

National Developments: February 2020

The Scottish Attainment Challenge

Now into its fifth year, tackling inequity is at the heart of the Scottish Government's agenda, in order that every child can succeed in school and gain the skills for life. The Scottish Attainment Challenge aims to raise the attainment of children and young people living in deprived areas, in order to close the equity gap. It will drive forward improvements in educational outcomes to ensure that everyone is encouraged to be the best they can be.

- [Scottish Attainment Challenge Self-evaluation framework](#)
- [Scottish Attainment Challenge Learning Resources](#)



National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan

The NIF (introduced in 2015) was created to gather an enhanced range of evidence at all levels of the system. The Education (Scotland) Act (2016) introduced a statutory requirement on Scottish Ministers to review the NIF and publish an annual NIF Plan. The NIF and Improvement Plan (2020) published on 10th Dec 2019 sets out the vision and priorities for Scottish education that have been agreed across the system, and the national improvement activity that needs to be undertaken to help deliver those key priorities.

- [National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan: 2020](#)



Curriculum

As part of their learner journey, all children and young people in Scotland are entitled to experience a coherent curriculum from 3 to 18 in order that they have opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to adapt, think critically and flourish in today's world.

- [CfE Refreshed Curriculum Narrative](#)
- [National Professional Learning Communities](#)



STEM

The 5 year STEM Education and Training Strategy for Scotland has 4 themes: excellence; equity; inspiration and; connection. It is relevant for all sectors including ELC, primary, secondary, college and CLD. The strategy aims to support young people, families and practitioners to understand the relevance of STEM for them and how to turn that into high quality learning and teaching experiences.

- [STEM Self-evaluation & Improvement Framework](#)
- [STEM professional learning resource for ELC practitioners](#)

Literacy

Literacy is fundamental to all areas of learning as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum. Being literate increases opportunities for the individual in all aspects of life, lays the foundation for lifelong learning and work, and contributes strongly to the development of all four capacities.

- [Literacy and English – National online professional learning community](#)
- [Literacy and English – Experiences and Outcomes & Benchmarks](#)



Numeracy

Strong numeracy skills can greatly improve many factors in life and can support greater participation in society. It is important to encourage greater enthusiasm for maths and to make maths more relevant to real life and work and more enjoyable.

- [Making Maths Count Report](#)
- [National Numeracy](#)



ALSO....

- [Developing the Young Workforce \(DYW\)](#)
- [Sign up for Education Scotland e-newsletters](#)

CONTACT US...

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Forth Valley & West Lothian

Regional Improvement Collaborative

Early Learning & Childcare

The ELC Workstream are currently planning for the Early Years Conference scheduled for May 2020 which will focus on the curriculum. Nationally we are eagerly awaiting the launch of the refresh of *Building the Ambition* due late Feb 2020. The ELC National Team has provided the *Early Level Play Pedagogy Toolkit* available on the National Improvement Hub.

- [The Early Level Play Pedagogy Toolkit](#)



Community Learning & Development

Community Learning and Development (CLD) is a field of professional practice that enables people to identify their own individual and collective goals, to engage in learning and take action to bring about change for themselves and their communities. CLD uses a range of formal and informal methods of learning and social development with individuals and groups in their communities. Programmes and activities are developed in dialogue with communities and participants, working particularly with those excluded from participation in the decisions and processes that shape their lives. CLD partners are working towards new Adult Learning and Youth Work Strategies, launching in 2020.

- [CLD Standards Council](#)



Career-Long Professional Learning (CLPL)

Educators at all levels should have access to a variety of continuous, meaningful and quality professional learning opportunities which should impact on the educator, the children/young people and the wider learning community. This will create a strong learning culture within the system, including, but not limited to; awareness of the national model of professional learning; promoting enquiring approaches and; having regular PL conversations including an effective PRD.

- [Explore the National Model of Professional Learning](#)
- [An Empowered System](#)
- [Professional Update and Review](#)



Digital Learning

The National Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy was published in 2016. It aims to ensure all learners and educators are able to benefit from digital technology in education. Education Scotland provides support for the delivery of the strategy:

- [National Digital Learning Strategy for Scotland](#)

Improving Gender Balance and Equalities

The Improving Gender Balance and Equalities (IGBE) team is working with early learning and childcare centres and school clusters to explore and assess interventions to address gender imbalances in participation, curricular preferences and learner pathways at every stage (3 – 18 years).

- [IGBE in a nutshell](#)

Parental Involvement/Engagement and Family Learning

Education Scotland has a number of commitments in national actions plans. These include

- [Learning together national action plan](#)
- [British Sign Language National Action Plan](#)