

Note of meeting

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.00pm, Thursday 8 November 2022

Hybrid Meeting – Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers/Microsoft Teams

Present

Elected Members

Councillors Griffiths (Convener), Burgess, Jones, Key, Jones and Walker.

Parent/Carer Representatives

Naomi Barton

Sandy Bennett-Haber

Leigh Ferrand

Alex Ramage

Sarah Scott

Marissa Wilson

Melissa Wilson

External Officer Representatives

Patrick McGlinchey (Connect)

Council Officers

Arran Finlay, Senior Education Officer

Lorna French, Acting Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning

Amanda Hatton, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services

Lynn Paterson, Senior Education Manager

Stephen Kelly, Senior Education Manager

Apologies

Councillor Davidson.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Convener welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCWP) under the newly appointed Council administration at the Local Government elections in May 2022.

The CCWP would be an important consultation forum and critical friend to allow elected members and Council officers an opportunity to engage and discuss with the parent/carer body a whole range of education business across the school estate.

2. CCWP Membership and Remit

The CCWP membership and remit agreed by the Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2022 was presented for noting.

The principle aim of the committee would be to provide a collaborative, solution-oriented discussion and consultation space with parents and carers on local and national issues.

The following issues were raised and discussed:

- Voting rights for parent/carer representatives on the Education, Children and Families Committee and the rationale for these representatives not having voting rights on that Committee
- It was noted that parent representative did have voting rights in past political administrations but these had been removed in 2017 by the previous Council Administration taking into account relevant legal advice from officers
- Parents/carers expressed strong views that the parent/carer representatives voting rights should be reinstated in line with the three religious representatives on the Education, Children and Families Committee
- It would be useful to find out from other local authorities if parent/carer representatives were afforded voting rights on Education Committees

Decision

- 1) To note the CCWP membership and remit.
- 2) To note there was an outstanding action for the Council to consider voting rights for religious representatives on the Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 3) To note that the Political Management Arrangements report was scheduled to be submitted to the Council meeting in December 2022 for consideration.

3. Appointment of Parent Representatives to the Education, Children and Families Committee

Nominations were sought to appoint a parent/carer representative to the Education, Children and Families Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree that Alex Ramage be nominated as the parent/carer representative on the Education, Children and Families Committee to represent the secondary sector

- 2) To note that two expressions of interest had been received for the proposed additional second parent/carer representative on the Education, Children and Families Committee, subject to full Council agreeing in December 2022 that a second position be added to the membership as part of the political management arrangements report.
- 3) To note that officers would request biographies from the two parents/carers and have informal discussions about taking on the role on a shared basis.

4. Briefing on the National Discussion Consultation

Stephen Kelly, Senior Education Manager delivered a presentation on the Scottish Government's reform of Scotland's education system which included:

- A national discussion on education
- An independent review of qualifications and assessments
- Reforming educating bodies the Scottish Qualifications Authority and Education Scotland Scotland – merging the curriculum and assessment function and removing inspection from Education Scotland
- Post-school education and training

Included within the consultation was a specific discussion guide to gather the views of young children.

Decision

To note updates in the presentation (slide pack attached at the appendix to this minute).

5. Parent/Carer Representatives on the City of Edinburgh Placing in Schools Appeal Committee

An update was provided on the membership of the City of Edinburgh Placing in Schools Appeal Committee. There was a shortage of parent representatives on the Committee which was impacting appeals being able to be scheduled within a reasonable timescale. The Council's communications team had carried out a recruitment campaign which had resulted in multiple hits on social media but only a handful of notes of interest.

A review of the admissions and appeals process was being undertaken with a report planned to be submitted to a future meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee.

Decision

To note the position.

6. Update from Connect

Patrick McGlinchey from Connect shared the following updates:

- Connect's aims were to unleash every child's potential with healthy home/school relationships and they provided support to parent/carer groups in communities and encouraged educators to embrace effective parental engagement
- Connect's vision was children at the centre and parents by their side
- Membership had increased and Connect now had members in every local authority in Scotland with 27 out of the 32 local authorities having full members
- Connect offered support and communicated with parents and parent groups Monday to Friday via email, phone and social media
- The Connect closed Facebook group was available to all parents, as a helpful site for parents for sharing ideas and information
- Training and information sessions were offered to all parent groups eg. UNCRC and grant funding
- Survey ongoing at this time is on parental engagement and the role of parents on committees and if they should have voting rights
- Advocacy work which provides an independent voice for parents nationally

Decision

To thank Patrick for his presentation and to note the updates.

