	Practitioners – all sectors	Moderation for all
Feb	Practitioners – all sectors	CLD – Sharing good practice in supporting families in poverty
Jan	Early Level Focus - Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC Outdoor Learning Blether
Jan	First Level Focus - Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC Outdoor Learning Blether
Jan/ Mar	Practitioners – all sectors	Equity and Equality Blethers (3 sessions)
Feb	HT's - primary	SWEIC Families of Schools Relaunch & Reconnect Event
Feb	Practitioners – all sectors	4 Stages of Progress – a launch and feedback event
Feb	Second Level Focus - Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC Outdoor Learning Blether
Mar	EY Excellence & Equity Leads	Network Launch
Mar	Practitioners in all sectors	SWEIC Literacy Fortnight
Mar	EY - all practitioners (Webinar)	Parental Engagement – moving forward to recovery
Mar	All practitioners	SWEIC QAMSO Sharing Practice Event – NA
Mar	Practitioners – all sectors	SWEIC Outdoor Learning
Mar	EY leaders	What does Leadership Mean? Reconnecting with core values in challenging times

Workstream Successes and Achievements 2021/22

Planning for Learning Teaching and Assessment Workstream Highlights

This workstream has continued to make good progress towards its outcomes over the last year despite the challenges COVID 19 has presented.

The scope of this workstream has continued to evolve during the last year and there now is several regional sub-groups reporting progress to this workstream. New additions to the subgroups have included a 1+2 Languages group, a curricular Health and Wellbeing group and a number of secondary subject network groups. These groups are in the early stages of development and have been supported both by RIC officers and RIT team members as appropriate.



Performance information School leadership Teacher professionalism Parental engagement ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN'S PROGRESS

QAMSO network

The SWEIC QAMSO work supported by the Education Scotland Regional Improvement Team continues at pace. A MS Team has been set up enable access and sharing of training materials.

A discussion forum is now well established and used by practitioners. QAMSO Sharing Practice Event have been led by each local authority. These events have proved to be very popular, and the range of materials used have been shared. These events were recorded to ensure wider access.

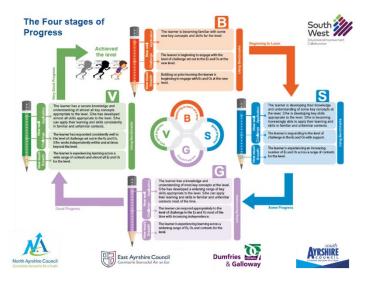
Building on the shared QAMSO training each local authority took forward its own moderation and assessment activity. SWEIC officers representing this workstream have met with colleagues from other RICs to share approaches to online moderation activities.

Languages Week

One of the new subject network groups 1+2 Languages held the first online SWEIC Languages Week in late January / early February 2022, running in conjunction with Languages Week Scotland. The four local authority 1+2 leads were instrumental in the planning and running of the week along with support and input from Education Scotland 1+2 link officer and SCILT Scotland's National Centre for Language Teaching. The week bite size sessions comprised of practitioners which were run on a twilight basis but also recorded to provide a resource bank for use in the future. The idea was to provide inputs for all sectors and all practitioners regardless of their language proficiency. The organisation and delivery of this event was an excellent example of collaboration across the RIC. It was well supported by each local authority and feedback from the wide range of inputs showed it was well received. Evaluation indicates this should now develop into an annual event and plans are in place to do so.

Four Stages of Progress

An online resource has been produced to support practitioner professional learning in the use of the 4 stages of progress. – a SWEIC resource which considers progress through a level. The resource has been developed to be of use to practitioners in all sectors and was launched by local authority workstream leads



in December. A SWEIC launch event was held in February to share the resource further, discuss its use so far and to allow an opportunity for practitioners to feedback on its value. The use of the resource and a more thorough evaluation and its impact will continue.

Read the case study

Maths and Numeracy Group

The SWEIC Maths and Numeracy group continues to collaborate to increase the pace and reach of their work by providing ongoing support for practitioners across the South-West in planning learning, teaching and assessment in numeracy and mathematics.



