Curriculum for Excellence
Area Adviser Update
February 2011

My Experiences and Outcomes
Organise and save outcomes with this helpful planning tool

Where are we in February 2011?

SLF 2011 theme and call for participation announced

[SLF 2011](#) takes place on Wed 21/Thurs 22 September in Glasgow. The theme for SLF 2011 is *Curriculum for Excellence: Learning, Teaching and Assessment, Making the Connections*.
The Conference Secretariat is now open for abstracts for proposed participation. For more information about the theme for SLF 2011 and details of how to submit your proposal visit the SLF website.

The Scottish Learning Festival 2011
21-22 September 2011
SECC ▸ GLASGOW
Interested in presenting at The Scottish Learning Festival?

Helping you deliver Curriculum for Excellence – latest support materials

Support materials available on the Learning and Teaching Scotland website have been developed in response to practitioner feedback and are designed to provide stimulus for practical ideas and professional thinking. These materials offer examples of interesting emerging practice in a wide range of formats. [Explore the latest support materials.](#)

New National Qualifications - Course Rationales and Summaries

[Course Rationale and Summary](#) draft documents for **National 4 and National 5** are now available to view on the SQA website. The draft Course Rationales and Summaries outline the proposed content for the **new qualifications** and their aims and purposes.
The Course Rationales identify the skills and knowledge learners will develop.
The Course Summaries detail how Courses will be structured. They provide a brief description of each Unit in the Course and what is required to achieve the Course.
Course Rationales and Summaries are available for every subject at National 4 and National 5 level. [Literacy and Numeracy](#) are the responsibility of all education professionals. Literacy and Numeracy Units will be developed at SCQF levels 3, 4 and 5.

Community learning and development

Information and resources for those involved in community-based learning.
» Building community capacity
» Working with adult learners
» Developing your practice

Newsflash about NAR! New curriculum area-focused assessment materials about to be uploaded to NAR for the first time

NAR — Supporting Assessment in Practice
Log in to NAR

You'll remember that we have been working with 30+ schools since the start of the session to prepare some materials in each curriculum area across the 2nd, 3rd & 4th curriculum levels. Despite some schools losing time over December's snow, we had 29 sets of materials to take to the National Quality Assurance Group (NQAG) on Wednesday. A high proportion of these were awarded quality marks for key aspects and around 22 sets will make their way onto the [NAR](#) over the coming weeks. However, 7 schools had prepared materials to such a high standard that little editing is required so we have been able to add them to NAR much sooner than expected. Another 6 sets may well be added shortly too.

It's really encouraging to see this improvement in the presentation of work we have received from schools – in terms of clarity, brevity, focus etc. This clearly shows a growing understanding of how to prepare accessible, useful resources for NAR in ways that will help other practitioners. Of course, our abilities at LTS to engage with EAs, schools and teachers in generating the evidence; preparing members of NQAG for their crucial role in quality assuring them; and our online & technical teams' skills in making everything look right before being uploaded to NAR have made this whole project a success .

Supporting learners

Find information and resources to help provide tailored learning support to children, young people and adult learners.
» Universal support
» Additional support needs
» Choices and changes

Secondary Curriculum plans

Revised list of examples of [Secondary Curriculum Plans](#) have been published (February 2011)

Senior phase models for parents

Parent-friendly [senior phase models and learner journeys](#) were published on Parentzone in December.

Chalk face CfE: supporting practitioners in primary, ASN and early years settings

Practitioners like to talk to other practitioners and they do this with increased confidence when what they are discussing is based on successful real life experience. To this end, a new blog is now available to support CfE in primary, ASN and early years settings. It has been set up for people who are working at the 'chalk face'. Visit the blog to hear what other practitioners have been doing and see the links to other related support and guidance on the LTS website. The blog will be looking at 'what could I do now and how might I do it' in a range of areas including:

- Experiences and Outcomes
- Tracking and Progression
- Assessment
- Reporting
- Transitions
- Building Your Curriculum

The Daily What News - for schools in Scotland

Learning and Teaching Scotland has launched a Facebook site for its popular *Daily What News* website (which is available in English and Gaelic), so that teachers and other practitioners can keep up to date with the latest developments and lesson ideas. Practitioners can sample the ideas and possibilities for teaching based on the *Daily What News* articles and pull this content into their own Facebook sites if they wish. The editors of the *Daily What News* will be updating the site every day.

