

# ADES PIN Meeting

13<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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# New Government

- New cabinet appointed 21<sup>st</sup> May
- New Government sworn in 24<sup>th</sup> May
- Existing cabinet responsibilities remain until 24<sup>th</sup> May
- 100 Days programme – First Steps
- Brief the incoming Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills  
– priorities and challenges
- Visits to education settings



# Improving Attainment and Recovering from Covid

In our first 100 days we will:

- Fund councils to increase teacher numbers by 1,000 and classroom assistants by 500
- Roll out a £20 million Summer Programme of help for pupils - helping children socialise, play, and reconnect
- Pay the first instalment of the expanded £1 billion Scottish Attainment Fund.
- Ensure pupils receive national certificate awards, despite the absence of formal exams, ensuring teacher judgement delivers fair results.
- Publish the OECD review of Curriculum for Excellence and begin work to implement its recommendations.
- Abolish fees for music and arts education, including instrumental music tuition in schools, and renew funding for Sistema.



# Important recent publications

International Council of Education Advisers: 2nd Report - December 2020

Equity Audit – January 2021

Closing the poverty-related attainment gap: progress report 2016 to 2021 –  
March 2021

Audit Scotland report “Improving Outcomes for Young People through  
School Education” – March 2021



# Key messages/issues

- Scotland has responded well to the Covid pandemic - however we need to develop a resilient and pandemic proof education system
- There needs to be a continued strong focus on recovery and in particular the health and wellbeing of children and staff
- There has been some progress on closing the poverty related attainment gap but this has been impacted by the pandemic. We need to accelerate progress, including a long term poverty strategy
- There remains significant variation in attainment levels across local authorities and this needs to be addressed with all partners
- We need to continue the cultural shift to a more empowered system led by effective professionals



# Tackling the poverty related attainment gap

## *Refresh and reinvigorate SAC*



### Key areas being considered

- Review the aims and scope of the challenge
- Accelerate and deepen recovery and progress
- Refresh and simplify the funding model - empowerment
- Review the means of measuring progress
- Seeking connection and transformational change

### Engagement process

Advisory Group – including ADES reps

Other stakeholders – children, schools, local authorities

### Timeline

Options to ministers – early summer

New SAC programme agreed – Autumn

Implementation from Spring 2022/23