



Business Bulletin

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 10 December 2019

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Education, Children and Families Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Ian Perry</p>  <p>Vice Convener: Councillor Alison Dickie</p> 	<p>Councillor Eleanor Bird Councillor Mary Campbell Councillor Joan Griffiths Councillor Steve Burgess Councillor Callum Laidlaw Councillor David Key Councillor Jason Rust Councillor Susan Webber Councillor Louise Young</p> <p>Added Members for Education Matters</p> <p>Religious Representatives Monsignor Anthony Duffy Mrs Fiona Beveridge Rabbi David Rose</p> <p>Parent Representative Alexander Ramage</p>	<p>Lesley Birrell Committee Services 0131 529 4240</p> <p>Laura Millar Service and Policy Adviser to the Convener and Vice-Convener Tel: 0131 529 4319</p>

Broughton Walking Netball

Since September this year a new walking netball session has been running at Broughton Community Sports Hub, in partnership with Netball Scotland and through the SportsScotland GO LIVE! Get Active programme. Walking Netball is a great way to get more physically active, it is just like regular netball but played a little slower! The game is easy to play, even for people who have never played netball before. Feedback from the sessions has been that it is great fun and a very sociable way to improve your fitness. For more information about Walking Netball please contact Jayne at Jayne.smith@ea.edin.sch.uk



Duke of Edinburgh Gold Expedition

Broughton High School Duke of Edinburgh Gold group completed their practice canoeing expedition in Northern Ireland on Lough Erne. The group consists of nine girls/young women and a non-binary member which is helping to address the under representation of these groups in outdoor learning opportunities.

A partnership consisting of City of Edinburgh Council, Glenmore Lodge and Bridge8 Hub is facilitating the project, and the group is busy fundraising in order to do their final expedition in Canada next year.



SPORTSCOTLAND AND SAMH LAUNCH PARTNERSHIP

Tynecastle High School hosted the launch of a new partnership between Sportscotland and SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health) on Mental Health Awareness day, Thursday 10 October. Sportscotland is the national agency for sport and SAMH is tackling the barriers that prevent people with mental health problems from improving their physical fitness. The partnership aims to further their combined work to promote good mental health through sport and physical activity. Sir Chris Hoy is the leading Ambassador for SAMH and he posed for photographs, interacted with pupils and was interviewed by the BBC. Our thank go to Tynecastle High School for hosting and to Active Schools Co-ordinator Ricky Karoyan for organising the event.



Active Girls Day

Active Girls Day was on Friday 4 October. 170 girls from S1 at Forrester High School and P7 at Broomhouse, Carrick Knowe, Gylemuir and Murrayburn Primaries took part in Kin-ball, netball, football, judo, cheerleading, gymnastics and glow stick aerobics. The activities were run by Community Sport Hub clubs, Forrester HS Girls Ambassadors and PE staff. One P7 teacher said 'It's great to see girls who don't normally enjoy sports, taking part, having fun, and enjoying the activities'. The girls received information on how they can get more active locally and several have already taken up these opportunities. For Active Girls Day our sports ambassadors in primary and high school as well as some of our female coaches stated why they want more girls to get involved in sport and physical activity and its benefits.

The link to this video is <https://video214.com/play/MhUrLnhEWkaTU49Boy85pA/s/dark>

Sports Academy Success

Qing Yang won the U11 National ladies singles badminton title on Sunday 6 October 2019 at Scotstoun Sports Centre in Glasgow. She follows Julie MacPherson who was the first City of Edinburgh Council Sports Academy player to win this title. Qing is a member of the development squad and she played outstanding to win! A former Academy player, Ingrid Wang, won the ladies doubles with Qing as well!! Congratulations to Qing and Ingrid!



Link below of winners:

<http://www.badmintonscotland.org.uk/news/2019/october/u11-national-champions-are-crowned/>

Active Girls Day – Tennis Skillz Programme

On Friday 4 October 2019, we celebrated ACTIVE GIRLS DAY!

Activities took place across Scotland at various venues, clubs, schools and sports hubs - celebrating the amazing work going into girls' sport, the progress around girls' participation, and the incredible role models making it happen. Within our Sports Development Team we have a Racquets Development Officer who currently works with a group of P4 girls within the Tennis Skillz programme. The girls received Tennis Skillz taster sessions within their schools last year and then were invited to attend the Pre-Development Squad as the first stage in their development pathway. The programme is delivered in partnership with Tennis Scotland.