The group have held a number of twilight sessions over the course of the year. Feedback from these has been very positive and analysis is informing a way forward for future events.

A full day event for the SWEIC Numeracy Leaders network was unfortunately cancelled due to current circumstances, however all planned inputs for this event were offered as virtual twilights, held within the Numeracy Leaders channel in the SWEIC Numeracy and Maths PL Team.

The Maths and Numeracy group have continued to progress developments with initial teaching education (ITE) partners at UWS (Ayr Campus) and University of Glasgow (Crichton Campus). ITE under-graduate and and post-graduate courses modules incorporate synchronous and asynchronous CLPL inputs provided by the SWEIC maths group. The group has further progressed developments with UWS partners in the establishment of a Critical Friends Programme for numeracy leaders. The Critical Friends Programme will be offered to SWEIC Numeracy Leaders prior to Easter 2022 to align with self-evaluation and improvement planning with the delivery of the modules to commence September 2022.

Literacy Group

The new to this session appointment of a Regional Improvement Team officer for Literacy and English has provided a welcome addition to the SWEIC Literacy group. The group are working closely with the Scottish Book Trust regarding 'Reading Schools' accreditation ahead of the SWEIC rollout in session 22/23 for interested schools with the group discussing ways in which support could be offered to SWEIC practitioners/schools undertaking the accreditation.



Following on from the success of the SWEIC Language Week held in January 2022 the Literacy group held a' Focus on Literacy fortnight' in March 2022. This work was led by the planning learning teaching assessment workstream lead and seconded officer. The fortnight launched on World Book Day (3rd March) with 'Storytime with SWEIC': a virtual offering of stories from Early to Second level that can be used by practitioners in the classroom.



The fortnight of activity included a number of keynote speakers who spoke of the importance of placing high quality learning and teaching as a key element for literacy learning. The fortnight consisted of a series of twilight inputs covering a range of ages, stages and areas of literacy. These inputs created a rich offering of opportunities for practitioners to self-select from. Inputs were recorded and uploaded to the SWEIC Literacy page on the blog for practitioners to access as required.

Read the case study.

Early Level Literacy Pedagogy Programme

The Planning for Learning Teaching and Assessment workstream in conjunction with the Early Years lead continues to support the SWEIC Early Level Literacy Pedagogy programme delivered as an online professional learning offer. This has been extended to include Early Years, P2, 3 and 4.

This highlights the gaps identified in aspects of literacy skills across Early and First Levels which have become more apparent as a result of school closures. The networks established as a result are now well established and are proving to be an excellent collaboration forum.

The programme sessions this year included: Language & Communication + Phonological Awareness (2 sessions), Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting (2 sessions), The Balanced Reader and Writer (2 sessions).

There has been engagement from across the SWEIC in this programme with 151 teachers /practitioners engaged in the programme.

Evolving Systems Thinking

A cohort of 39 senior leaders from across the Authorities Local and the Regional Improvement Team was recruited for the Evolving Systems Thinking programme. Unfortunately, however, this was unable to be progressed following a review by the Evolving System Thinking team to halt the programme meantime because of the current strains schools are under. It was felt that it would be very difficult to ask school and system leaders to commit to such a significant engagement at this time. It is hoped however that this programme will however be able to be offered again later in the year.



Growth Mindset Programme

Over 40 school leaders and practitioners from the South West engaged with Winning Scotland Foundation's Growth Mindset Teams programme which began in June.2020 and completed November 2021. The programme offered a blend of independent online learning, tutor guidance, collegiate discussion and supported project delivery, empowering teaching professionals to have a greater understanding of growth mindsets and embed approaches within their schools. A number of participating school teams reluctantly dropped out of the programme due to lack of capacity due to the pandemic. A good number from the 2020-21 cohort are now delivering projects in their schools. This progress has been very encouraging considering the very challenging circumstances schools find themselves in currently. A case study from the 2019-20 cohort - St Matthew's HS in Saltcoats, North Ayrshire shared widely and has received a lot of positive feedback.

