

In 2022-23, the Curriculum Outdoors Attainment Challenge (COACH) team consisted of 2 FTE posts – 1 principal teacher and 2 part-time teachers. All COACH input is designed to build teacher capacity to lead outdoor learning.

Team Teaching Sessions

The sessions are planned and led by COACH staff with an increasing amount of input from school staff as a sequence of sessions progress. Session focus is agreed in advance to meet the needs of both staff and pupils. The targeted focus can be from a single curricular area or from interdisciplinary learning to support work towards Wider Achievement awards (the RSPB Schools Wild Challenge, Heritage Hero Awards or the John Muir Award). School staff are supplied in advance with a planning overview and possible follow up work. The overview includes links to resources available online from the EAC LOST blog pages or other appropriate sources.

Team Teaching (COACH staff, class teacher and pupil sessions)					
Establishment Type	No. of Establishments	No. of Teachers/staff	No. of classes	No. of Pupils	No. of Sessions
Primary	15	80	56	1474	245
Secondary	2	13	11	125	29
Special	1	3	3	32	28
Total	18	96	91	1631	302

Teacher feedback – Logan PS

As a practitioner I have grown so much and have been equipped with the skills and knowledge to confidently teach (outdoors)... Really thankful for this opportunity and can't wait to share my skills with others!



Collegiate, SMT and Working Group Training Provided

COACH works with colleagues requesting further training and input. Input is provided to entire staff teams at collegiate meetings and also to smaller groups such as working parties or management teams.

Establishment Type	No. of Establishments	No. of Teachers/staff	No. of Inputs
ECC	1	5	1
Primary	8	90	12
Secondary	2	17	6
Total	11	112	19

Twilight CLPL Sessions and Professional Learning Network Sessions

Twilight training sessions are offered to all teachers and ECC practitioners across the authority. Occasionally we are contacted by staff in other authorities and they are made welcome if they can attend the sessions run in EAC.

Professional Networks are an opportunity to colleagues to share their own expertise.

	Early Level PLN	Primary and Secondary Curricular Training	Probationer Training
No. of Sessions Provided	4	6	2
Total No. of Attendees	22	24	50

Teacher feedback – Collegiate and Twilight CLPL Sessions

Very helpful and appropriate for School Improvement Plan this year.

Lots of great ideas that I can take back to my class.

I really enjoyed seeing the (teaching suggestions) in practice. Makes me feel more confident about implementing (them) with my class.

Will definitely give (Citizen Science) examples a go. Excellent links to access and 'live' science ... to get involved with.

SWEIC Outdoor Learning CLPL 2022-23

COACH are members of the SWEIC network organising and facilitating 6 Outdoor Learning CLPL sessions across all 4 SWEIC authorities. Each session was based a theme from the Education Scotland Thematic Inspection of Outdoor Learning, *Successful Approaches to Outdoor Learning*. The format for each session consisted of a keynote speaker and presentations from schools presenting their own examples of good practice. COACH ensured that an EAC establishment presented at each CLPL session so that EAC good practice has been widely shared. COACH and EAC LOST materials remain a core part of the outdoor learning resources collated by SWEIC and shared on Teams.

SWEIC OL CLPL Theme	No. of Attendees	EAC Establishment Presenting
Partnerships	35	Drongan PS
Leadership	30	Robert Burns Ac
Curriculum	27	Dunlop PS
Experiences	33	St Joseph's Ac
Wellbeing	25	Dalrymple PS
Professional Learning	15	Onthank PS

By June 2023, recordings of the online sessions were accessed 117 times.

Feedback from SWEIC OL CLPL Sessions

To what extent has the CLPL Session influenced your thinking about or confirmed your understanding of Outdoor Learning?	Very Great/Great Extent 87%
To what extent has the CLPL Session focussed your thinking around what Outdoor Learning looks like and feels like in your context?	Very Great/Great Extent 84%
As a result of taking part in the CLPL Session how likely are you to implement the learning to further inform practice?	Very likely/Somewhat Likely 98%
As a result of taking part in the CLPL Session how likely are you to share what you have heard with colleagues in your context?	Very likely/Somewhat Likely 98%

EAC LOST Camp Outs

Camp outs are being used by schools in East Ayrshire to promote parental engagement and to provide a transition experience for P6 pupils who will go on a residential trip in P7. Camp outs can also be used as an alternative to (potentially) costly residential visits. Bell tents to accommodate pupils, families and staff are provided by COACH and COACH staff assist by providing all necessary camping equipment, setting up and taking down a camp, support with planning and, if requested, support running and supervising activities.