Assessment National Glow Group

The LTS Assessment Team has developed a new national Glow Group to support practitioners in the implementation of the national framework for assessment.

Game to Learn Conference - Scotland's largest game based learning conference

Free CDP for all Scottish educators

On **Saturday 19 March 2011** at the **Universtity of Abertay Dundee**, the Consolarium offers a lively CPD event for teachers as well as a celebration of the diverse and innovative practice in game based learning and game design that has been happening in schools across Scotland. Over the past few years the LTS Consolarium initiative has been working with partner schools across Scotland to help nurture the idea that commercially available computer games that have been developed for entertainment can be used to help create appealing, purposeful and challenging contexts for learning.

This conference will allow us to share the innovative and effective work of some of the many practitioners in Scotland who have embraced game based learning. The knowledge and experience that will be shared by our colleagues from schools will then be complemented in the afternoon by a range of differentiated hands-on activities aimed at developing delegates' own confidence and competence in this field. These activities include developing computer games design skills from the early stages through to S6, exploring treasure hunting via geocaching and a game based learning dance session.

The conference promises to deliver an exciting and inspiring CPD experience for those involved in education and Curriculum for Excellence. Delegates can choose from 16 morning seminars and 10 practical afternoon workshops, listen to inspiring opening and closing keynotes and spend time engaging with fellow educators and industry representatives including Sony, Nintendo and Microsoft.

This event has been organised and developed in partnership with JISC Regional Support Centre Scotland North and East.

Full details and registration can be found at http://www.gametolearn.org

Nominate now for an Education Award

Do you know a school or a nursery who provide opportunities for children and young people to participate in sports and other physical pursuits on a regular basis? Why not nominate them for the Active Nation Award? Or what about our Health and Wellbeing Award? This category recognises those schools and nurseries who have developed a holistic approach to health and wellbeing for their pupils.

The **Scottish Education Awards 2011** were launched by the Education Secretary, Michael Russell, on Friday 19 November 2010. To nominate, visit the Scottish Education Awards website. Entry to the Awards is open to all publicly funded schools, including nursery, primary, secondary and special schools across Scotland in 17 categories. Nominations are open **until Friday 4 March 2011**.

Glow Wikis launched

We are delighted to announce that **Glow Wikis** are now live, offering an exciting tool to add and edit web content in collaboration with others; Glow Wikis are an ideal tool for groups of pupils collaborating on projects or for teachers working together on policy documents or shared planning.

Visit the Glow Wiki's homepage where you will find:

- Links to sample wikis, with help and instructions for setting up and editing your own wiki
- The link to a National Wiki called Scotland's Schools. All schools can go to this wiki and add a page for their own school. Over time we hope that this wiki will build into a 'Domesday Book' of schools in Scotland in the 21st century. This is now open and ready for you to add your own school's pages – you can add images, audio and video too, or link to your existing websites and blogs.

The new-look CPDCentral is here!

Only one week into the new-look CPD community on Glow, CPDCentral, and we're getting busy already.
Note you will need a Glow username and password for the next links

- To find out if you are already a member, visit the home page of CPDCentral
- If your picture doesn't appear near the top-right, then follow this link to join

Find out more on the blog post "What is CPDCentral?"

A National Approach to Anti-Bullying for Scotland's Children and Young People

At the end of last year a national approach to anti-bullying was developed by the Scottish Government and the Scottish Anti-Bullying Steering Group to communicate and promote a common vision and aims; and to make sure that work across all agencies and communities is consistently and coherently contributing to a holistic approach to anti-bullying in Scotland.

ESOL Initial Assessment Pack

The ESOL Initial Assessment Guide is now available on the ESOL Scotland website. The Guide was developed by Stevenson College and funded by the Scottish Government to support practitioners to undertake initial assessment with their learners. The Guide will help to standardise initial assessment procedures and place learners in the appropriate level of provision to ensure that all ESOL learners have the opportunity to make progress towards their specific language learning objectives and to achieve their personal, educational or employment goals.