<u>winningscotland.org/store/p53/st-matthews-growth-mindset</u>

Leadership of Pedagogues

The 'Leadership of Pedagogues' programme successfully took forward two cohorts of secondary middle leaders during session 2021/22. The programme which is designed specifically to bridge the gap identified in the professional learning opportunities for secondary middle leaders across the South-West Educational Improvement Collaborative (SWEIC). A consensus workshop, with middle leaders, identified the area of focus for each session allowing the programme to be planned effectively to meet participants needs.

The inaugural cohort has provided excellent feedback so far and indeed generate sufficient interest to offer and progress a second cohort concurrently. The sessions are designed to be progressive and inter-related, as indeed is the art of becoming a proficient leader of pedagogues.

This programme which has recently received GTCS Professional Recognition for Secondary Middle Leaders. It will continue to be expanded during session 2022/23 and will include the development of a middle leaders' programme for Primary practitioners.



Leaders of Pedagogues Programme

Participants	Theme
Secondary Middle	1.Reflection on self-measured self-reflection to explore leadership strengths.
Leaders	
Secondary Middle	2.Recognising and meeting needs – use tools to identify the professional needs of
Leaders	colleagues to support their learning trajectory.
Secondary Middle	3.Modelling behaviour & Skills – explore how modelling is embedded in practice &
Leaders	its power in leading pedagogues.
Secondary Middle	4, Examine skills and behaviours essential to supporting the professional
Leaders	development of your team.
Secondary Middle	5.Ambitious risk-taking – take a critical look at professional judgement and
Leaders	determining the right climate for that leap of faith.
Secondary Middle	6.Developing others – develop strategies to unlock the professional development
Leaders	of others through the art of visionary leadership.
Secondary Middle	7.Communication Skills – hone communication skills to elicit the professional
Leaders	needs of the pedagogues you lead.
Secondary Middle	8.Managing resources – focus on the managerial skills of leadership to support
Leaders	processes in your context.
Secondary Middle	9.Critical reflections
Leaders	

Closing the Gap Workstream Highlights

This workstream has continued to make good progress towards its outcomes. The workstream lead officer, seconded officer, senior officers representing each local authority and a representative from the Education Scotland Regional Improvement Team continue to meet online monthly to progress the plan. Members of this workstream are committed to working collaboratively to close the poverty related attainment gap.



SAC Leads Network

The SWEIC team in conjunction with RIT attainment advisers have set up a SAC Leads group. The purpose of SWEIC SAC Leads Network / Forum will be to provide opportunities for SAC Leads and Attainment Advisors to get together to share successes, challenges, national key messages, discuss current issues e.g., how LAs are measuring impact, planning and reporting. This network will be led by the local authorities and will meet on their request.

Families of Schools

Building on previous years' success in building networks of families of primary schools, an online event was held for primary headteachers which over 120 engaged in. This was the result of an extensive consultation carried out in November by members of this workstream to seek the views of the purpose of the network and how it might be redeveloped to ensure it met needs.

The activities for this session, therefore, were developed as a result of information gathered and focussed on supporting the development of a culture of collaborative action research within groups of 'similar' schools across the SWEIC, providing a framework to support schools inform recovery planning for session

2022/23, support the gathering and analysis of data to inform improvement planning session 22/23 and planning for refreshed SAC funding spend using a data driven template.

Feedback from this relaunch of the families of schools' event indicated that it was welcomed as headteachers felt that through this reconnecting and introductions opportunity they have accessed wider networks in which to collaborate and share their practice. The event was supported by the Education Scotland Evolving Systems Thinking team.



Blethers

'SWEIC Blethers', online facilitated, themed have continued he conversations. to organised on a regular basis for different networks of practitioners. Some have been more successful than others with numbers signing up and attendance variable throughout the year. Blethers offered have covered a wide range of topics from differentiation, remote learning, equity and equality, ASN and parental engagement and effective use of Feedback indicates that data. where participants have attended, they find these collaborative opportunities useful, realising that everyone is facing similar challenges and sharing effective practice and creative solutions.



