

Note of meeting

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.00pm, Thursday 19 January 2023

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Present

Elected Members

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

Parent/Carer Representatives

Alex Ramage
Annemarie Proctor
Catherine Chrystal
Emma Dougan
Louise Collingwood
Naomi Barton
Sarah Colins
Stacey Panda

External Officer Representatives

Patrick McGlinchey (Connect)

Council Officers

Amanda Hatton, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services
Arran Finlay, Senior Education Officer
Jackie Reid, Acting Senior Education Manager
Janice Watson, Quality Improvement Officer
Linda Lees, Interim Wider Achievement Service Manager
Lorna French, Acting Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning
Lynn Paterson, Senior Education Manager
Marie Lyon, Quality Improvement Education Officer
Stephen Kelly, Senior Education Manager

Apologies

Councillor Davidson.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Convener welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP).

2. Note of the Meeting

Decision

To approve the note of the meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents of 8 November 2022 as a correct record.

3. Directors Update

The Executive Director of Education, Children and Families gave an update on the recruitment of the Service Director for Education. This would be a new post for the directorate, which would cover education and wider achievement.

The post had gone out to advert, with a wide recruitment search taking place, and final interviews coming to an end. The post would be selected through an Elected Member recruitment panel, with recommendations being made to the City of Edinburgh on 9 February 2023.

Decision

To note the update.

4. Update from Connect Representative

Patrick McGlinchey from Connect shared the following updates:

- Since August 2022, Connect had ran 14 live information sessions for parents, which received great feedback.
- A further 16 sessions were scheduled on a wide range of topics, available to all members of parent forums and parent councils.
- There was continued work on the review of assessment qualification, in partnership with the National Parent Forum for Scotland, and leading collaborative communities for parents and carers.
- A focus group with parents of children with additional support needs (ASN) provided detail that flexibility and creativity were both needed in order to make suitable ASN adaptations in order to put the child at the centre.
- Connect had ran a consultation on the state of parental engagement, which fed into the national discussion.
- Connect, along with other aspects of Scottish education, were entering a phase of review. Looking into what their service offers, their value for money to local authorities and parent councils, what they provide vs what is expected from them etc.

Decision

To note the update.

5. Vaping Issues

Janice Watson, Quality Improvement Officer delivered a presentation on vaping issues which detailed:

- Figures from the Health and Well Being (HWB) Census, which asked 'How often do you use e-cigarettes/vape at present?' that of 4691 responses, around 400 pupils or 9% of S2 and S4 respondents had used an e-cigarette/vape.
- The latest national (UK) data showed the proportion of children vaping had risen from 4% in 2020 to 7% in 2022.
- The HWB curriculum supports children and young people to assess and manage risk around topics such as vaping and explains the impact this can have on children and young people health.
- Resources such as ASH Scotland and I Am Me Scotland Learning Platform are signposted to primary and secondary pupils to support this aspect of the curriculum.

Decision

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

6. Edinburgh Learns for Life

Jackie Reid, Acting Senior Education Manager delivered a presentation on Edinburgh Learns which included:

- The vision of Edinburgh Learns for Life is to create a fairer, healthier, greener future for everyone, where learning for life happens at home, in school, in the wider community, and in the workplace.
- 3 main objectives of the business plan; Climate Justice, Social Justice and Wellbeing.
- Offering members of the CCwP to take up a position on the Edinburgh Learns for Life boards, explaining the variety and function of the 16 boards.

Decision

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

7. Update from National Parent Forum

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

- NPF collaborated with Police Scotland and Education Scotland to create a Cyber Resilience First Aid Box for parents and carers (<https://www.cbrfa.com>)
- As part of the national discussion, NPF had engaged with parents and carers and passed on their views to the Scottish Government.

- Entering into the third stage of the independent review of the national qualification and assessment. As part of NPF, engaging with parents and carers to hear their views.
- NPF are supporting the National Qualification Working Group and support for parents and carers during the exam period.
- NPF are gathering reactions from parents and carers on their responses to strike action.

Decision

To note the update.

8. Dates of Next Meeting

Thursday 23 March 2023

Vaping – update 19.1.23



Background

- A paper on vaping in schools was prepared by a group of Parent Council members
- We are aware that vaping is becoming an issue in schools with some evidence suggesting young people are vaping in class, corridors and in school toilets.
- Vaping is not for children. While it can help people give up smoking, the advice is, if you don't smoke don't vape.
- Most children who try vaping, have also tried smoking, and vaping is far less harmful than smoking, which kills up to two thirds of smokers.
- Vaping is not permitted in Council premises. It is illegal for young people under 18 to buy vapes or for someone to buy a vape for a young person under 18.
- Currently we do not have a consistent policy on vaping in our schools.

