

# **A Guide to Curriculum for Excellence and Your Child's Report**

**Session 2019/20**

## What is Curriculum for Excellence (CfE)?

CfE is the name for the education system in Scotland. It covers the whole 'learning journey' for learners from the ages of 3 to 18. CfE is about raising standards, improving knowledge and developing the skills of our children and young people. Schools use national guidance to produce programmes of learning across eight curriculum areas. Your child's progress in these curriculum areas will be reported during the session in the way which has been agreed through parent, learner and staff consultation in your school.

## National Expectations of Young People's Progress

The national expectations in terms of young people's progress through the Broad General Education (BGE) and Senior Phase is summarised in the table below.

Early Level	Achieved by most by end of P1, earlier or later for some
First Level	Achieved by most by end of P4, earlier or later for some
Second Level	Achieved by most by end of P7, earlier or later for some
Third Level	Achieved by end of S3, earlier for some
Fourth Level	Achieved by end of S3, fourth level broadly equates to SCQF level 4
Senior Phase	S4- S6, study towards qualifications and awards

## What is a Curriculum for Excellence level?

The level of difficulty in learning that children and young people experience depends on how well they are progressing. National guidance makes it clear what children and young people need to know and be able to do when working at each CfE level. When teachers have evidence that children and young people have developed a breadth of knowledge and understanding associated with a CfE level and can apply their skills in a wide range of situations/contexts, they can confidently say that the learner has achieved that level.

Teachers will assess your child's progress **within each level** using the criteria set out in the table below. They have reported to you in this report using the terms in bold.

The four stages of progress through a level	What this means
<b>Beginning to learn</b> at the new level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child is beginning to experience and explore learning associated with a new CfE Level.</li> <li>Your child is beginning to experience opportunities to develop knowledge of some new key concepts and develop some skills at the new Level.</li> </ul>
<b>Making some progress</b> in learning with the level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child is experiencing an increasing breadth of learning at the level.</li> <li>Your child is beginning to develop his/her knowledge and understanding of key concepts, is developing new skills and is beginning to apply this learning.</li> </ul>
Making <b>good progress</b> in learning within the level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child has experienced most of the learning associated with the level.</li> <li>Your child can demonstrate a depth of knowledge and understanding in some key concepts, is developing a range of skills and can apply their learning.</li> <li>Your child is working with increasing independence.</li> </ul>
Making <b>very good progress</b> in learning with the level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child has experienced almost all of the learning required at the level.</li> <li>Your child demonstrates a depth of knowledge and understanding of almost all key concepts, has developed almost all related skills and can apply their learning consistently. Your child is working independently within, and at times, beyond, the level.</li> </ul>

### How does this compare with a previous report your child will have received?

Please note that this way of reporting is new and differs from the way in which we in South Ayrshire Council and other local authorities have reported previously, and initially may cause confusion.

In previous reports we reported the CfE level your child is **working towards**. We are now reporting the CfE **level your child has achieved**. This change to how we report progress will initially look as if your child has gone backwards in their learning. Please be assured this is not the case. The table below shows the old and new reporting format:

What did we report in session 2018-19?	What are we going to report in session 2019-20?
Early Level Consolidating	Achievement Level: 00- Not yet achieved Early Level Progress between levels: Good progress  Or, depending on progress:  Achievement Level: 00- Not yet achieved Early Level Progress between levels: Very good progress
First Level Consolidating	Achievement Level: E- Achieved Early Level Progress between levels: Good progress  Or, depending on progress:  Achievement Level: E- Achieved Early Level Progress between levels: Very good progress
	Achievement Level: 01- Achieved First Level

<p>Second Level Developing</p>	<p>Progress between levels: Beginning to learn</p> <p>Or, depending on progress:</p> <p>Achievement Level: 02- Achieved First Level Progress between levels: Some progress</p>
<p>Third Level Developing</p>	<p>Achievement Level: 02- Achieved Second Level Progress between levels: Beginning to learn</p> <p>Or, depending on progress:</p> <p>Achievement Level: 02- Achieved Second Level Progress between levels: Some progress</p>