Links have been established across all four local authorities to establish a SWEIC group to support learners, inclusion and integration in order to build capacity across the sector. The work of this group will be aligned with all current workstreams. Initial steps have been taken to form a leadership network and to share current practice around planning for ASN. Plans are in place to establish a cross authority collaborative network which will

support this area of priority for all four local authorities who are working through similar challenges. It is proposed that this will be emphasised as a key theme for work in the SWEIC plan for 2022/23.

Outdoor Learning Network

A successful virtual Outdoor Learning professional learning event was held in November with over 100 attendees from across all four local authorities. Two keynote speakers provided information and challenge around the theme of 'outdoor learning's place within a holistic, coherent, and future-oriented approach to learning 3-18'. Feedback from attendance at this event was very positive. A follow up event took place in March as a result of this. The focus of this event was on sharing practice, pedagogy and links to the curriculum.

Local authority representatives on this workstream regularly share guidance, policies and practice related to Covid-19 recovery e.g., supporting vulnerable children particularly around self-isolation and recovery; use of PEF to support recovery; the rollout of digital devices. Workstream representatives have continued to find this extremely useful in informing their work at Local Authority level.



Community Learning and Development (CLD)

Good links with colleagues in CLD are being developed across the SWEIC with outcomes embedded in the work of the closing the gap workstream. A planned partnership CLD blether to share good practice in supporting families in relation to poverty took place. CLD are now regularly contributing to the SWEIC Blog where relevant to raise awareness of their work and how it might impact on SWEIC practitioners.

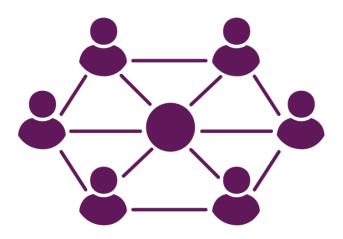
Across the SWEIC CLD Family Link Officers are collaborating together and have completed an audit of practice to share ideas and effective practice particularly in engaging families in learning and supporting families in relation to poverty support. This will inform the next steps for SWEIC / CLD planning moving forward.as well as support the focus of this workstream's plan moving forward.

Following the national launch of the Excellence and Equity Leads (EELs), a SWEIC network will offer a further opportunity for collaboration, sharing practice and support.



Education Recovery Teacher Network

The Education Recovery Teacher (ERT) Network has successfully run for the past two sessions. Due to the changing deployment needs of ERTs across all four local authorities; the network met only once in session 2021-2022. The session was held in September and was entitled 'Education Recovery Teacher Collaborative Practice Event'. It explored the following themes: Recovery and renewal journey; Impact on children and young people; lessons learned and future actions



Education Recovery Teachers from South Ayrshire and East Ayrshire shared their experiences and reflections of the previous session. All delegates present were subsequently provided with opportunities to discuss and compare their own experiences and goals for the coming session in breakout groups; before coming back together and sharing key messages with the whole group.

e-Learning Implementation Workstream Highlights

This new for this session workstream has made considerable progress in meeting its outcomes as identified within the 2021/22 SWEIC plan. The evaluation of work this year will help inform the development of the national digital academy, as reported in the recently published Economic plan for Scotland.

This will be an important development to increase access to breadth of qualifications for learners across Scotland, with the @SWConnects already having taken steps to design this model across the four Local Authorities.



@South-West Connects

In August 2021, through this workstream SWEIC launched @South West Connects a new virtual learning platform to support the delivery of learning and teaching across the SWEIC. Initial plans to offer SCQF Level 7 have gone very well with over 120 young people from across the four local authorities engaging in learning across the 9 subjects being offered. This has enabled, expanded and improved curricular offer at SCQF 7 across the SWEIC, equity of opportunity to access courses at this level across the SWEIC an opportunity for young people studying at this level have a high-quality learning and develop skills and experience competencies in learning virtually as a preparation for next steps in employment, college or university in the post Covid world.