7. Update from National Parent Forum

Naomi Barton shared the following update on behalf of the National Parent Forum:

- NPF work in partnership with Connect most recently the work around the national discussion which closed on 5 December 2022
- NPF are made up of volunteers representing the voice of parents/carers nationally
- The NPF Vice-Chair role was vacant and expressions of interest to fill this role would be welcome via the NPF email edinburgh@npf.org.uk
- Increase in mental health issues were being addressed with Scottish Government
- Independent Review of National Qualifications which closed on 16 December 2022

Decision

To thank Naomi for her presentation and to note the updates.

8. Dates of Next Meetings

Decision

To note that a schedule of meetings for 2023 would be arranged and diary invites issued as soon as possible.

Education Reform – October 2022

Reform of Scotland's education system is underway. It includes:

- a national discussion on education
- an independent review of qualifications and assessments
- reforming education bodies the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and Education Scotland: merging the curriculum and assessment function and removing inspection from Education Scotland
- post-school education and training.

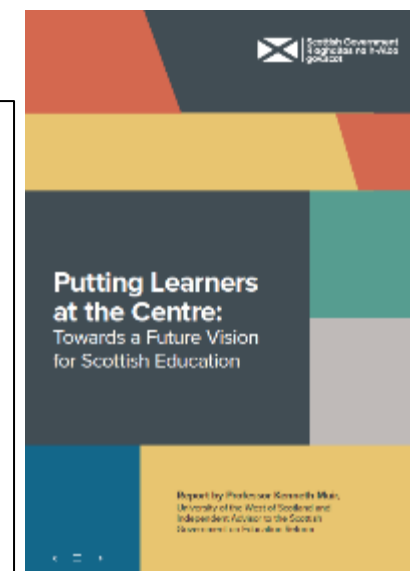
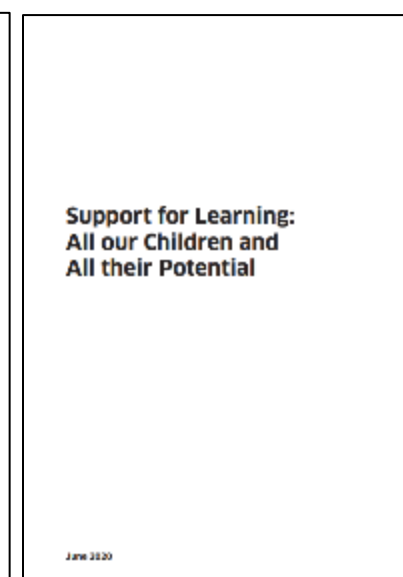
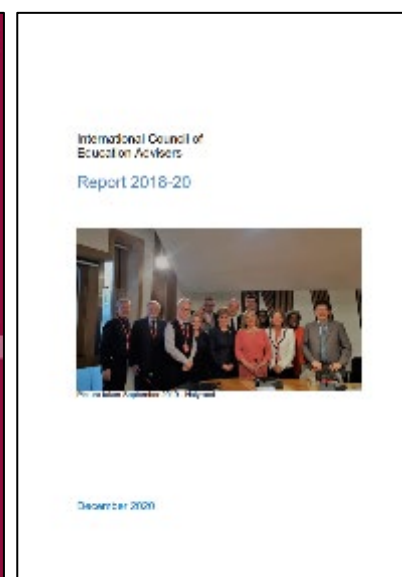
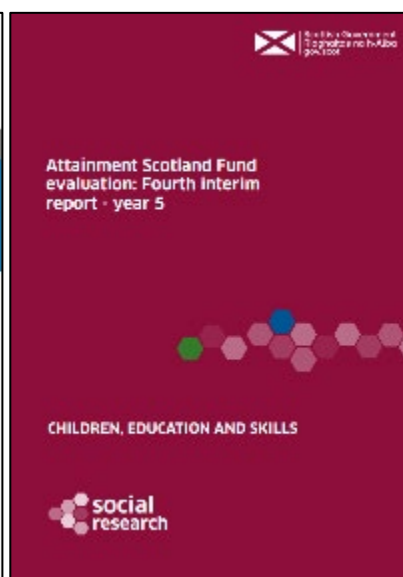
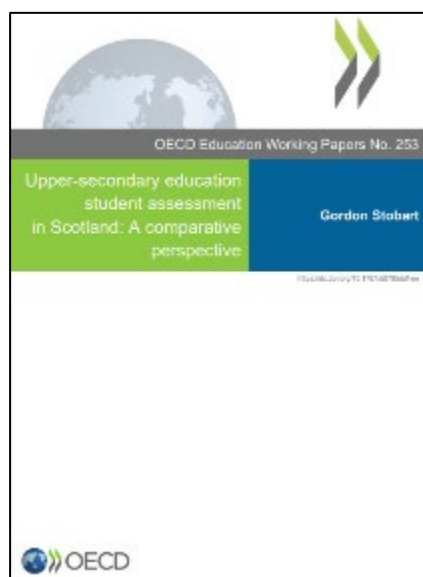
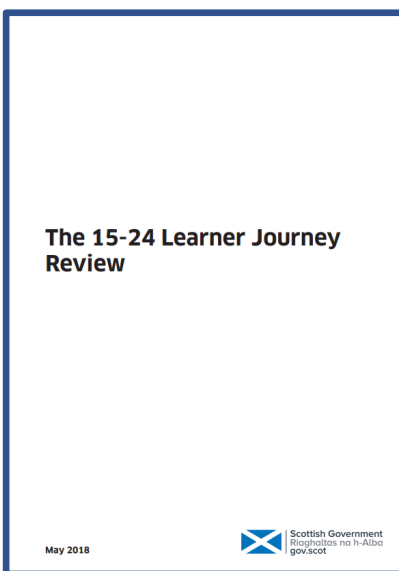
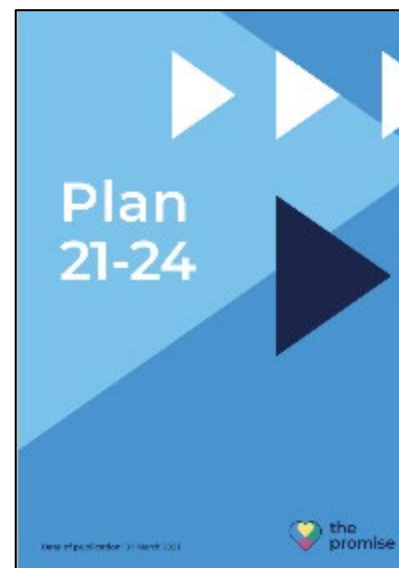
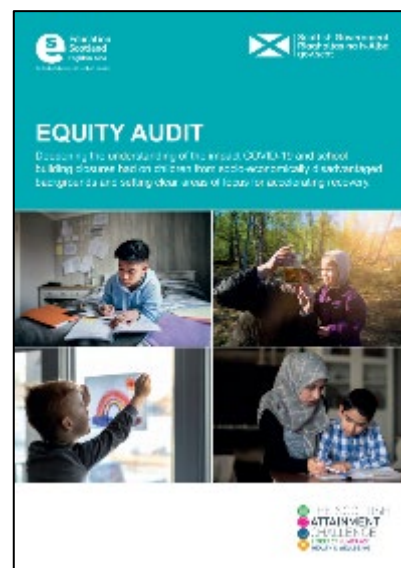
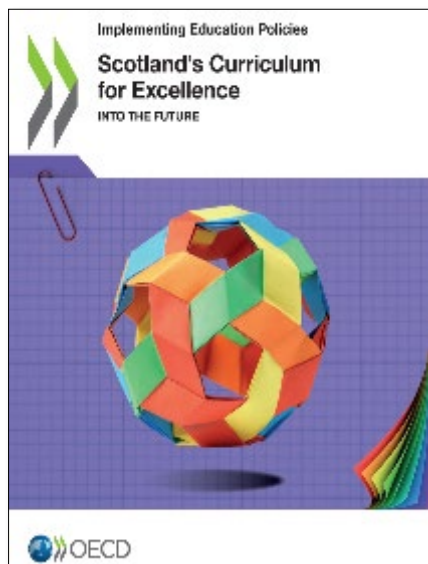
OUTCOMES OF REFORM VISION FOR EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND

Our overall vision for the education system in Scotland is rooted in achieving excellence and equity for all learners, within a framework of human rights (including children's rights). The 2022 National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan includes this vision, which is:

Excellence through raising attainment and improving outcomes: ensuring every child achieves the highest standards in literacy and numeracy, as well as the knowledge and skills necessary to shape their future as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors

Achieving **equity**: ensuring every child has the same opportunity to succeed, no matter their background or shared protected characteristics, with a particular focus on closing the poverty related attainment gap.

