**SESSION ONE – 4.45pm to 5.35pm**

1. Talking Maths for ELCs

Introduction to a family friendly resource which will increase parents’ and practitioners’ confidence in developing early maths skills.

This resource encourages parents to use early maths language at home, in everyday situations, to help develop problem solving skills in young children.

It can be linked to nursery activities and experiences through the provision of a maths rich environment, and maximising opportunities to develop maths skills through play.

It supports the outcomes in the Early Years Numeracy Tracker, links to Family Learning (HGIOELC 2.5) and Play@home and provides a solid foundation for further development of maths skills in P1.

1. Using science as a context for literacy and numeracy

Nicola Jordan, education coordinator from the Royal Society of Chemistry, will be delivering a hands-on, practical workshop for colleagues which aims to build confidence in using science experiences as a context for Literacy and Numeracy by:

* Providing ‘hand’s on’ experience of practical activities which can be delivered at first and second level;
* Highlighting key science learning and skills development within these activities;
* Signposting resources for further development.

1. Closing the poverty related attainment gap

A session supported by the Educational Psychology team to discuss ways in which schools might approach closing the gap, including:

* identification of areas of need;
* deciding on a strategy;
* measuring impact.

1. Toe by Toe (session 1 only)

What is Toe by Toe?

How do schools use Toe by Toe effectively?

A refresher course on utilising Toe by Toe and ASN practitioner best practice.

1. The early acquisition of literacy in P1 – Argyll and Bute’s new guidance (session 1 only)

A session which takes you through the key elements of Argyll and Bute’s new guidance on P1 literacy and which will be live from August 2018. Results from the current pilot of the guidance will be shared. Areas covered by the guidance include:

* Foundation skills of literacy
* Learning to read
* Reading in context
* Introducing writing
* Beyond handwriting – writing in context
* Creating literacy rich environments

F. Developing Number Sense (Session 1 only)

Reflecting on recent research into children's mathematical learning, this workshop focuses on the connections that help to develop understanding of number, such as how counting underpins many calculating methods and the way mental working and informal jotting can support problem solving. Using Number Talks as the vehicle to help develop this within schools, the workshop will offer practical examples of how to make Number Talks work in your establishment and how it can raise attainment across the stages.

G. STEM Ambassadors (Session 1 only) – presented by Krystle Dalton

STEM Ambassadors are volunteers from a broad range of jobs and backgrounds who are passionate about inspiring young people to pursue STEM studies and careers. Funded by the UK Government, this community of over 33,000 volunteers is an important, free of charge resource for teachers and non-school groups working with young people across the UK. STEM Ambassadors can inspire pupils through careers related events, curriculum support, practical activities and be involved in National schemes such as British Science Week, Code Clubs and Young Engineers & Science Clubs. This session will give you more information on the STEM Ambassador Programme, how it runs in Scotland, highlight best practice of using STEM Ambassadors in the classroom and will involve a discussion on where STEM Ambassadors can be sourced locally to provide support to schools in more remote locations.

H. First Minister’s Reading Challenge (Session 1 only) – presented by Jen Harwood (Scottish Book Trust)

*“We believe that reading has the power to change lives and that developing a love of reading in childhood can have a huge impact on educational attainment and future wellbeing. The First Minister wants to make sure every child in Scotland has an equal opportunity to experience the huge benefits that reading for pleasure brings. The First Minister’s Reading Challenge aims to build on the work already taking place in schools across the country to encourage children to read widely, explore a range of books and develop a love of reading.”*

This session will give you a brief overview of the programme and also allow practitioners to experience a couple of the activities that have been created to support parents, pupils and teachers taking part in this initiative. It will also be an opportunity to hear how the Scottish Book Trust can help you with parental engagement and provide some new ideas for home-link activities.

I. Read, Write, Count (Session 1 only) – presented by Antonia Clark (Scottish Book Trust)

*“Read, Write, Count is a new campaign to support parents of children in primaries 1 to 3 who want to take a more active role in their children’s learning. Children have amazing energy and a seemingly endless capacity for having fun. But sometimes it’s nice to take a step back, relax, and bring a little calm among amid the chaos. That’s where Read, Write, Count comes in.”*

This session will give a brief overview of the Read, Write, Count Initiative and take you through some of the activities that parents can be doing with their children, using the bags that were issued to all P1 to P3 children during Book Week 2017. Many of these activities can be used in the classroom as well, or used as homework activities to ensure that all pupils are able to access these resources and activities. It will also provide ideas for parental engagement within your schools, and how Scottish Book Trust can help to support this.

**SESSION TWO – 5.40pm to 6.30pm**

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1. Closing the poverty related attainment gap

A session supported by educational psychology to discuss ways in which schools might approach closing the gap, including:

* identification of areas of need
* deciding on a strategy
* measuring impact

1. Assessment of literacy and numeracy – the national message (Session 2 only)

A session to share the key national messages about how to assess pupil progress against the Benchmarks, moving on to focus on exemplar material for writing.

E. Early acquisition of number – the Primary 1 SEAL pilot (Session 2 only)

What is SEAL? SEAL stands for Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning and this session will give an overview of the pilot programme running in Argyll and Bute this session with 10 P1 classes. It will also highlight how SEAL can be used to support and target specific children, or used as a whole school approach to the acquisition of numerical skills. Offering both insight into the research around this approach and also practical examples of how to use it in the classroom, this workshop will provide clear next steps to those wishing to take forward this approach in their school.