

How can we make school *even* better?

ACE in Highland

What's
A Curriculum
for
Excellence
really about?

<http://www.highlandschools-virtualib.org.uk/lit/>

The Highland Council believes that A Curriculum for Excellence has profound implications for school communities. School, pre-school, and community staff, young people and parents have the opportunity to build on success and shape learning in Highland for the 21st century.

What are the REAL implications of *A Curriculum for Excellence* ?

ACE is a major opportunity – following meaningful consultation, schools are being freed from curricular ‘clutter’ and overly rigid assessment requirements to develop exciting learning opportunities which will meet needs well into the century.

- How well prepared is our school community for this opportunity ?
- How well prepared am I ?
- What should we do next ?

ACE builds on successful developments in L&T and formative assessment – affording pupils more choices at all stages in their learning, encouraging and supporting them to be more reflective, self aware, measuring their own progress and that of their friends.

- To what extent does my school community currently offer significant choices to young people ?
- How well do we encourage and support young people to take greater responsibility for their own learning ?
- What should we do next ?

ACE is a genuine 3-15 programme – promoting ‘seamless’ transitions from pre-school to primary, primary to secondary; equipping pupils to make appropriate

education, employment and training choices 16+.

- What does our school community currently do to ensure continuity and progression at key stages ?
- To what extent is fundamental change needed, especially in P7-S3, if ‘seamless’ transition is to be assured?
- What should we do next ?

ACE firmly places the four capacities and the learning needs of the pupil at the centre of the learning process – a centrality becoming increasingly evident in Highland schools.

- To what extent does our school community currently organise to meet the real needs of the learner ?
- To what extent does my current teaching contribute to development of the four capacities ?
- What should I and my school community do next ?

ACE is about recognizing and celebrating learning in all its forms – not just because it happens in the classroom and/or leads to an SQA award - so our approach to achievement must include communities and families.

- What does my school community currently do to recognise and celebrate achievement in its widest sense ?
- What do I do in my current learning and teaching to recognise and celebrate achievement ?
- What should we do next ?

For further information about A Curriculum for Excellence, log on to:

www.acurriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk

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You will find out more about ACE related matters in
The Highland Learning & Teaching Toolkit
and
The Highland Learning & Teaching CPD Framework

Look out for the following six Framework Units:

**Embedding
formative assessment**

**Making
thinking explicit**

**Around
the AifL Triangle**

**Engaging
purposes, principles and practice**

**Managing
and sustaining change**

**The
reflective professional**

What does this mean for me?

<http://www.highlandschools-virtualib.org.uk>

