




BULLETIN DEC '22



Message from Gillian Brydson, SWEIC Regional Lead



The last term seems to have gone in so quickly and I am sure pupils and staff are keenly looking forward to the Christmas holidays. There has been impressive work across our Regional Improvement Collaborative since the summer and a spotlight on some of this is within this bulletin. Thank you for continuing to participate in our growing conversations; as we have said from the outset, the aim of the SWEIC is to add value and share the load by working together. Teachers and school leaders at all levels are choosing to be involved in our SWEIC perspective – this is a signal that the work is helpful to busy people who could choose to be elsewhere. It is through your help in planning and running these forums that the work stays relevant.



The seconded officers are working on your behalf to deliver the plan we set out to achieve, and I continue to meet the four Councils' chief executives every month to report on our good progress. The range of work we are involved in together is noteworthy. This month, some of what I have reported includes the SWEIC curricular networks in Technologies and Maths for Secondary practitioners, the high uptake to the UNCRC professional learning, the Literacy group who are currently working with several local authors with a focus on the promotion and celebration of our rich local heritage, ongoing good progress on Play Pedagogy and the work of the ESL/ESOL group which has been highlighted as good practice by Education Scotland and the delivery of an ESOL qualification on a virtual platform in partnership with Ayrshire College.

There is more to come next year; I am pleased to see that Primary and Secondary headteacher focus groups have been set up to discuss the way forward for the 'families of schools' this session. These sessions were both positive and provided the basis for planning next steps with a real focus on school improvement through collaborative action research. This is now being further developed with Sheelagh, as our Quality Improvement Manager reading through all school improvement plans and local authority plans to look for common themes– where we can invite people to lessen the load by working together on shared challenges.

We hope you can get involved throughout 2023.



This month's focus from across our workstreams...

CURRICULUM INNOVATION

@South-West Connects

21/22 @South-West Connects candidates had considerable success with appeals, and overall results now show 74% of the first cohort achieved an A-C award at Advanced Higher including 29 A passes. Very well done to all young people and staff involved in the delivery of this exciting 'new' way of learning across the SWEIC. Our second cohort of nearly 200 young people are now fully engaged in their courses and are making good progress.

23/24 Programme

Expressions of interest are invited from teachers interested in delivering a Higher or Advanced Higher with us next session. Please visit the [Blog](#) for more information including a list of subjects we plan to run.



GIRFAL

A fantastic menu of online EAL lessons is now being shared across the SWEIC. These are aimed at learners newly arrived in secondary schools with limited English language. All can be used and adapted to address need. These and more resources are available now on the SWEIC EAL Teams page.

Use code vy18d2h to join the Team.



SECONDMENT OPPORTUNITY



Expressions of interest are sought for a secondment to the post of Quality Improvement Manager for the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative (SWEIC). Supporting the regional lead and working across the four local authorities the SWEIC is looking to appoint an educational leader with expert knowledge of schools' performance and self-evaluation frameworks, professional learning and quality improvement within schools and the wider learning community. [View on myjobscotland.](#)

EQUITY & EQUALITY

Families of Schools

Recently formed SWEIC headteacher reference groups (both primary and secondary) have been considering the next steps for the SWEIC families of schools. More information will be shared regarding our plans early in the new year when a range of collaborative and professional learning opportunities linked to your school improvement plans will be issued for your consideration.

Curricular Networks

Two new secondary subject networks are being set up in Maths and in Technologies. Curricular leads in East, North and South Ayrshire have been identified. Your leads will be sharing information on how to become involved and join shortly.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

An exciting CLPL offer will begin in January delivered by Winning Scotland. Staff across the SWEIC are offered the opportunity to join a growth mindset themed PL programme. Limitless Learning is a blended learning programme supporting growth mindset practice to enhance pupil engagement, attainment, health and wellbeing, confidence and resilience. Interested and want to find out more – [click here.](#)



AT A GLANCE...

Over the last month we delivered a range of professional learning inputs to almost 400 practitioners across the SWEIC, including UNCRC, Play Pedagogy and Inclusive Practitioner programmes.



Visit our Blog and explore future PL events.

