

SWEIC Progress to Date and Priorities – January 2019

SWEIC remains committed to ensuring that the four workstreams are the vehicles for building collaborative capacity across the south west. Our aim is to improve 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.

Priorities:

1. **Improve attainment in literacy and numeracy through the broad general education for all learners.**
2. **Improvement in raising attainment while narrowing the poverty related attainment gap in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, including mitigating the impact of rural poverty.**
3. **Ensure children benefit from the highest quality of early learning and childcare.**
4. **Enhance leadership capacity and collaboration.**

1. **Assessment and Moderation Workstream**

- A detailed survey was issued to all staff in the region to establish a baseline and next steps in relation to assessment and moderation (801 responses).
- All 4 authorities have agreed on the criteria for 4 stages of assessment within a level.
- HTs attended an Education Scotland/SWEIC event on Assessment and Moderation which articulated the national messages and shared good practice.
- 3rd and 4th level QAMSOs and subject specialists met to share good practice and identify next steps.
- Different models of moderation used in each authority have been shared and best practice will be developed across the RIC.
- Next steps – consider a strategic use of QAMSOs across LAs and the RIC; pilot a regional subject specialist network.

2. **PEF/Closing the Gap Workstream**

- Events to date
 - February 2018 – National PEF event for Head Teachers.
 - March 2018 – Raising attainment in maths.
 - June 2018 – Primary Principal Teachers PEF event.
 - November 2018 – Rural Schools Primary Head Teachers event.
- The four authorities' planning, tracking and monitoring processes for PEF have been shared.
- Next steps - develop a consistent and robust process to evaluate progress and measure and evaluate the impact of PEF spend across the RIC; identify families of schools across the region and facilitate collaboration; facilitate a secondary rural schools network; identify further opportunities to share good practice in order to improve outcomes for learners.
- Scottish Government and SWEIC are planning a regional event in March – the themes will include progress towards closing the poverty related attainment gap; working with partners to close the gap; staff well-being and empowerment.

3. Early Years Workstream

- An Early Years training event led by Shona Taylor is arranged for 18.2.19.
- A Literacy and Communication Conference is planned for 18.3.19, for all involved with early literacy, speech and language and communication, to share good practice in 'Understanding evidence based interventions in relation to early communication'.
- A series of improvement visits and CLPL opportunities are being planned to explore a shared understanding of quality learning and teaching in the early years.

4. Leadership Workstream

- A secondary Head Teachers event was held in May – HTs shared their current school improvement priorities and considered where they might work collaboratively on shared priorities. HTs also highlighted where they felt they had good practice to share.
- Primary HTs have been identified to join this workstream
- Professional Learning Co-ordinators will be meeting to identify gaps in leadership programme provision across the region
- 54 teachers across the region have signed up for Growth Mindset CLPL.
- Newly appointed HTs in SAC have been matched with experienced HTs in other authorities – Professional Learning Co-ordinators are meeting to discuss a coaching and mentoring programme to support this.
- Stewarton Academy held a good practice sharing event – Visible Learning which was well attended and well received.
- An event focusing on improving the quality of learning and teaching in maths in primary and secondary across SWEIC is being planned.

Other groups working collaboratively in the region

- Psychological Services are holding a conference this month. Theme - how the 4 services meet the needs of our most vulnerable learners.
- Catholic HTs are holding a conference in March. Theme - training around the new equality materials.
- The staffing group have met to discuss protocols for secondments across the RIC.
- ASN leads have met and shared good practice and identified common challenges.
- Foundation Apprenticeships – partnership approach with NAC, EAC and SAC. SAC is the preferred bidder for Business Skills FA. NAC and EAC have received similar notifications for Social Services and healthcare and Food and Drink.

Recruitment/Secondment Opportunities

Quality Improvement Manager has been in post since August 2018.

Expressions of interest have been sought for 5 posts to support collaborative work:

Data Analyst – part-time secondment offered to member of staff from Dumfries and Galloway.

Engagement officer – interviews taking place 25th January.

3 workstream officers – Assessment & Moderation secondment offered to QIO from SAC.

Closing the Gap & Leadership officers readvertised due to limited response.

3 curriculum development officers included in second advert.