

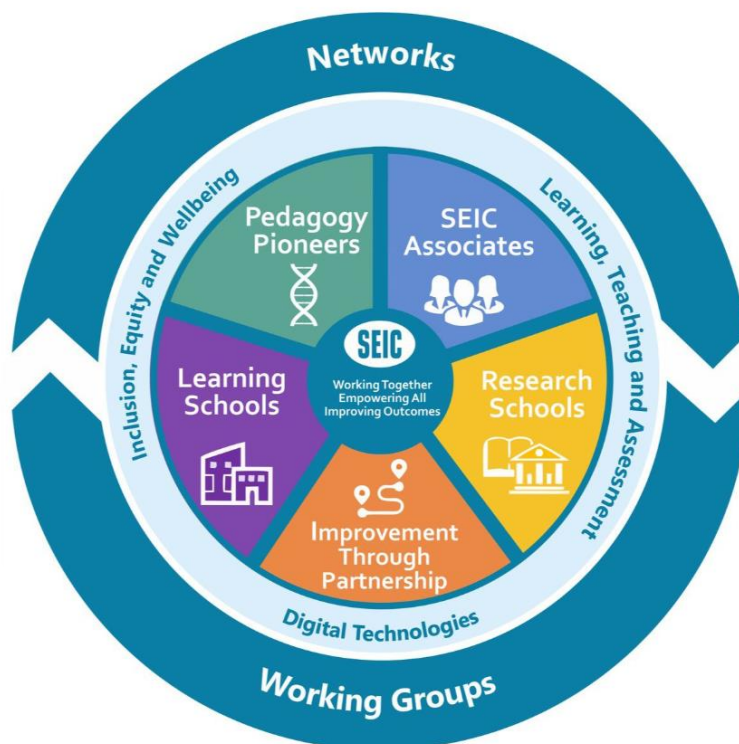


2022 - Issue 3

**Festive greetings and welcome to the December update sharing a variety of supports available to colleagues working within the South East Improvement Collaborative area!**

If I keep reading this update, what will I find?

You'll find a range of **collaborative learning offers** coming up across the region. You'll also find updates on current regional work and a range of helpful **resources** you can tap into.



How can I find out more about SEIC, provide feedback or make contact?

You can subscribe to our mailing list by clicking on this link: [Subscribe here to SEIC News](#).

You can read the full SEIC Plan, which provides information on the background of the regional collaborative work, progress and impacts from last session, as well as details on this year's priorities & key approaches to providing supports, using this link: [SEIC Plan 22-23](#)

Follow us on twitter @SEICollab and [YouTube](#).

You can contact your SEIC Trade Union Group members:

Tim Wallace – AHDS

Gael Gillian – EIS, John Melville

NASUWT, Jim Thewliss – SLS

Kevin Campbell – SSTA





Debbie Thomson – Unison

Linda Ferguson – Unison

If you have any suggestions, feedback or need any further information about SEIC, please email [jennifer.marr@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.marr@midlothian.gov.uk)



Date & Time	Event & Provider	Audience	Venue
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<a href="#">Global citizenship &amp; lfs in the early years</a> 	ELC	Online
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 1.30pm	<a href="#">Festive Curiosity Fair</a>	ELC, primary, ASN	Ocean Terminal
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan 5-7pm	<a href="#">Pupil mental health in the secondary school classroom</a> 	Secondary	University of Edinburgh
12 <sup>th</sup> Jan 4.15-5.15pm	Stem Nation Network session <a href="#">Join conversation (microsoft.com)</a> 	Primary, Early, ASN	Online
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	SEIC Literacy universal session - TBC 		Online
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	SEIC Digital universal session TBC 		Online
30 <sup>th</sup> Jan 4-5pm	<a href="#">Play Pedagogy &amp; Literacy</a> 	Early level	Online
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 4-5pm	<a href="#">Pedagogy Pioneer - First hand experiences in ELC settings</a> 	ELC	Online
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 4.15-5.15pm	Stem Nation Network session <a href="#">Join conversation (microsoft.com)</a> 	Primary, Early, ASN	Online

2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 4-5pm	<a href="#">Pedagogy Pioneer - Developing writing as part of a Play Based Primary 1</a> 	Early level	Online
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 4.15-5.15pm	Stem Nation Network session <a href="#">Join conversation (microsoft.com)</a> 	Primary, Early, ASN	Online
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar 4-5pm	<a href="#">Pedagogy pioneer. A year in the woods Forest Kindergarten</a> 	ELC	Online
27 <sup>th</sup> Mar 4-5pm	<a href="#">Development of Narrative through a Play Based Approach</a> 	Early level	Online