At the same time, it has helped manage staffing resources efficiently and equitably and to address areas of teacher shortage in certain areas as well as creating the capacity within schools to support diversification of their curricular offer by freeing up teacher time. This work is being led by the workstream lead officer, seconded officer along with HT / DHT lead from each local authority. An interim evaluation of this offer showed engagement

and participation measures very positive -95% excellent or good for attendance, engagement, homework on tracking reports. Working grades in early January – indicated 94% and feedback pass rate stakeholders very positive. A number of points identified the next steps for the group in particular a need to continue to develop and pilot this model – increased number / range of subjects and add 'niche' SCQF6 courses. Evidence also suggests a need to consider the addition of vocational options and short courses/ opportunities for wider achievement using the same infrastructure. Following publication of attainment data in August 2022 this model will be fully evaluated.



National e-Learning Offer

The SWEIC e-Learning Implementation group continues to take forward and promote locally the National e-Learning Offer (NeLO), agreements and expectations as well as support e-Learning transformation across the SWEIC.

This group has delivered a number of CLPL webinars and blethers to support digital learning and pedagogy. These have been well received and supported by practitioners across the SWEIC. The group is ensuring the 'voice' of SWEIC is appropriately representing all four local authorities on the National e-Learning working group. A member of the group is also engaged with WEST OS technical group.

To support schools and class teachers to use available resources, this group developed a Sway 'One-Stop Shop' for all things NeLO. The Sway is updated each week with links to the latest supports and resources.

National e-Learning Offer











Enhancing Opportunities

A pilot proposal to meet need for a widening access programme has been developed and will be piloted through April to June across the four local authorities. This collaborative @SWConnects Enhancing Opportunities Programme has a clear shared purpose, role and function and will initially be piloted with S1 – 3 pupils.

Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)

DYW representatives from each authority, regional groups and the Senior Education Officer from the Education Scotland Regional Improvement Team continue to meet regularly to identify and share good practice in local authorities and to discuss challenges/opportunities presented by the position. Professional current learning opportunities have been offered across the collaborative and these have been well attended and received positive feedback.

A DYW regional network has been developed to allow sharing of good practice. The workstream seconded officer attends as a member of this group

Digital Needs Analysis

The e-Learning Implementation group is currently engaging with Education Scotland following completion of a digital needs analysis focusing on digital learning and teaching. The results of the analysis have set out the systematic/strategic support required in this area across the RIC and individually for each local authority. This is being taken forward in conjunction with the digital leads across each authority and is progressing well.



Early Years Highlights

Early years is now firmly embedded in all of the workstreams. In addition to this the SWEIC Early Years lead continues to meet in a separate forum with representatives from the South West early years operational network, strategic lead officers, Care Inspectorate, SSSC and South West RIT officers on a regular basis. This ensures a relevant focus is central to the individual workstreams agenda. The SWEIC early years leads attends all workstream meetings to support and progress pre-5 SWEIC priorities.

The SWEIC early years lead officer attends the Scottish Government's Deferral Working Group, feeding back to the strategic early years leads as required. This supports their local authority work. She has also been invited to join the Scottish Government focus group to be involved in joint work to support the extension of eligibility to 2-year-olds with a care experienced parent. This session in conjunction with the Planning Learning

Teaching and Assessment workstream there has been a focus on early years assessment and moderation as highlighted in the SWEIC plan. As a result of a previous online opportunity for early years staff to focus on planning for assessment and moderation and discussions / consultations with SWEIC early years staff at all levels, a gap was identified in this area. The SWEIC early years officer has worked with a range of colleagues to create a bespoke programme to address this which is more relevant than ongoing QAMSO work. This is now being rolled out as a professional learning opportunity for all early years staff across the SWEIC which will underpin and support their work in assessment and moderation.



Play Pedagogy Programme

A session long SWEIC Play Pedagogy programme took place. This professional learning opportunity ran on a monthly basis with 185 participants The aim of the programme was to enhance a shared understanding of the concept in the Early Years curriculum, increase confidence in implementing this and address the needs of participants. Prior to the course, 48.4% of participants indicated they were 'somewhat confident' in implementing the approach. An interim evaluation based on their participation, saw this figure rise to 79.2%.

