

ADES PIN/CAQ

October 2020

SG Update
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Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Overview

- CERG – guidance for schools
- NIF 2021 update
- Scottish Attainment Challenge
 - inc Equity Audit
- OECD Curriculum Review



NIF Review and Publication

The 2021 National Improvement Framework (NIF) and Improvement Plan, and the NIF Interactive Evidence Report will be published in December 2020.

As the ACEL data will not be available this year, the NIF will use the remaining key measures and sub-measures to assess progress towards closing the attainment gap. This will be supplemented by any additional information that comes out of the planned evaluation of the Attainment Scotland Fund, and the equity audit to deepen the understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on children from disadvantaged backgrounds at all points of the education system.

The Improvement Plan will capture the work that is being undertaken to deal with the Covid-19 crisis into 2021 and beyond - particularly around wellbeing, equity and closing the attainment gap.

ICEA

- Meeting over two sessions at the beginning of November
- Provide an international perspective on the mitigations put in place during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Overall SNSA presentation numbers so far (approximately 23k) are in line with 2019/20 presentations at the same point in the year. This sustains a pattern of earlier presentation observed in comparison to 2018/19, where around 16k assessments had been completed by the equivalent point.
- The fourth SNSA newsletter (November) containing updated support and guidance materials will be distributed to over 15,000 users.
- A new report *Outcomes by Academic Year (OBAY)* is available within the SNSA platform for schools and local authorities. The report allows an overview of SNSA outcomes from year to year.
- Many local authorities have now booked in training provision for times throughout the academic year. Currently, and in keeping with medical advice at this time, these are bookings for webinar versions of the training materials.

Procurement of National Standardised Assessment phase 2

- this had been delayed but is now progressing to be ready for 2021/22

Scottish Attainment Challenge

Closing the poverty-related attainment gap remains the defining mission of the government.



- A commitment to keep schools open as we know lockdown has been particularly difficult for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- On-going Investment £182 million from the Attainment Scotland Fund in 2020/21 – with greater flexibility in how it can be used
- Current funding arrangements for individual Scottish Attainment Challenge programmes are agreed up until the end of this parliamentary term
- More than £250 million in Pupil Equity Funding will be available to 97% of schools in 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- Once the position on funding for 2021/22 has been clarified and confirmed we will communicate this to Local Authorities



Equity Audit – progress

- Phase 1 – literature review led by EAS and ES
 - Review of a wide range of evidence
 - Focus on impact of school closures
 - Listening to the voice of children
 - Draft available by end of October
- Phase 2 – sampling of schools and services
 - Stakeholder Reference Group established and meeting
 - Size and scope of sample – circa 60 schools/services
 - Process of gathering evidence - supported self evaluation
 - Ensure that children's services are included
 - Timescale for evidence gathering – October-November
- Final Report in December 2020

Programme for Government Commitment

We will publish evidence of progress with our defining mission of closing the poverty-related attainment gap by March 2021.



- Summary/synthesis of a range of existing evidence
 - NIF 2020 report – key measures
 - Equity Audit
 - ES SAC Impact assessment report
 - ASF Y5 evaluation gathering – CA and HT surveys
- Quantitative and qualitative evidence – balance
- Re-iterate the long term commitment – SAC 2.0

SAC 2.0

- Closing the poverty-related attainment gap remains a defining mission of this Government.
- Now more than ever there is a need to focus on equity and excellence and support our children and young people most impacted by poverty.
- The current SAC programme will end at the end of 2020/21, with funding in place for its continuation into 2021/22.
- We are looking at options for the programme beyond 2021/22.



REVIEW OF CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE

The first week of National Stakeholder Engagement on the CfE Review took place from 28 September – 2 October

- This first “visit” was focused on National Bodies and the OECD Team met with: The Deputy First Minister; The Scottish Practitioner Forum; Scottish Government; National agencies; Local Government; and a range of other stakeholders
- Planning is underway for the second OECD Review Visit, 2-6 November. This will focus on the experiences of practitioners, parents and learners. The OECD will have in-depth virtual visits with 4 schools and hold a range of focus group sessions with headteachers, teachers, partners, learners and parents. We have been working with ADES and the individual schools to make the necessary arrangements.
- We are also working to finalise the OECD team and the approach to the additional work on assessment and qualifications.