Data - CEC

The HWB Census administered last session asked the following question to S2 and S4 pupils;

How often do you use e-cigarettes/vape at present?

4691 responses were given to this question across the city.

Around 400 pupils, or 9%, of S2 and S4 respondents had used an e-cigarette/vape. This was 6% in S2 and 13% in S4.

	Every day	At least once a week, but not everyday	Less than once per week	I do not use e-cigarettes/vape	Prefer not to say
S2	43	57	65	2,460	160
S4	89	66	87	1,566	98



Data – National

- The latest national (UK) data shows the proportion of children vaping is rising, up from 4% in 2020 to 7% in 2022, alongside the growing popularity of disposable vapes.
- The number of children who admit to ever trying vaping has risen from 14% in 2020 to 16% in 2022. However, the vast majority of under 18s who have never smoked, have also never vaped, and only 1.9% have vaped more frequently than once or twice.

(ASH guidance on developing school policies on vaping)

HWB Curriculum

Supports children and young people to assess and manage risk, to understand about topics such as vaping and any impacts on health. It also supports them to access practical and emotional help. Specifically, children and young people learn the following in relation to substance misuse;

- The impact of substances on health - positive and negative and legal implications(E – 4th level)
- Pressures (peer/culture/media) and substance use (2nd - 4th level)
- The impact of substances on behaviour and decision making (2nd – 4th level)
- Assessing and managing risk in relation to substance use (2nd – 4th level)
- The impact of substance use on health (2nd – 4th level)

Resources

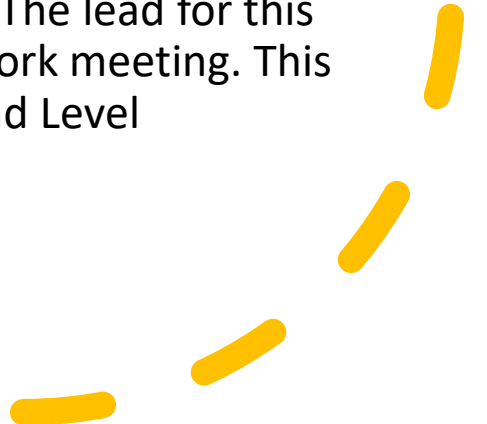
Currently we sign post to two main resources for primary/secondary/special schools to use to support this aspect of the curriculum.

Young people and vaping | ASH Scotland

- Information on young people and vaping
- Activities and resources
- Training opportunities
- Workshops and resources for young people

I Am Me Scotland Learning Platform (iammescotlandeducation.org.uk)

This is a new substance misuse toolkit developed by Renfrewshire Council . This has been shared with secondary PSE Network via new PSE toolkit and to primary schools via the HWB Network. The lead for this resource is to present at the next Primary HWB Network meeting. This will then enable us to update our HWB Early to Second Level progression frameworks to include this resource.



NHS Support

Karen Holmes, Clinical Nurse Manager, Health Visiting West & School Nursing Service , is aware of the need to provide support to schools in this area.

The following information was recently shared with our School Nurse leads in preparation for potentially supporting schools as part of their early intervention/prevention work.

- [New national vaping guidance for schools released by Action on Smoking and Health - ASH](#)
- [ASH-guidance-for-school-vaping-policies.pdf](#)
- [Young people and vaping | ASH Scotland](#)
- [young-people-and-vaping.pdf \(ashscotland.org.uk\)](#)
- [ASH Scotland eLearning \(ashscotlandmoodle.org.uk\)](#)

School nurses are keen to work in partnership with schools, supporting health prevention programmes as part of the CFE

Health Promotion programmes will be reviewed early in the New Year and look to support schools.

NHS Support

Robbie Preece, Health Improvement Lead Tobacco Control, NHS Lothian

NHS Lothian agree that vaping is not for children, but that as a public health approach, it is supporting the reduction of combustible nicotine use which is the number one cause of ill health in the UK. In terms of risk-taking behaviour, vaping is considerably less harmful than other behaviours young people experiment with, therefore a proportionate approach to this issue is advised.

