

National Improvement Framework: Sharing Information for Better Learning

What is the National Improvement Framework?

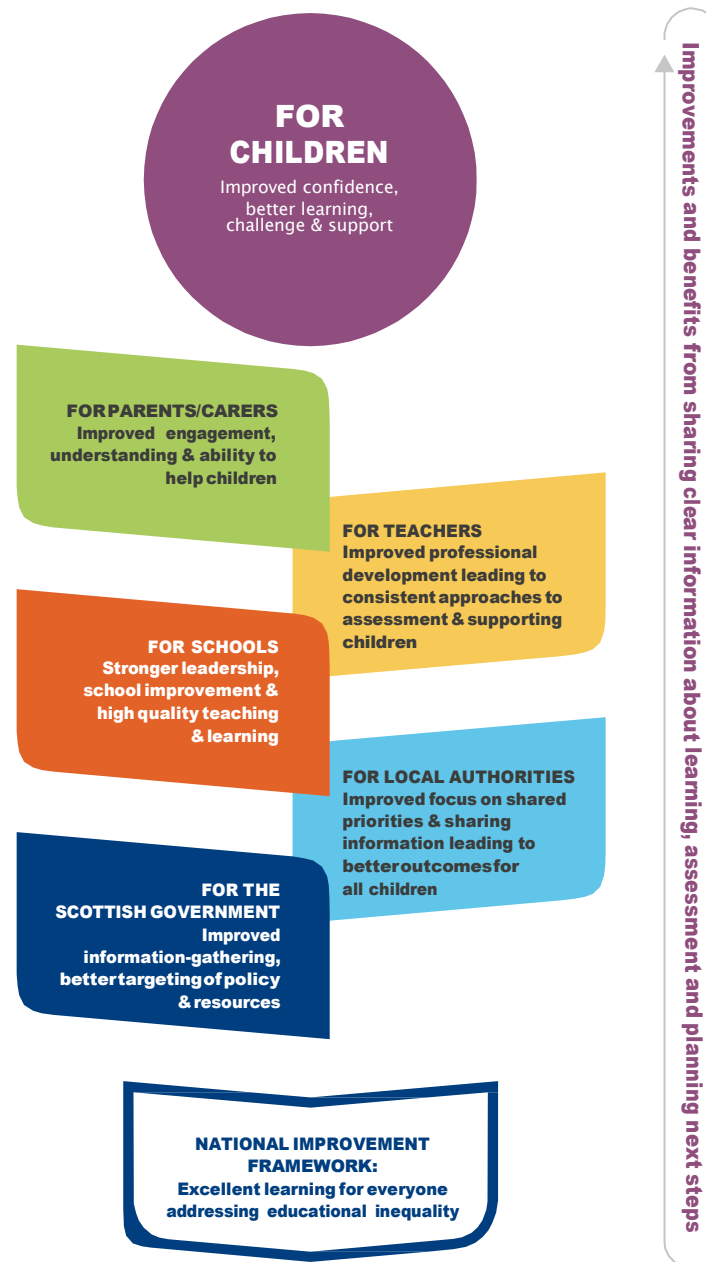
The National Improvement Framework for Scottish education is an ambitious strategy to help all children to achieve their full potential as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors. The Framework sets out how evidence is gathered to inform action, making sure that we are all focused on improving standards for our children, and in our schools.

The National Improvement Framework priorities are

- to improve attainment for all, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- to improve the learning progress of every child, by reducing inequality in education
- to improve children and young people's health and wellbeing
- to improve employability skills and sustained positive school leaver destinations for all young people.

Drawn from international research, six areas for improvement have been identified. New evidence will be gathered in all of these. Children and young people's learning, their opportunities when they leave school and their health and wellbeing will improve when

- children make progress in their learning, taking ownership of it and understanding their next steps
- parents/carers are involved in their children's learning and know how to help them
- high quality teaching and excellent classroom practice are delivered consistently and teachers know how to help all children make progress
- school leadership is strong
- children, parents, teachers, headteachers, local and national government and partners all have a clear understanding of what successful learning and teaching looks like
- all participants in education at national, local, school and family level have the same priorities, use the same assessments at key points and share information openly.



Sharing Information and Planning for Improvement

The National Improvement Framework highlights the importance of gathering and sharing accurate information. Essential to this are the new national standardised assessments. National standardised assessments will be piloted in some schools during 2016/17 and will be rolled out to all schools from 2017/18. At key stages of children's Curriculum for Excellence learning (by the end of P1, P4, P7 and S3), the online national standardised assessments will be used to evaluate aspects of literacy and numeracy.

Combined with information that teachers already gather about our children's learning, the assessments will ensure that

- we know how our children are doing in literacy and numeracy so that we can work with teachers to help our children
- we understand our children's progress and their next steps in learning in the Curriculum for Excellence levels
- we are confident that action will be taken by schools, local authorities and by the Scottish Government to plan for, and to provide, extra support for children and families, if it is needed
- school achievements in improving learning for all are recognised and shared nationally
- we know that our parent councils have clear information about learning so that informed discussions can take place with headteachers about our school improvement plans.

Evidence from assessments will be shared openly with you so that you can engage more effectively in your child's learning. Please ask your school about what this will mean for you and your child.



Useful Information

- **The Scottish Government's National Improvement Framework** The Framework and associated documents can be found at www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/NationalImprovementFramework
- **Additional Support for Learning** National standardised assessments will be available online. CALL Scotland www.callscotland.org.uk will provide advice on adaptive assessments so that they are accessible to all
- **The National Parent Forum of Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence in a Nutshell series** These guides explain important aspects of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE). This National Improvement Framework in a Nutshell guide is available on our website http://bit.ly/NPFS_NIF Guides to The Learner Journey, Assessment in the Broad General Education and Assessment in the Senior Phase provide additional information on CfE levels and assessment in schools
- **Education Scotland** http://bit.ly/educationscotland_framework gives background information on assessment in Curriculum for Excellence.

Additional links which may also be useful:

- Achievement of Levels:
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/ACEL>
(Click school level Info and search for your own school)
- <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone>
(Section on Learning in Scotland/National Improvement Framework give more information on assessment)



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