Libraries Week – Celebrating Libraries in a Digital World

This year Libraries Week, 7-12 October celebrated libraries in a digital world. Public and school libraries joined in this nationwide celebration of Libraries with events and activities offered to get library users participating in a digital world, showcasing the amazing range of digital resources our customers have access to at <https://yourlibrary.edinburgh.gov.uk/web/arena/a-z-eresources>. A computer was not always necessary as some of our younger users learnt the basics of coding by making binary bead bracelets. There was also the opportunity for Bee-Bot Robot fun, programming bees to guide them along paths and mazes and introductions to Micro-bits using pocket-sized computers to create simple games. Participants also had the opportunity to try stop motion animation, game programming and experience VR courtesy of the BBC's innovative Virtual Reality programme. In addition to all the events for children and young people there were lots of opportunities for customers to learn about all the great services for downloading the latest magazines, newspapers, books and audiobooks to their own phone or tablet. The Week was a great opportunity for Libraries to highlight the range of activities and services offered to customers all year round.

The Pentlands Book Festival – 13 October – 30 November 2019

Now in its 5th year, the Pentlands Book Festival is organised by and for the Pentland community in conjunction with the library service. The festival brings an eclectic mix of events with something for everybody - from the acclaimed Scots Makar Jackie Kay to the comedy and murderous thoughts of Denzil Meyrick and Craig Robertson. The popular scientific supper and Local Author's event are back, and there are visits to the School of Scottish Studies celebrating Hamish Henderson's centenary and an historical walk along the Balerno Branch line with model railway display and exhibition. There are also two free workshops – one on writing and one on book illustration. Further information about what is happening at the Festival can be found [here](#).

Libraries Week – Deputy First Minister visits school library mental health project

Deputy First Minister John Swinney visited The Royal High on Thursday 10 October to learn about an innovative school library project aimed at tackling mental health issues and promoting positive mental wellbeing among teenagers. The visit coincided with Libraries Week (7- 12 October) and provided the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills with the opportunity to see the impact of how the School Library Improvement Fund (SLIF) has been invested. Mr Swinney met with school library staff and pupils from four Edinburgh schools involved in Escape, Connect, Relate, which aims to improve the wellbeing of young people through bibliotherapy, a therapeutic approach that uses literature to promote positive mental health.

The project received £18,100 from the SLIF in 2018 following a joint bid from The Royal High, Craigroyston, Liberton and Gracemount secondary schools. Funding allowed school librarians and pupils to create a toolkit on how to support pupils with bibliotherapy, including links to resources. A bibliotherapist worked with the schools to develop story cafes, reading dogs and 'readaxation' sessions. The next round of successful SLIF bids will be announced in the coming weeks.

Libraries Week

This year's Libraries Week celebrated the role of libraries in the digital world and, during his visit, Mr Swinney also launched the school libraries Professional Learning Community (PLC) on Education Scotland's online platform Glow, the national intranet for Scotland's schools. The PLC provides school librarians with a digital networking forum to share ideas and information, which is particularly important for the school librarian community as many of them are lone workers. Both initiatives have been driven by and meet the strategic aims of the national school library strategy, Thriving Libraries, Vibrant Schools. A total of £550,000 has so far been awarded from the £1 million SLIF to improve the school library sector. It was launched in 2017 and is administered by the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) on behalf of the Scottish Government.



Tabletop Games Club

Muirhouse library run a weekly Tabletop Games Club in conjunction with Craigroyston High School library for S1/2 students. Each Thursday a session is run in the school library at lunchtime, playing small scale games and model painting. The schools session sees 15 kids, both boys and girls, taking part which is the maximum for the session. A two hour session is also run in Muirhouse library on Friday afternoons, where kids can play larger games or take more time to paint models. There is a core group of six kids who attend

every week with several other joining in occasionally. The kids being attracted by this are generally those who have been recognised by their school as those struggling to make friends, have issues with social situations or are in supported learning classes because they have additional needs. Having this outlet where they can engage with others has been a great benefit to them. From the libraries point of view, this has given the service a way to engage kids we wouldn't normally see and continue to broaden the use groups.

Baby STEM at Muirhouse

Muirhouse Library have been running a Baby STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) event after their weekly Bookbug session. After a one-off event received great feedback, they decided to make this a regular part of their programme. Not only have we noticed that Baby STEM builds on the skills we encourage in Bookbug, but also it builds on some other skills too such as:

- Hand eye coordination
- Shape and Colour recognition
- Matching and Counting
- Taking Turns
- Social development with other children
- Adult-children interaction

From Baby STEM, we have seen children develop from struggling to find the right part when prompted and having difficulty with the fine motor control needed to put the blocks together to being able to follow the flash cards and build everything themselves!