The demand for the course has been overwhelming and as such, it is planned that it will run again next session.

A second course for the more experienced practitioner, will run alongside it which will explore key aspects of play pedagogy with a more in-depth approach. This will also require an element of practitioner enquiry.

Read the case study.



Froebel

A SWEIC cohort continues to engage with University of Edinburgh's bespoke programme for early years leaders building on leadership capacity. This session there have been no face-to-face opportunities to collaborate with a virtual platform being used throughout. A consultation exercise of participants before Christmas to gauge impact, offer support and discuss next steps. This dialogue with practitioners is ongoing. A SWEIC Froebel Event took place in May. Participants were able to share their learning journeys so far, how this will impact on the improvement agenda and discuss the wider impact on the delivery of quality learning and teaching in the sector. A keynote address and presentation were delivered by colleagues from Edinburgh University. This was an open SWEIC event for all early years staff in order to focus on improvement and to provide an opportunity to share, collaborate and connect.

Read the case study.

Leadership

As a result of consultation with staff, a focus on leadership session was provided for EY leaders. This was presented in collaboration with Strathclyde University. The focus of the session was What does Leadership Mean? Reconnecting with Core Values in Challenging Times. This was a very well received event.

Families of Schools

Moving forward, early learning centres have now been included in the SWEIC families of schools, which, taken with the engagement of the secondary sector, leads to a 2-18 collaboration across the four local authorities which is welcomed. The involvement of the ELC sector was as a result of a consultation exercise where leaders in the sector indicated an appetite to work together.

Virtual networks of early years practitioners have been set up and these are being used effectively as a forum to share practice, collaborate, signpost resources and improve outcomes for learners. They also provide an additional platform for communication for the SWEIC.



Case studies

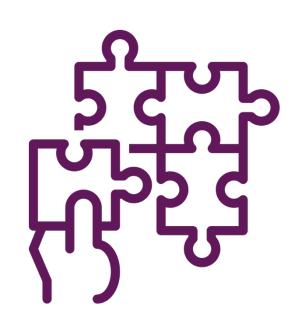
4 Stages of Progress Families of Schools Froebel Literacy Fortnight Pedagogy

Click on each shape to read the case study

Partnership with Education Scotland

SWEIC is well supported by the Education Scotland Regional Advisor who works closely with the Strategic Officers and the SWEIC QIM. The Senior Regional Advisor leads the Education Scotland Regional Improvement Team and works closely with officers in the SWEIC.

Each of the SWEIC workstreams have representatives of the Regional Improvement Team working with them as workstream members. A number of the SWEIC webinars and online events have been led or supported by the members of the SWRIT during session 2021/22 which is increasing opportunities for partnership working.



Additional Groups

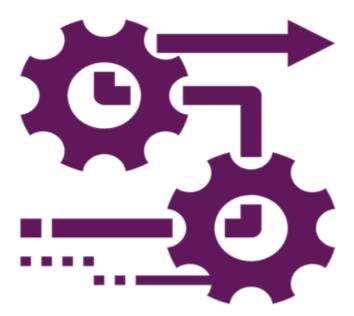
A number of additional groups are continuing to add to collaborative capacity across the South West and support the workstreams where applicable. The groups include for example staff focused on Additional Support Needs, Psychological Services, Information and Communications Technology, Early Years, Staffing, and Community Learning and Development. The growth in the number of these groups very much demonstrates the willingness to work collaboratively across the South West and beyond. The impact will it is hoped increasingly focus on better outcomes for children and young people. Over the course of the development of the 2022/23 plan this list will continue to grow to include more staff/curriculum networks and opportunities for youth participation.

Resources

Funding is provided to the SWEIC by Scottish Government. This has facilitated much of the workstream activity along with the secondments of experienced senior staff to lead and support the progress of the workstreams. The funding has created additional capacity which has added significantly to the pace of progress.