### [STEM Nation Blog](#)

The national STEM fortnightly planner has been developed to highlight exciting events and developments in STEM for practitioners across Scotland. We hope you find the planner a useful source of information and are happy to incorporate any suggestions you may have for topics for future issues. [Click here to view the blog and most up to date planner](#)



## [Visible Fictions creative learning CLPL resources and free concert with Royal Scottish National Orchestra](#)



The RSNO National Schools Concert Programme introduces thousands of primary school pupils across Scotland to classical music each year through a series of live concerts, in-school workshops, accompanying learning resources, and CPD sessions for teachers.

This year, the programme is going digital!

Join us for Gaspard's Foxtrot – a digital concert experience featuring the popular children's book character, Gaspard the Fox. Narrated by author Zeb Soanes with animation from Visible Fictions and presented by animateur Lucy Drever, the orchestral tale follows Gaspard accidentally boarding a bus to London and exploring the sights, sounds and smells of the city before trying to find his way home.

## [National Galleries of Scotland](#)

The National Galleries of Scotland invite young artists across Scotland, aged 3-18 years, to share their art with the world by taking part in **Your Art World**. Deadline 4 January 2023.

ALL art submitted will be seen by thousands of visitors from all over the world, in the Scottish National Gallery, May-November 2023.

To experience the National Galleries of Scotland anytime, anywhere:

[Book a Virtual Visit for your Primary School group](#)

[Book a Virtual Visit for your Secondary School group](#)

## [Performing & Production Arts Professional Development | Edinburgh College](#)

Free SCQF Level 6 course for teachers to engage in. This is a free opportunity designed for teachers and facilitators of theatre, drama, and dance to enhance their skills in production and performing arts, and to provide CPD in areas that will support the delivery of National and Higher courses and Youth Theatre/Dance Practitioners.

## [Pupil mental health in the secondary school classroom](#)



A free in-person Career-long Professional Learning (CLPL) workshop at the University of Edinburgh. This will be a 2 hour in-person CLPL workshop held at the University of Edinburgh on Wednesday 11th January from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm (doors open at 4:30 pm). The CLPL workshop provides a shared space to work together with around 30-50 other secondary school teachers to co-develop a range of strategies to support and promote pupil mental health and wellbeing and to find ways to incorporate these strategies into routine teaching, with minimal, if any, additional time resource.

## [Supporting Workforce Wellbeing](#)

Supporting Workforce Wellbeing is a Scottish Government funded package which first launched in 2020 in response to the pandemic. The offer is now in its third year and has evolved after listening to feedback from the education system. We have centred the 2022-2023 offer on providing mental health and wellbeing support for individuals in the education workforce across the wide education spectrum including schools, Community Learning and Development and Early Learning and Childcare. Click on the links below to find out more.....



[Supervision Space - Taking Care of Yourself](#)

[Supervision Space - Taking Care of Staff You Lead](#)

[Into Coaching](#)

[Group Coaching](#)

[1:1 Coaching](#)

[Stepping Stones](#)

Since our last update our SEIC Connectors have been gathering pace across the region, see below for more information on each of the areas of the empowered system. Many of you will be engaged with one of our Connectors through your school or setting, and you can still engage in plenty of our other offers. For instance we are hosting Pedagogy Pioneers webinars as well as a set of universal professional learning sessions relating to all areas of our SEIC Empowered System. Keep an eye on social media and the Professional Learning table within our updates for the links.

Over the next 2 months, we will analyse the available school data from across the SEIC region. This will then be used to help our local authorities and SEIC decide what the SEIC priorities should be for 2023-2024.

SEIC now has a standard evaluation which we ask all participants to complete. Thank you to those of you who given this feedback which helps us to measure the impact of our SEIC work and continually improve our programmes. This data will also help us to shape our SEIC priorities in 2023-24.

## Research Schools/ELCs



- The SEIC leads have now visited all of this year's Research Schools and practitioners are engaging with research, formulating their questions and gearing up to implement their identified change at the start of the new year. On the 5<sup>th</sup> December Gill Robinson from the GTCS will be hosting an optional drop in session on 'Practitioner Enquiry – Questions'.