The Children and Young People Participation Group

The Children and Young People Participation Group has met four times to date and begun to develop a more coherent approach to participation and to share key messages coming from children and young people.

An important focus over the coming period will be to engage with children and young people on the forthcoming Children's Services Plan 2020-2023. Based on the key messages from What kind of Edinburgh?, we will ask young people to prioritise the actions they consider most important in relation to each of the plan's three themes: best start in life; bridging the gap; and being everything you can be.

Through existing networks such as youth agencies, schools and community groups, children and young people will be invited to choose which of the What kind of Edinburgh? priorities would really make a difference to their lives and which therefore should be central to the plan. Using social media, we will also invite a wider community of young people to give us their views about this.

The key messages identified by children and young people through What kind of Edinburgh? in relation to the new plan's priorities are:

Best start in life:

- Every child should have love, care and support
- Parents and carers need to be able to recognise the needs of their children and they will need support with this
- Every family needs to be taught how important early years development is
- A positive community environment is really important because families need healthy outdoor spaces
- Well-being needs kindness, respect and happiness
- Adults should be kind, friendly and not shout at children and young people
- All children and young people should know about services that can help them

Bridging the gap:

- Poverty shouldn't hold us back; every family should have enough money to live on
- Funding needs to be distributed in a fairer way because it seems like it doesn't reach the people who need it
- Outdoor places need to be made safer, more suited for children and young people and be looked after properly – no matter where we live
- Services should meet children and young people's needs fully: for example, expand the variety of sports, especially in the evenings, and make clubs more affordable.
- We do not want a negative reputation depending on where we live
- Opportunities within education should be fair across the city

Being all you can be:

- Relationships between children and young people and teachers should be improved by getting to know each other
- Build positive relationships
- Bullying is still a problem in schools. We need to do something to sort it out properly
- Don't judge people for their ideas
- Make sure everyone is heard and has the opportunity to share ideas. Really listen to children and young people!
- Be equal and help each other
- Have good people to support you
- Include us from start to end
- Be prepared to open up to new learning
- All children and young people should have access to a safe space and someone they can talk to

This activity will take place between November and January in time for the plan to be finalised in March 2020.

Health and Wellbeing Team Update

- The final Top Tips for Staff Mental Health & Wellbeing and Building Staff Resilience training has been launched and shared at Primary Heads Wellbeing EPTHA Session in September
- Our 6 city-wide parenting programmes (Peep, Triple P, Incredible Years, Raising Children With Confidence (RCWC), Raising Teens With Confidence, Teen Triple P) benefited over 1500 parents/carers last year alone. Incredible Years/Triple P celebrated their 100th group in October and the updated Raising Children With Confidence primary parental engagement programme has been launched and train the trainers are running across Edinburgh and the Lothians. Our delivery of parenting programmes were highlighted as good practice in the recent Children Services Inspection Report.
- Our Turn Your Life Around project where local volunteers are supported to share their story and raise awareness of childhood adversity and resilience amongst pupils, staff and families won Education Initiative of The Year at The Herald Society Awards in November
- 1 in 5 Raising Awareness of Child Poverty training to be rolled out to social work teams
- Building Resilience, 1 in 5 Child Poverty and recent Mental Health Consultation with 450 children and young people asked to be showcased at SEIC events and Mental Health & Wellbeing in Scotland's Schools conference.
- The Top Tips for Schools on how to best support children and young people (from the MH consultation) shared again at presentations at Primary & Secondary Headteacher events on 12th & 13th November.

Child Poverty in Schools

- NHS Health Scotland with Child Poverty Action Group Scotland launched a video exploring different approaches to tackling the Cost of The School Day. This includes information on City of Edinburgh 1 in 5 Project from a strategic and school perspective. Other short videos were produced following this initial one which look in more detail at specific interventions from across the country. This includes a film detailing the income maximisation work taking place in Edinburgh, showcased by Sylvia Baikie, Public Health Practitioner. All videos can be seen by going to <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdtTilZi8S7-2rwi9LMw4JS0-3rALa7jW>
- Further 1 in 5 resources to help mitigate the impact of child poverty and presentations from 1 in 5 conferences can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/child-poverty

Promoting Equality

We have established a Communities and Families Equalities Steering Group (ESG), with representation from organisations representing all protected characteristics. This group has agreed terms of reference which encompass all protected characteristics and other relevant characteristics which are not covered by the Equality Act. We will invite young people to engage with the group, to represent the voice of their peers and to inform decisions. A number of subgroups have been convened to take forward work on a thematic basis: anti-bullying; youth work; and inclusive curriculum. A further subgroup will take forward work on increasing diversity in the Education and Youth work workforce.