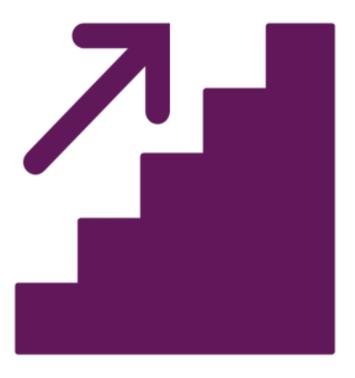
Moving forward - next steps



In April 2022, as part of the SWEIC plan's evaluation process the SWEICs strategic leads took the opportunity to consider workstream outcomes to ensure moving forward they more effectively align with individual local authority plans and current local and national priorities. To support this alignment our three key workstreams will be renamed, Equity and Equality for All, Getting it right for all Learners and Curriculum Innovation. Once again leadership will be embedded in all three workstreams along with a clear focus on inclusion, recovery and 2-18 to reflect their aims and priorities more effectively.

This it is hoped will enable us to place front and centre in our plan the principles of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), placing our children and young people and their interests at the heart of all that we do. This approach will be underpinned by children's rights and its principles and reflect the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which will be embedded in all our planned workstream activity moving forward.

As a Regional Improvement Collaborative, we are very aware of the pressures that our schools across the South West are facing at this time and therefore it is important that what is planned for is fit for purpose and meets needs. To that end the SWEIC is committed to ensuring that moving forward our plan reflects the views and ambitions of our key stakeholders across the four local authorities helping to achieve our vision of improving outcomes for learners by offering and facilitating peer to peer, school to school and authority to authority professional learning that is built upon collaboration without borders'. Our plan for 2022/23 will therefore be fully consulted on which it is hoped will enable us to develop and deliver a plan which meets their aspirations.



Appendix 1 High Level Critical Indicators

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
% of Children Meeting Developmental Milestones 27 – 30 month review	78	82	83	83	82	88*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening)	70	70	72		60	76*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	60	61	63		48	68
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	83	82	84		72	85
Percentage point difference (pp) of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) Gap between most and least disadvantaged	23	21	21		24	16
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy	74	78	78		69	81*
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	66	72	70		59	75
% of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	84	87	89		81	88

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
Percentage point difference (pp) of primary pupils (P1, P4 and P7 combined) achieving expected levels or better in numeracy Gap between most and least disadvantaged	18	15	19		22	13
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening)	84	88	86			90*
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	75	79	75			84
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	94	94	90			95
Percentage point difference (pp) of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in literacy (based on reading, writing and talking and listening) Gap between most and least disadvantaged	19	15	14			10
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy	85	90	90			91*
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy SIMD 20% most disadvantaged	75	85	83			84
% of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy SIMD 20% least disadvantaged	95	95	96			96
Percentage point difference (pp) of S3 pupils achieving third level or better in numeracy Gap between most and least disadvantaged	20	10	13			11
% of leavers achieving 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better	64.1	64.9	63.97	65.82	68.61	71*
% of leavers achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better	33.7	31.9	32.65	36.33	38.52	**40.16

Indicators	2016/17 Baseline	2017/18 Value	2018/19 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Value	Stretch Aim/Target
% of school leavers achieving SCQF Level 5 in Literacy	80.5	80.8	81.25	80.9	83.25	**81.8
% of school leavers achieving SCQF Level 5 in Numeracy	70.3	69.6	68.05	70.62	71.62	**71.03
Exclusion Rates – All Pupils (Rate per 1000 pupils)	26		18		12.72	**11.87
Exclusion Rates – LAC status Pupils (Rate per 1000 pupils)	77		118			**152
Attendance Rates – All Pupils	93.0		92.66		91.8	**92.0
Attendance Rates – LAC status Pupils	91.0		87.0			**87.0
Initial School Leaver Destinations (% in positive destinations)	94.1	94.2	94.38	94.3	95.8	95
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for learning, teaching and assessment QI 2.3 (Academic Year)	52.2 (12/23)	65.2 (15/23)	60.7 (17/28)	76.2 (16/21)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for leadership of change QI 1.3 (Academic Year)	54.5 (12/22)	63.6 (14/22)	63.2 (12/19)	72.7 (8/11)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for Raising attainment and achievement QI 3.2 (Academic Year)	61.5 (16/26)	65.5 (19/29)	65.5 (19/29)	85.7 (12/14)		80
% of ELC, Primary and Secondary establishments evaluated as good or better for Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion QI 3.1 (Academic Year)	70.0 (14/20)	66.7 (16/24)	69.6 (16/23)	81.8 (9/11)		80