**Universal** SEIC supports include access to online resources through Impact Wales and the World Education Summit for all settings in the South East Region – If you still don't have your log in, get in touch. See bullet point below for contact details

**Want to know more?** Please visit [SEIC Website](#) or contact: Jenny Marr, SEIC ESO - [Jennifer.Marr@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Jennifer.Marr@midlothian.gov.uk)



## SEIC Associates

- We are delighted that SEIC Associates from our 5 Local authorities are now out in schools across the South East supporting school reviews and pre-inspection activity. Not only have our SEIC Associates reported positive feedback about the process but schools themselves have reported having SEIC Associates involved a very positive experience and great learning for all. A recent call went out via Local Authority links to seek to recruit interested senior leaders to join our third cohort of SEIC Associates. Confirmation of those that have been successful will be provided shortly by each Local authority and we are looking forward to meeting and working with them at their SEIC Associate Training on 27th January.

**Want to know more?** Please visit the [SEIC Website](#) or contact: Karen Thomson, SEIC QIO - [kthomson3@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:kthomson3@eastlothian.gov.uk)



## Improvement Through Partnerships

- Our Learning Pathways and Positive Destinations Connector Programme is continuing to progress well. Our cohort of Secondary schools from across our 5 Local Authorities have attended a further session since the last update. This consisted of an input from Craigmount High School in the City of Edinburgh, where HT Colin Meikle and DHT Tracy Urquhart were able to showcase the progress they have made in developing their curriculum to provide a breadth of learning pathways to meet the needs of their young people. Donnie Wood from the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework reinforced the core messages from Colin and Tracy by giving an overview of elements of the SCQF tiered School Ambassador programme.

Further connector school visits have been taking place over the month of November, with support from Education Scotland Colleagues Leigh Watson and Graeme Wallace, from the curriculum Innovation team, Oonagh McGarry, Education Officer for CLD and Brian Clark Education Officer for Digital along with Donnie Wood from SCQF. Each of the visits has resulted in the schools involved moving their curriculum offer forward with inputs planned in 2023 to support staff within collegiate or inset time from the SEIC team, Education Scotland colleagues or SEIC partners. Our next drop in session on Wednesday 7th December is an opportunity for our cohort schools to be able to access any additional support they require.

**If you want to know more** about this work, please visit the [SEIC Website](#) or contact: Kenny Manson, SEIC QIO - [Kenny.Manson@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Kenny.Manson@fife.gov.uk)

## Learning Schools - Digital & Literacy, & Head Teacher Trios



### Literacy

- We are delighted to confirm that Scottish Book Trust colleagues will be joining us for our Literacy Universal session coming up on Wednesday 25th January. This opportunity is open to everyone and a great opportunity to find out about Reading Schools and connect with colleagues across the region to discuss and share ideas around reading for pleasure and creating a reading culture. We are now approaching the halfway point of our Literacy Connector programme. Our most recent session saw us focus on reading with schools sharing approaches to the teaching of reading comprehension. It was super to hear about actions taken by some of our schools following our session on writing and great to hear that those conversations continued into the breakout rooms and resulted in visits to schools also. The team planning these sessions have also loved being out and about in schools talking with our connector schools about their progress and look forward to more 1:1 meetings in the new year. Our next session coming up on Wednesday 7th December is set to focus on Listening and Talking and the connections that can be made with reading and writing as we aim to raise attainment and narrow the gap.

**Want to know more?** Please visit the [SEIC Website](#) or contact: [Catriona.McKinnon@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Catriona.McKinnon@midlothian.gov.uk)

## SEIC Head Teacher Trios – Cohort 2

- As you may know, SEIC HT Trios cohort 1 has begun. This exciting programme gives SEIC HTs the opportunity to be matched to HTs from other local authorities who can then meet to share learning from their improvement journeys and collaborate to reach their improvement outcomes. Early feedback from cohort 1 HTs includes:

“I am really enjoying the safe space to collaborate with other HTs and learn from our improvement journeys. This allows me to reflect on my next steps in my own school/ centre.” “I already feel less alone and more supported by peers who are on similar improvement journeys.”

More information on this programme is available on the [SEIC HT Trios home page](#).

We are now preparing for Cohort 2 to start in early 2023 and if you are interested in joining the new Cohort, please let me know using the online [note of interest form](#).

