

Collaborative Improvement Update

PIN

September 2021



What is the aim of Collaborative Improvement?

- The purpose of Collaborative Improvement is to share what works well at a local authority level and to support improvement in areas of local authority activity that are in need of development
- Collaborative Improvement aims to promote partnership working to ensure that we achieve identified, sustainable improvements for children and young people

How does it work?

- The target audience for Collaborative Improvement is local authority staff working in support of schools and education staff
- It brings together expertise and knowledge from all parts of the system to secure improvement and share good practice

Key personnel:

- Staff from the 'host' local authority
- Volunteers from other local authorities
- Education Scotland colleagues

How does it work?

- Currently undertaken entirely online
- Host local authority identifies areas of focus
- Fife e.g. – included self-improving systems and equity
- Based on host authority's self-evaluation
- Host local authority arranges for HTs, CTs etc to join meetings with the visiting team
- Visiting team engages with local authority personnel, HTs, CTs etc and seeks to explore the identified areas
- Offers evaluative feedback

Key principles for ADES

- ADES should embrace its function as a creative force for improvement in Scottish education: it should be positive and proactive in leading improvement
- Bureaucracy-light improvement ‘from within’
- All improvement activity must have credibility and, above all, rigour
- Maximum impact, minimum intrusion
- Recognise the valuable role that local authorities play in supporting improvement
- ADES committed to developing a systems-wide approach which is for all 32 authorities

Two Pilots

1. South Ayrshire Council (SAC) – June 2021

- Process went very well
- Feedback from Douglas, his team, ES staff and ADES Team Members was very positive

2. Fife Council – September 2021

- 'Fieldwork' finished yesterday
- 15 local authorities expressed some interest in contributing a team member for this
- Initial feedback from those involved very positive

The South Ayrshire Pilot

Douglas Hutchison