We have begun the process of working with Locality Parent Council groups and schools to set up school-based Equalities Steering Groups involving pupils, parents and staff. Pupils, parents and staff will together determine the best model for promoting Equality in their school. The aim of these steering groups is to support sustainable change on promoting Equality at the school level. The initial focus of the school-based Equalities steering groups will be to raise awareness of Equalities in their learning communities and to support implementation of the revised 'Preventing and Responding to Bullying and Prejudice Amongst Children and Young People' procedure.

Anti-bullying and Prejudice

The subgroup (of the ESG) tasked with supporting implementation of the procedure includes partners. The group will encourage appropriate representation from young people and families by providing guidance for schools on convening the school-based Equalities groups. Head Teachers will decide on the appropriate member of staff to work with these groups. The ESG will consider how partners could be involved in mentoring or otherwise supporting the young people. Our national partner, *respectme*, is delivering anti-bullying training for school Equalities Co-ordinators throughout this school session. We have also signposted schools to high-quality national resources on effectively challenging different types of bullying and prejudice.

Inclusive Curriculum

A sub-group (of the ESG) has started to consider the theme of an inclusive curriculum (inclusive of all protected characteristics), with an initial focus on Black History. Any changes to the curriculum require to be scoped out and planned, so that schools can factor this into teacher Working Time Agreements and school Improvement Plans, to ensure that teachers are fully supported to introduce sustainable change. Black History is one aspect of a culturally inclusive curriculum which should also reflect the histories of other minority ethnic communities in Edinburgh and Scotland. The histories, positive contribution and achievement of these communities can be included across many areas of the curriculum – it is important that this is not limited to Social Studies.

An initial snapshot of the teaching of Black History found that relevant topics are

taught in S1 – S3 History and Modern Studies, and also in the Senior Phase (S4-6) History and Modern Studies curriculum. A number of topics commonly taught in primary schools feature aspects of Black History. Ongoing work includes: decolonisation of the curriculum discussed at a recent secondary Social Studies Leaders' meeting; some schools work with Lisa Williams, Honorary Fellow of the School of History, Classics and Archaeology at The University of Edinburgh and founder/director of the Edinburgh Caribbean Association who runs Black History walking tours of Edinburgh and workshops; 5 secondary schools are engaged in a project with University of Edinburgh where History students work with schools. There is a provisional plan for the next stage of the project (from January 2020) to focus on co-producing resources for teaching Black History.

Possible further ways in which a better understanding of Black History can be promoted and included in the curriculum: work with one or two school clusters to map out how Black History in Edinburgh and Scotland is covered through the BGE (Broad General Education) and Senior Phase and share good practice; make high-quality resources available.

A final report with recommendations for schools will be produced by the end of the current school session (June 2020). In the interim, we will continue to offer whole-school training on developing a culturally inclusive curriculum and signposting to resources.

Youth Work

A third subgroup is auditing youth work provision with the purpose of identifying any gaps and planning to address these. There are four strands to this work: BAME participation in universal youth work provision; targeted BAME provision available; BAME staff in universal and targeted provision; Equalities training for youth workers. As part of this work, there was an initial meeting with a reference group of BAME youth work organisations in November. A second meeting is planned for January 2020.

BAME representation in the education and youth work workforce

The issue of increasing BAME representation in the education and youthwork workforce is also being considered by the Equalities Steering Group. Following an initial conversation with Human Resources, this work will be taken forward by an Education/Youth work-specific group, with representation from the co-author of the 'Teaching in a Diverse Scotland' report, BAME Education and youth work staff. This group will meet before the end of January 2020.

We have communicated the Equalities work being taken forward to the young people and the director of Intercultural Youth Scotland (IYS) via email. In addition, we are in the process of producing an information poster to share with children and young people across the city via Social Media. IYS was invited to be part of the Communities and Families Equalities Steering Group. IYS representatives, including

Young Ambassadors, attended the youth work reference group meeting and have been invited to join the Anti-bullying subgroup. The IYS/EDI 'In Sight' report which was introduced by an IYS deputation at the October ECF Committee was launched on 6 November 2019. The report has been placed on the agenda for the December meeting of the ESG and IYS have been invited to present the report then.

A further report will be presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2020.