**Want to know more** If you would like to discuss the programme, please contact

[Colin.McLean@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.McLean@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Learning Schools

- We have been working with the five local authorities in our region to identify the SEIC Learning Schools for 2022-23. These schools will share their improvement journeys with SEIC Connector schools through the programmes, including a chance to visit in person, to build relationships and connect with colleagues from across the region. The Learning Schools aspect of the SEIC Empowered System will become live in the New Year.

**Want to know more** If you would like to ask any questions about Learning Schools, please contact

[Colin.McLean@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.McLean@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Digital Schools Award Connector

- The SEIC Digital Schools Connector continue to progress well and schools have been engaging with resources and materials related to digital learning and teaching. Last month’s session explored the key themes within the Digital Schools Award Scotland framework and linking these to methods of gathering evidence to review progress. The focus of upcoming sessions is on creating and maintaining an effective school culture in relation to digital technology, supported by Brian Clark Education Officer for Education Scotland.

**Want to know more?** Contact Susan Ward for queries: [susan.ward@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:susan.ward@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Pedagogy Pioneers / Play Pedagogy



- 50 practitioners across the region have taken part in 4 connector sessions to date. There have been additional drop in sessions and the group leads communicate with their groups between session via email/group chats to support ongoing learning. Through audits, practitioners have identified areas that they feel they require the most support and we have designed sessions around these aspects. Connector sessions are broken into 4 sections to allow participants to have a rich engagement opportunity
1. Feedback on tasks from previous session
  2. Engagement in direct input from Pedagogy Pioneers highlighted from audits

3. Collaborative discussion session in breakout rooms with key questions from the main input. Practitioners are in the same groups each session to support relationship building with colleagues from across the region.
4. Plenary session – recapping on session and outlining actions – small steps of change to implement in classes prior to next session. The plenary also included an evaluation activity to ensure the team continue to deliver and structure bespoke sessions, appropriate to the needs of the participants. Since the November update we have explored the importance of observation and assessment and the role of the adult. We are currently linking with Senior Leadership staff to review each school's progress towards their identified outcomes.

**Want to know more?** Please visit the [SEIC Website](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/seic) or contact: Michelle Matthews, SEIC QIO - [MMatthews@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:MMatthews@scotborders.gov.uk)

## Impact School Improvement (Impact Wales)

We have renewed our membership to Impact School Improvement which means you and your school have access to this amazing resource. If you need a login, contact your local authority SEIC QIO. Each month we will be highlighting some of the amazing work, including podcasts and Sketch Notes.



### Latest Podcasts that might be of interest:

#### [Episode 97: success criteria](#)

After a short break, Fin and Jane are back, and this week they're discussing a variety of topics including Twitter, dealing with personal stuff, success criteria and worked examples.

#### [Episode 96 - The best of the guests](#)

Occasionally on the Impact Podcast we're joined by special guests from the world of education, from policy makers and academics to school leaders and classroom teachers. In this special compilation episode, we feature discussions with three of our guests who started their careers in teaching before going in to be educational researchers and authors.

1. Jared Cooney Horvath, an award-winning neuroscientist and best-selling author. We discussed the science of learning.
2. Lucy Crehan, an education explorer and author. We discussed the different approaches to education around the world.
3. Harry Fletcher-Wood, a teacher, researcher and teacher educator. We discussed how teachers can use behavioural science techniques to increase motivation.

### Latest Sketch notes: Drawing for learning and the 3 most effective learning strategies.

**DRAWING FOR LEARNING**  
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**WHAT is it?**  
Drawing an image in order to process the information more deeply.  
The process should require pupils to -

- Select the most significant content
- Organise the content to make sense of it
- Explain the content through links between content

**How does it work?**  
Asking pupils to 'rework' the information from text to visual requires them to think deeply about what they understand.  
BUT...
 

