

Presentation on
Curriculum for Excellence
to
Delegation from the Netherlands
20th November 2014

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The Scottish Government
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Background to Curriculum for Excellence

- Created as a result of consultation (National Debate) with parents, teachers and other educationalists in 2002 to look at improving the way we deliver education to children.
- Is an ambitious change programme to improve life chances, raise ambition / attainment and ensure our children are better prepared for the globalised future.
- Has had over 12 years investment and effort.
- Led by Scottish Government.
- Attracting interest from many areas.



What is Curriculum for Excellence ?

- CfE is about raising standards for all by making learning and teaching more relevant, engaging and connected to equip young people with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to succeed and flourish in a globalised 21st century.
- CfE aims to improve knowledge and develop skills through more coherent and flexible learning 3-18.
- The curriculum aims to develop four capacities: ***successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.***



Where are we now with Curriculum for Excellence?

- CfE is fully embedded and is the Curriculum throughout all Primary schools and early years establishments
- Is currently being rolled out in secondary schools.
- First year group of pupils to experience new way of learning and teaching started S5 (2nd year of the Senior Phase) in August. This cohort took first set of new National qualifications in 2014 and will sit Highers in 2015.
- Roll out will be complete for all pupils by August 2016



More about Curriculum for Excellence

- CfE is a coherent Curriculum from age 3 to 18
- A key principle of CfE is the entitlement to a Broad General Education (BGE)
- BGE starts in the early years (age 3) and runs to the end of S3 (age 15)
- Aim of BGE is to ensure young people are well prepared and motivated for transition to the Senior Phase (S4-S6)
- National Qualifications can be taken (as now) in S4, S5 and S6



The totality of experience...

‘Curriculum’ in the CfE context means ‘all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education’:

There are four contexts for learning:

- The ethos and life of the school as a community
- Curriculum areas and subjects
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Opportunities for personal achievement



Learner entitlements under Curriculum for Excellence

- Broad general education
- A coherent curriculum
- Support
- Positive and sustained destinations
- Senior phase
- Skills for learning, life and work



Recognising Achievement / Profiles

- Recognising achievement is an integral part of CfE;
- Achievement beyond formally assessed learning in the classroom can take a range of forms e.g. Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme; Voluntary work; Participation in sport, the arts or other activities in the community;
- A profile is a snapshot of a learner's best achievements;
- P7 profiles were introduced from 2011/12 and S3 profiles in 2012/13;



Senior Phase Entitlements

In the Senior phase (S4-S6), all young people can expect the following:

- A coherent curriculum
- The opportunity to obtain qualifications
- The opportunity to continue to develop within the four capacities
- The opportunity to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- The opportunity to continue to develop literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing
- Personal support
- Support in moving into positive and sustained destinations beyond school



National Qualifications

- Introduction of new qualifications from 2013/14 - National 4 and National 5.
- Replace both Standard Grade (General and Credit) and Intermediate 1 and 2 whilst reflecting the best features of the present arrangements
- Standard Grade Foundation level will be removed, with new National 3 Qualification providing an appropriate replacement).
- Existing Access 1 and 2 Qualifications will be replaced with National 1 and 2 Qualifications.
- Existing Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications will all be retained as points of stability and reviewed to ensure they fully reflect Curriculum for Excellence.



SCQF Levels	Qualifications	New National Qualifications	
12	Doctorate		
11	Masters		
10	Honours Degree		
9	Ordinary Degree		
8	Higher National Diploma		
7	Higher National Certificate/ Advanced Higher	Advanced Higher (revised)	from 2015/16
6	Higher	Higher (revised)	from 2014/15
5	Intermediate 2/ Standard Grade (Credit)	National 5	from 2013/14
4	Intermediate 1/ Standard Grade (General)	National 4	
3	Access 3/ Standard Grade (Foundation)	National 3	
2	Access 2	National 2	
1	Access 1	National 1	



Early evidence about Curriculum for Excellence

- Recent excellent school inspection reports reflect the difference that CfE is already making to children and young people.
- These show schools having the flexibility to develop learning experiences for their young people that are of exceptionally high quality, and confident, articulate young people with aspiration and ambition.



Conclusion

- CfE is an ambitious change programme developed after extensive consultation in 2002.
- Aims to improve life chances, raise ambition and attainment and ensure our children are better prepared for the 21st century.
- Details developed over many years with professionals.
- Has widespread cross-party support.
- Well on way to full and successful delivery; In all Early Years and Primaries and S5 cohort will sit new Highers in 2015. Fully rolled out by August 2016
- Early indications show positive impacts.



ANY QUESTIONS?

Curriculum for Excellence

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