^{*} Midpoint value from NIF indicators

^{**} National Average

Glossary

Crossar g	
@South-West Connects	SWEIC Virtual Learning Platform
ACEL	Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Level
ASN	Additional Support Needs
BGE	Broad General Education
CLD	Community Learning and Development
DG	Dumfries and Galloway
EA	East Ayrshire
EEL	Excellence and Equity Leads
ERT	Education Recovery Teachers
EY	Early Years
EYP	Early Years Practitioner
GIRFEC	Getting it right for every child – a Scottish Government Policy that supports families by making sure children and young people can receive the right help, at the right time, from the right people. https://www.gov.scot/policies/girfec/
GLOW	Glow is the Scottish Schools National Intranet. This is a major national ICT and telecommunications programme managed by Education Scotland.
ITE	Initial Teacher Education
NA	North Ayrshire
NeLO	National e-Learning Offer – a resource for teachers and learners, consisting of live, recorded and supporting resources. https://education.gov.scot/nelo/
NL	Numeracy Lead
NQT	Newly Qualified Teacher
PEF	Pupil Equity Funding
PL or CLPL	(Continuous Lifelong) Professional Learning – the learning activities practitioner engage in to develop their skills and knowledge and improve teaching practice.
QAMSO	Quality Assurance and Moderation Support Officer
QIM	Quality Improvement Manager
RIC	Regional Improvement Collaborative
RIT or SWRIT	(South West) Regional Improvement Team – our regional Education Scotland colleagues who work closely with our schools and SWEIC

	officers. https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/what-we-do/supporting-regional-improvement/
RLO	Regional Lead Officer
RQT	Recently Qualified Teacher
SA	South Ayrshire
SAC	Scottish Attainment Challenge - provides focused and targeted improvement activity in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing across Scotland. It also supports and complements a broad range of initiatives and programmes to ensure that all of Scotland's children and young people reach their full potential. https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/scottish-attainment-challenge/
SCILT	Scotland's National Centre for Languages
SCQF	Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework
SIMD	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
SNSA	Scottish National Standardised Assessments
SQA	Scottish Qualifications Authority
SRA	Education Scotland Senior Regional Adviser
SWEIC	South West Educational Improvement Collaborative – a regional improvement collaborative in the South West of Scotland that brings together four local authorities with the aim of improving outcomes for our children and young people through collaboration. https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/sweic/
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – an international human rights treaty that grants all children and young people a comprehensive set of rights. It is incorporated into Scots Law. https://www.gov.scot/policies/human-rights/childrens-rights/
UWS	University of West Of Scotland



South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx

Further guidance is available here: https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-quide-public-authorities/

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. <u>FSD Guidance for Public Bodies</u> in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/

1. Policy details

Policy Title	South	West	Educational	Improvement	Collaborative	Regional	
	Improvement Plan 2022/23						
Lead Officer	Lyndsay McRoberts, Director of Education						
(Name/Position/Email)	Lyndsay.McRoberts@south-ayrshire.gov.uk						

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-
Sexual Orientation – person's sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-

Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights &	-	-
Children's Rights		

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to	-	-
maintain regular payments such as bills, food,		
clothing		
Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet	-	-
Basic living costs and pay bills but have no		
savings to deal with any unexpected spends and		
no provision for the future		
Material Deprivation – being unable to access	-	-
basic goods and services i.e. financial products		
like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical		
goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies		
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas),	-	-
where you work (accessibility of transport)		
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e.	-	-
parent's education, employment and income		

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the 'Three Key Needs' of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact
	(High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	YES NO	
Rationale for decision:		
Signed: Lyndsay McRoberts D	irector of Education	
Date: 19 August 2022		