



Quick guide

Speaking to parents and carers with confidence

Curriculum for Excellence
**Bringing life to learning
and learning to life**



**smarter
scotland**
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk

Put into context

Explain why we need the new Curriculum for Excellence:

- Fast changing world
- Social, political, economic and technological influences
- Need to equip our children to respond – ‘future-proof’ them
- Teach how to learn – investigate, analyse, collaborate
- For all children and young people ages 3 to 18, wherever they learn

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Enthuse

- We're raising standards even higher to meet the challenges of a complex world
- Building on the best practice of teaching professionals
- It's about knowledge and skills
- Using modern technology to enable this by sharing ideas
- For the first time ever we have a coherent curriculum framework for teachers to provide an educational continuum, a joined up learner's journey, easing transition between key stages

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Highlight

The driving principles:

- Raising standards
- Improving knowledge
- Developing skills
- Making learning relevant
- Focusing on the learner
- Helping children to make connections
- Nurturing successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens

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Illustrate

Bringing learning to life

- Working in groups
- Across ages
- With other schools
- Outside classroom situations
- Connecting with industry, employers, youth workers, training providers, colleges, universities and community learning centres
- Using other practitioners like artists and inventors
- Sharing ideas and resources via Glow
- Use your own examples

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Reassure

- Core to everything will be literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing
- All staff will be responsible for delivering these core disciplines
- Curriculum covers all main subjects
- New qualifications are being developed
- There will be continuous assessment through each child's education

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Emphasise

- Curriculum for Excellence will place greater emphasis on children's health and wellbeing, from keeping safe to managing risks like drink and drugs
- Every teacher will have a responsibility for this
- It will provide support for coping with stress and change
- The curriculum is about seeing the whole child, recognising achievements both in and out of school

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Discuss new qualifications

- New qualifications in literacy and numeracy from 2012/2013
- Senior phase (15 to 18) options
- New National 4 and 5 qualifications will replace Standard Grades and Intermediates from 2013/2014
- A new National Assessment Resource is being developed to help professionals share standards
- Highers, Advanced Highers and Access qualifications remain. They will be updated to reflect changes to the curriculum
- Young people can now study for Scottish Science and Scottish Language Baccalaureate
- Reassure young people and parents coming to end of secondary education

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The child in question

- Relate Curriculum for Excellence to the child in question in your school
- What is happening at his/her stage in the learning journey?
- What is your school doing?

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What parents can do – sharing, planning and learning!

- Play, talk, read –
visit www.infoscotland.com/playtalkread
- Spend time together
- Show interest, listen, share
- Praise, encourage, support
- Ask about their interests and challenges
- Ask for help –
visit www.infoscotland.com/justask
- Talk to your child about how he or she is feeling

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Find out more:

For further information parents can find out more at:

www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk

www.curriculumforexcellencescotland.gov.uk

The partners working to deliver Curriculum for Excellence are:

Scottish Government

www.scotland.gov.uk

The Government has responsibility for the national education system

Learning and Teaching Scotland

www.LTScotland.org.uk

Develops the curriculum, provides information and guidance on learning and teaching, assessment and ICT in education

Scottish Qualifications Authority

www.sqa.org.uk

Develops and manages the qualification process, including marking exams

HMIe

www.hmie.gov.uk

The inspectors who monitor the quality of education