We are developing a programme of reform to make specific changes that will take us towards this vision. We will strive to create coherence across our work and that of colleagues in the early years, tertiary and skills sectors, for the benefit of all of our stakeholders.

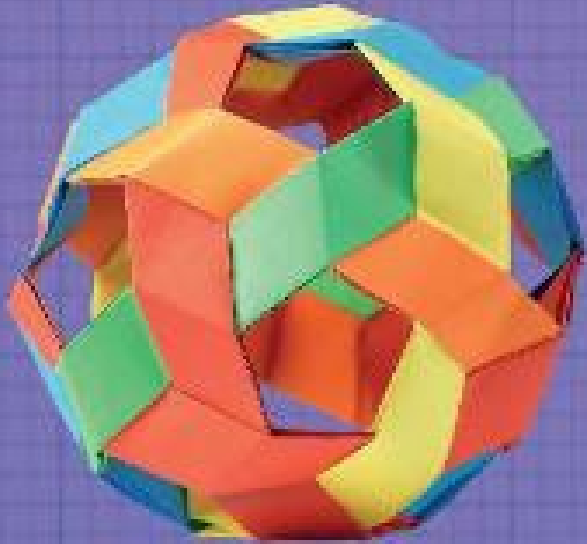




Implementing Education Policies

Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence

INTO THE FUTURE



OECD Recommendations

- **Recommendation 1** - Balance Curriculum for Excellence so students can fully benefit from a coherent learning experience from 3 to 18 years.
- **Recommendation 2** - Combine effective collaboration with clear roles and responsibilities.
- **Recommendation 3** - Consolidate institutional policy processes for effective change.
- **Recommendation 4** - Lead the next steps for Curriculum for Excellence with a long-term view

Recommendation 1 - Balance Curriculum for Excellence so students can fully benefit from a coherent learning experience from 3 to 18 years

- **1.1** - Re-assess CfE's aspirational vision against emerging trends in education
- **1.2** - Find a better balance between breadth and depth of learning throughout CfE
- **1.3** - Adapt the Senior Phase to match the vision of CfE
- **1.4** - Continue building curricular capacity at various levels of the system using research

Key Themes

- Politics, crowded middle, clarity of roles...
- Place based approach, stakeholders, subsidiarity, empowerment
- Inclusion, pathways, personalisation, vocational, wider achievement
- Alignment – curriculum, pedagogy & assessment
- Balance of skills and knowledge



The story so far...

June 2021



Implementing Education Policies

**Scotland's Curriculum
for Excellence**

INTO THE FUTURE

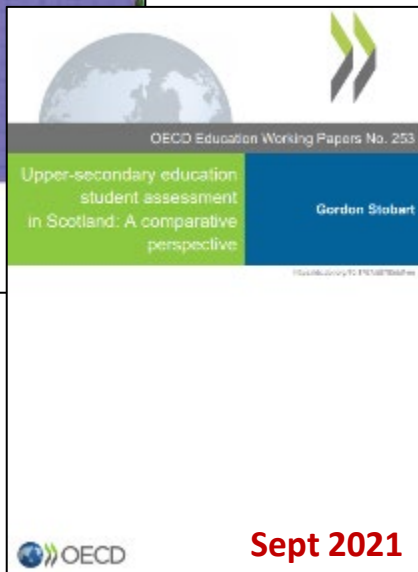


The story so far...

June 2021



Implementing Education Policies
**Scotland's Curriculum
for Excellence**
INTO THE FUTURE



Sept 2021

The story so far...

June 2021

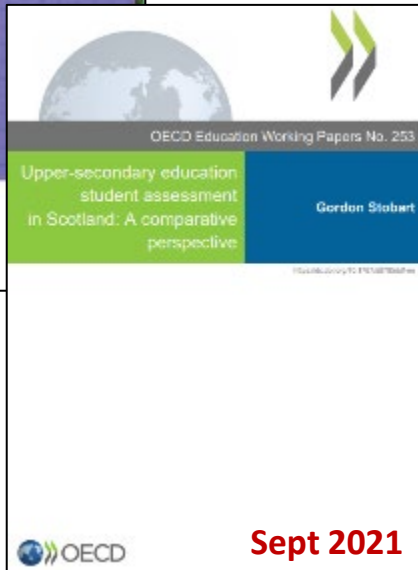


Implementing Education Policies
**Scotland's Curriculum
for Excellence**
INTO THE FUTURE