The Guide can be used in a variety of contexts and settings to assess ESOL learners from ESOL Literacies beginners to entry to vocational courses and academic programmes of learning. It can be used by providers across all sectors including colleges, community, voluntary organisations and schools.

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) has developed a suite of **new Professional qualifications** to provide Professional development for practitioners working in the Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

Scottish Schools Online website updated

Learning and Teaching Scotland, on behalf of Scottish Government, has published new information on the Scottish Schools Online website including this year's attainment statistics for all secondary schools.

16+ Learning Choices - Senior Phase Glow site

The 16+ Learning Choices - Senior Phase Glow site was recently launched at a Network event in Edinburgh. It is intended to increase discussions and communication about all things relating to 16+ Learning Choices and contains information relating to More Choices, More Chances and Activity Agreements from across all local authorities.   If you are a Glow user follow this link to request access to the site. For colleagues who are unable to access Glow, there is a **Senior Phase Glow Blog** which replicates much of the information and news highlighted through the Glow site as well containing copies of the **16+ Newsletter** which provides monthly updates on developments within local authorities and partners agencies.

Support for Children and Young People

New Guidance document "Support for all of Scotland's children and young people now published. The new LTS website has a "Supporting Learners" area covering universal and targeted support, positive learning environments, inclusion and equality, additional support needs, positive relationships and behaviour, supporting wellbeing, partnerships for support, choices and changes, MCMC, 16+ Learning Choices and more...a new overarching "Supporting Learners" Glow group in development – to articulate with website framework and link related groups.

16+ Learning Choices: Policy and Practice Framework: supporting all young people into positive and sustained destinations

Breaking Barriers: AMES Position Paper

AMES (**Association for Media Education in Scotland**) has just published a position paper, *Breaking Barriers: Multimodal and Media Literacy in the Curriculum for Excellence,* which outlines how media education might be implemented in the new curriculum. The paper should be of interest to all media educationists and curriculum developers in all areas as it tries to take account of the impact of developments in multimodal literacy education as well as user-generated media. The paper can be downloaded at www.mediaedscotland.org.uk.

Breaking Barriers: AMES Conference 2011

The 2011 AMES Conferenc**e** *Breaking Barriers: Multimodal and Media Literacy in the Curriculum for Excellence* will take place at **Abertay University in Dundee** on **Saturday 14 May 2011**. It will address the issues raised in the recently published position which can be downloaded at www.mediaedscotland.org.uk. The keynote speaker is leading media education researcher Professor David Buckingham of the University of London's Institute of Education. There will also be a range of workshops allowing primary, secondary and further education educators to explore unfamiliar pedagogies or reinvigorate familiar ones. Details and application forms will be in Scottish schools/colleges and on the website after the Easter holidays. If you would like to pre-register email Des Murphy at desmurphy47@gmail.com.

Learner resources

Browse the wide range of learner resources provided by LTS for use by teachers and learners..Resources include: Espresso Science - a wide range of video clips and multimedia activities to help children develop a range of critical thinking skills (Glow log-in required). Weather and Climate Change – Essential background information on climate change for children and young people, with easy access to topical news, resources and high-quality videos. Engineering: sciences and technologies in action are materials designed to provide learners with practical experiences of engineering in the curriculum, using engineering as a context for learning.

New financial education publications

Learning and Teaching Scotland has published the delivery plan for improving financial education in Scottish schools. This delivery plan is outlined in two new documents:

Financial Education: Developing Skills for Life, Learning and Work
Maintaining Momentum: A Partnership Approach to Improving Financial Education in Scottish schools

The first document, which will be sent to every school early in 2011, describes how financial capability can be developed through 'numeracy across learning' and across other curriculum areas. The second document, which is also available on our website, emphasises the role of various stakeholders and partnerships in bringing about the changes that we think are essential to help young people meet the financial challenges that they are meeting now and will meet in the future.   For further information on financial education please contact j.lally@ltscotland.org.uk

Keep up to date get the **latest on Curriculum for Excellence** through the email update, CfE News or RSS feed or from the CfE Management Board latest Papers