

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT BOARD – WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2021

Purpose

1. To seek the Curriculum and Assessment Board's approval for a work programme for the 2020/21 academic year and to seek members' views on other topics for discussion within or beyond 2020/21.

Background

2. As the principle forum for curriculum and assessment related discussion in Scotland, the Curriculum and Assessment Board has considered a number of issues since it first met in December 2017.

3. The Board has historically been flexibly and reactive in order to consider emerging issues as and when necessary. However, it has been advantageous for the Board to consider work programmes at appropriate times (see papers CAB 01(03) and CAB 05(04)). This has helped to maintain a long term focus of the Board's work.

4. Any agreed work programme would provide a framework for discussions throughout the 2020/21 academic year but still allow space for the Board to continue to be flexible and consider topical issues.

Conclusion

5. The Board is invited to review the proposed work programme found at Annex A and consider the following questions:
- Are board members content with the proposed areas of focus; and
 - are there other areas or topics which are worthy of inclusion?

Annex A

Proposed agenda item	Purpose
Improving curriculum design in the BGE and senior phase.	This will include a focus on what we know and what improvements we are leading in learner pathways and interdisciplinary learning. It can also take account of the employability skills young people will need in the economy post-Covid-19.
Blended learning and professional learning and leadership (PLL).	This will incorporate Education Scotland's 'Scotland Learns' offering and a revised focus on delivering PLL effectively through remote approaches.
RICs – arrangements for providing curriculum support	This will provide a chance to look at how curriculum support is developing and is offered at local and regional levels, alongside that available from Education Scotland, the SQA and other national agencies. CAB would be invited to discuss the overall strengths and challenges.
Education Scotland's Regional Working and HMI	This will provide an opportunity to discuss Education Scotland's collaborative working to support Covid recovery planning and implementation.
NIF reporting and Scottish Government expectations for 2021	The meeting in September 2021 would provide an opportunity to consider the revised National Improvement Framework and Scottish Government expectations in the Covid recovery phase.
OECD CfE review	The CAB will have opportunities to consider the progress and outputs from the OECD review of Curriculum for Excellence.