Oct 2021

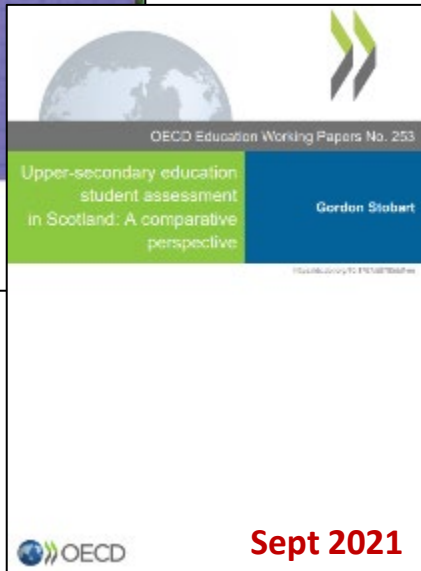
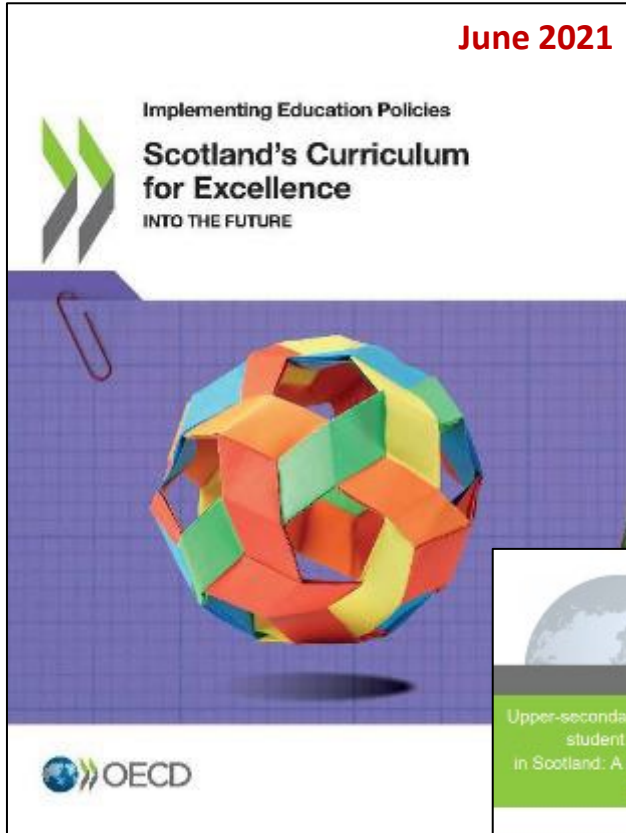
**Scotland's Curriculum: Into
the Future: Implementation
framework for the OECD's
2021 review of Curriculum for
Excellence**



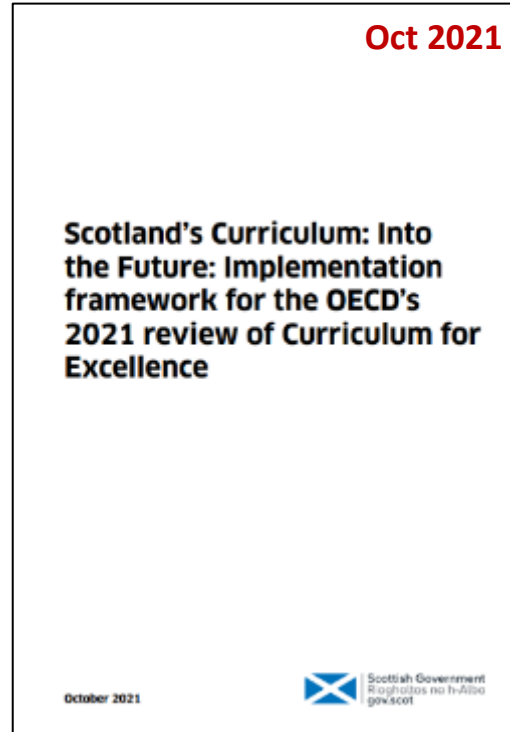
Sept 2021

The story so far...