Establishment Type	Establishments	No. of Staff Worked with	No. of Pupils worked with	Nature of Support
Primary	Logan PS Catrine PS	9	14	Planning and support in advance of event Equipment loans (bell tents, sleeping mats, sleeping bags)



Feedback – Catrine PS

One of the pupils who took part in the sleep out last week had such a good time that the dad has gone and bought a tent and the family of four boys and the parents are all going camping this weekend.

Good to know the impact these nights can have on encouraging new experiences and getting families engaged in the outdoors.



COACH Equipment and Resource Loans

Establishment Types	Equipment Loaned Out of the Box - Science	Equipment Loaned Out of the Box – Literacy	Equipment Loaned Out of the Box - Orienteering	Equipment Loaned - other
ECC/EA TAP Team		2		
Primary	3	10	4	Sleeping bags for residential use Den kits Collection of outdoor themed picture books
Secondary	3	1		Garden equipment kit x 2 Woodland Plants Trail ID Keys set Tree Name Trail ID Keys set Tracks and Signs ID Keys Set Soil pH meters set 10 Quadrats Litter picking set x 2
Total No. of Loans	6	13	4	12

Outdoor Learning Equipment Provided to EA Establishments for Permanent Loan

In term 4, COACH were advised that their indoor training room, office space and some of our storage space would no longer be available to us. We began a process of downsizing and sent out messages to EAC establishments to say that if they made a case for receiving equipment to keep, we would consider their requests.

Resources given out by Establishment Type	Out of the Box - Science	Other Science Equipment	Out of the Box - Literacy	Other literacy equipment including texts	Orienteering	Out of the Box - ASN	Litter Picking and Garden Equipment	Pupil PPE – wellies, waterproofs sets
ECC/EAC TAP			2			1		
Primary	6		10	8	2		3	4
Secondary	3	1		3			1	1
Special						2	1	2
Homelink Team								1
Total	9	1	12	11	2	3	5	8

Number of Establishments receiving COACH equipment as part of the dispersal: 1 Secondary, 7 Primary Schools, 3 ECC/EA TAP Team, 2 Special Schools and the Homelink Team.

In addition, 20 Primary and ECC practitioner 'grab bags' were created and given out to individuals attending training or PLN sessions. These kits included ID keys, mini treasure chests and activity cards. In addition dining shelters were provided to one ECC and one secondary school. A COACH box was created for Dunlop PS.

Schools Outdoor Learning Audit and Self Evaluation

COACH created an audit and self evaluation toolkit based on HGIOS 4, the Education Scotland LfS Self Evaluation toolkit and the Learning through Landscapes outdoor learning audit tools. The resulting toolkit provides a comprehensive set of challenge questions and examples of practice allowing teams to establish their current strengths and areas for development.

The toolkit was piloted at Onthank PS as part of a COACH whole school collegiate session and working party follow up with COACH support. Since then a small working party at James Hamilton PS has used the toolkit independently.

Both Onthank and James Hamilton Primary Schools have identified next steps, including them in their planning for 2023-24. COACH will be providing further targeted support at both schools in the coming session.

EAC LOST Monthly Newsletter and EAC LOST Blog

In 2022-23, COACH produced the term time, monthly **EAC LOST newsletters which went out to approximately 900 subscribers across Scotland and the UK.**

The newsletter shares outdoor learning news and inspiration. Learning and teaching suggestions were shared as links to the EAC LOST blog pages; EAC, SWEIC and national training and resources were signposted; and EAC establishments shared their own outdoor learning successes in a very popular *School Shoutouts!* Section.

The EAC LOST blog is used to shared COACH and EAC Learning Outdoors Support Team teaching and learning resources (lesson plans, activity suggestions, IDL topic planning) mapped to Curriculum for Excellence. It is used to signpost useful websites and partner organisations. The blog is accessed by educators in EAC, Scotland, the UK, Canada, US and Australia in particular with other users in mainland Europe and in Asia.

By the end of June, 2023, the EAC LOST blog pages had been accessed a total of 236, 736 times.

EAC Establishments Receiving Targeted COACH Support* in 2022-23

Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Special	
EAC TAP Team Fenwick ECC Flowerbank ECC Newmilns ECC	Catrine PS Darvel PS Dunlop PS Galston PS James Hamilton PS Lainshaw PS Lochnorris PS Logan PS Mauchline PS Netherthird PS Onthank PS St Andrew's PS St Patrick's PS Whatriggs PS	Robert Burns Academy St Joseph's Academy	Willowbank School	

*Team teaching, collegiate or working party training, equipment to keep, camp out resources, planning and set up.

Carolyn McFarlane, COACH PT, August 2023