- the process of drawing &
- the quality of the drawing
- are of less importance than the **DEPTH** of 'THINKING'

**How to get it right:**

- Make sure the drawing is not just decorative, it's representational & requires deep thought
- Provide drawing outlines which pupils complete to reduce focus on the 'art'
- Identify the learning the process of drawing will create during lesson planning

**Here's an example:**

- Pupils read a description of the island in Lord of the Flies
- Pupils draw the island, noting significant places
- Pupils track Ralph & Jack's movements on the map

**Key learning:**  
Pupils think about how the author uses the plot to interact with the plot.

Ref: Mayer (1998) 'Illustrations that assist', inspired by one of Mark Baker, Generative Learning in Action

**3 most effective LEARNING strategies supported by research**  
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1	<b>Retrieval Practice</b> 'aka' Practice Testing	Testing your learning or trying to recall what you have learnt. <b>Examples:</b> Multiple choice questions, low stakes quizzes, creating a mindmap for a topic, completing a FLETCHER MODEL, complete the sentence tasks.	Tick the correct answers A B C D Explain why the incorrect answers 'are wrong' Try to recall at the point of forgetting
2	<b>Spaced Practice</b> 'aka' Distributed Practice	Spending out a topic over time. Leaving gaps in between each learning session. <b>Examples:</b> Rather than studying topic A for 8 full weeks, spread learning out over 6 weeks, studying topic A on the first two days of each week only.	M T W T F S S M T W T F S S Leave a gap to enable forgetting to happen
3	<b>Dual Coding</b> or <b>Combining words &amp; Visuals</b>	Using pictures or drawing as well as language to make sense of learning. <b>Examples:</b> Draw a picture of your learning, look at pictures & explain in words what they mean, organise your understanding using a graphic organiser like a flowchart	Draw a picture to explain - the water cycle - evaporation - multiplication Creating a mental image deepens learning

**Videos:** [30Minute video: 5 implications from cognitive science for teaching learning](#)

Don't forget your membership to world Education Summit is still live and offers over 400 hours of recorded footage. We will be highlighting sessions throughout the year. If you do not have a login, please contact [Jennifer.marr@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Jennifer.marr@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Making the most of your access to the World Education Summit – January In-service

**Choose** a theme (e.g. Leadership)  
Select 2 or 3 sessions from the Session Guide

**Consider** the following questions after watching:  
WHAT: What have you understood from this session?  
WHY : Why was it important to your context?  
HOW: How will you implement it? (Your plan)  
IMPACT: So what – what impact happened as a result?

**Discuss** in teams, schools and groups

**Mobilise** – Find a simple way of sharing (existing teach meets, padlets, networks etc.)  
And remember, you can kick start your 2023 by beaming in one of the WES keynotes for your January In-service day.

With the [Let's Talk Scottish Education - National Discussion](#) coming to a close on the 5<sup>th</sup> Dec it is not too late to add your voice. We have highlighted some of the speakers from the Leadership theme to get your thoughts flowing....

### [Leadership](#)

Developing strong leadership models, approaches at school, district, system level.

- [Realising System Level Collaboration and Capacity Building: Thought Leadership in Action](#)  
*Professor Alma Harris*
- [Digging Deeper into the Right Drivers for Whole Systems Success](#)  
*Professor Michael Fullan Kathleen Johnston*
- [Imperfect Leadership: The True Reality of Leading Schools](#)  
*Professor Steve Munby*
- [The Leadership of Learning](#)  
*Michael Iannani*
- [Panel – Realising System Level Collaboration and Capacity Building: Thought Leadership in Action](#)  
*Professor Alma Harris, Dr Lyn Sharratt OISE, Graham Donaldson, Professor Michelle Jones, Dr Beatriz Pont OECD*





## [Inspection of early learning and childcare and school age childcare services: consultation](#)

This consultation is seeking views on a vision for how inspection of registered childcare services will contribute to improving outcomes for children and families, the current approach to inspection and a proposal for a shared quality framework.

In June 2021 Professor Ken Muir's appointment was announced as an independent adviser on education reform. When Professor Muir was to undertake this work, he was encouraged to recommend the transformational changes that would be needed to deliver an improved education experience for all children and young people. The response to that exercise has been significant a collective commitment to all stages of education is heartening. The significant reforms being taken forward are designed to improve outcomes and build trust in Scotland's education system, putting learners at the centre, supporting teachers and practitioners and instilling integrity, fairness and accountability throughout our national education bodies.

## [Let's Talk Scottish Education - National Discussion](#)

The time has come for a new national discussion on education, one which will give everyone the chance to have their voice heard. Everyone who has an interest in the future of our education system is invited to take part: children and young people, parents and carers, practitioners, and those in the wider Scottish community to pause, to reflect and to contribute to a future vision for Scottish education. Please use [this survey](#) to share your hopes and ideas for the future vision of Scottish education. Closes 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022

[Take the survey - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#)