June 2021



Oct 2021

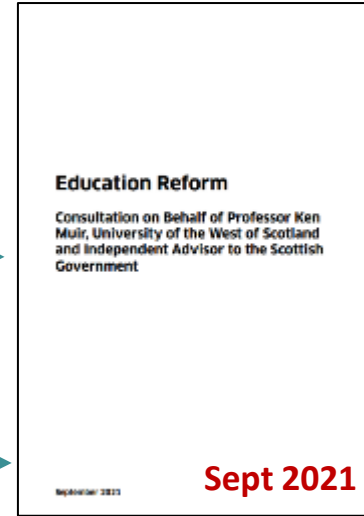


Education Reform

Consultation on Behalf of Professor Ken Muir, University of the West of Scotland and Independent Advisor to the Scottish Government

September 2021

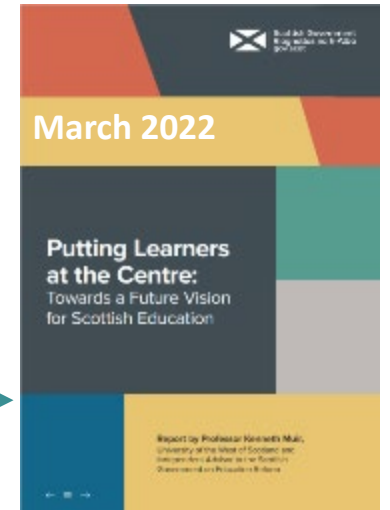
Sept 2021



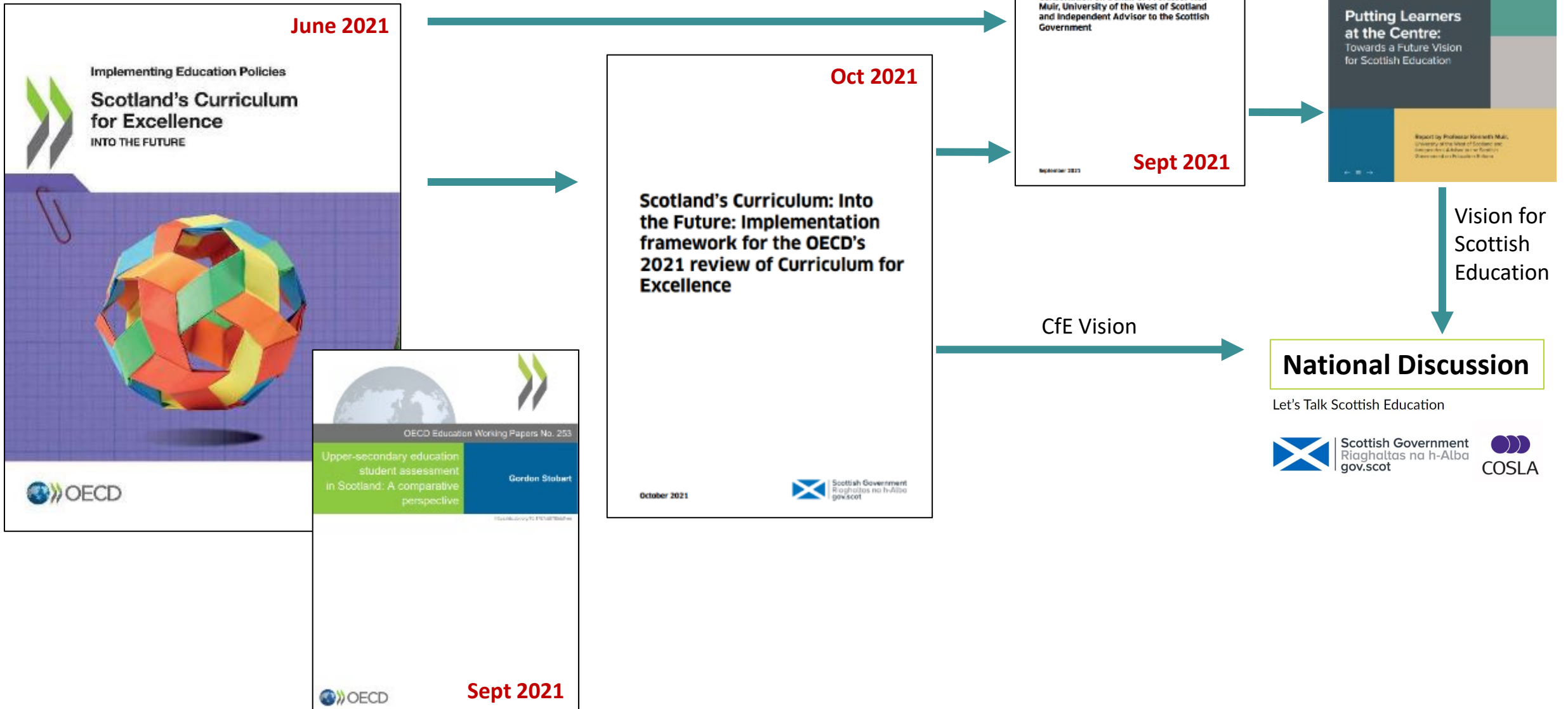
March 2022

Putting Learners at the Centre: Towards a Future Vision for Scottish Education

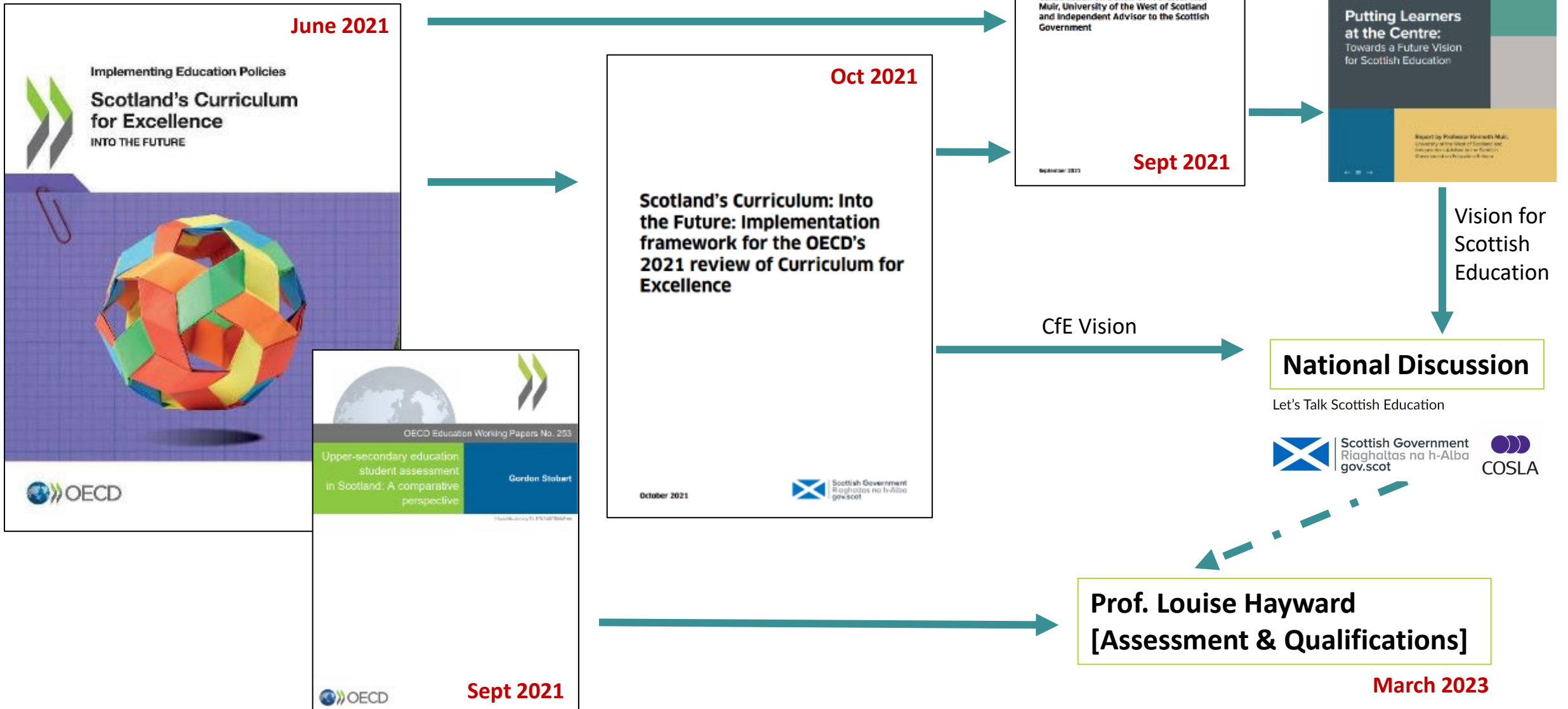
Report by Professor Kenneth Muir, University of the West of Scotland and Independent Advisor to the Scottish Government on Curriculum Reform



The story so far...



The story so far...



Key events since June 2021



Stobart Review



Consultation Launch



Muir Review

1st year of new Gov

New School Year

Let's Talk Scottish Education



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



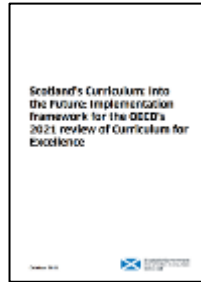
National Discussion



SLF 2022

ND Report?

Prof Hayward Report

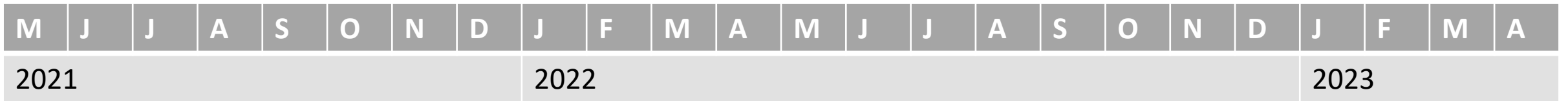


Implementation Framework V1.0

Financial Year



OECD Review



NATIONAL DISCUSSION ON THE VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF SCOTTISH EDUCATION

Muir Report:

“The vision for Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) should be considered as part of this discussion as should consideration of how the education system seeks to address the purposes described in Article 29 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)” (Muir, 2022:04)

Purpose and scope of a National Discussion

- different to 2002 – not a "new curriculum"
- the purpose of a discussion could be to revisit the delivery of CfE in a post-pandemic, digital, networked and learner centric world,
- what should Scottish education look like in 2030, and beyond?
- how can we address the long term systemic issues in Scottish education (poverty and inequality, demographics, specific workforce challenges in rural areas and variability in outcomes, health and wellbeing) that impact on achieving good and equitable outcomes for all learners?
- Building alignment and consensus



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Let's talk Scottish Education:
Our National Discussion

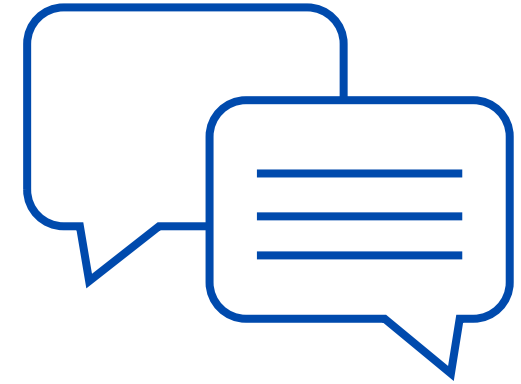


A discussion guide to gather the views of **young children***

#TalkScottishEducation

**This guide was designed for learners between 3 and 7 years old but can be used with other age groups as appropriate to needs*

1. What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future and how do we make that a reality?
2. How do we ensure that children and young people in Scotland feel supported in their learning in the future?
3. What is one thing that needs to stay and why?
4. What are the most important priorities for a future Scottish education system?
5. Overall, what is your vision for the future of education in Scotland?
6. How can we make that future vision for education a reality in Scotland?
7. What are the most important steps we need to take to achieve the future vision for education in Scotland?
8. How can we ensure that everyone involved in education in Scotland has a say in future decisions and actions?
9. How can children and young people be helped to learn about our changing world, so they feel able to positively contribute?
10. Do you have any other comments that you would like to provide about a vision for the future of Scottish Education?



#TalkScottishEducation

Question 1:

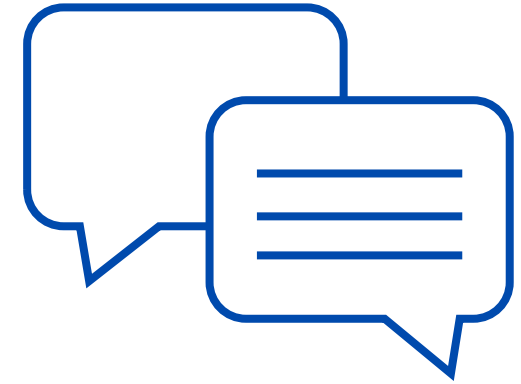
What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future and how do we make that a reality?

Question 4:

What are the most important priorities for a future Scottish education system?

Question 9:

How can children and young people be helped to learn about our changing world, so they feel able to positively contribute?



#TalkScottishEducation