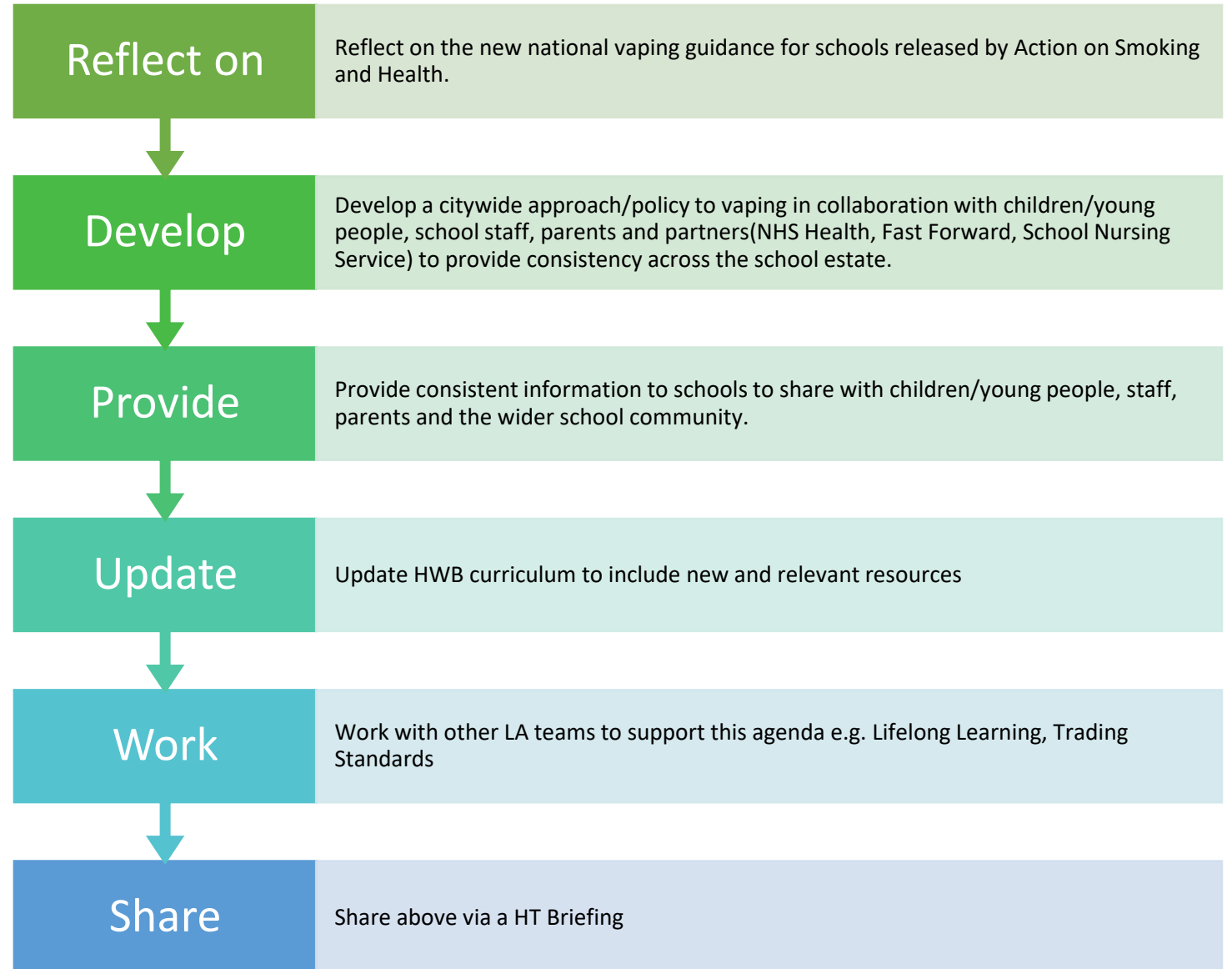
A careful selection of resources are advised to ensure a balanced approach to the curriculum. ASH Scotland (as opposed to ASH) resources are considered to be slightly out of sync with academic research.

Useful signposting from NHS Lothian

- [New national vaping guidance for schools released by Action on Smoking and Health - ASH](#)
- [ASH-guidance-for-school-vaping-policies.pdf](#)

NHS Health are keen to work with us to help develop a consistent approach to the issues and are happy to be involved in a SLWG.

Possible next steps



A photograph of two young girls in a science classroom. The girl on the left, wearing a green plaid shirt, is looking at a microscope. The girl on the right, wearing a red shirt, is looking through the eyepiece of a microscope. There are other microscopes and lab equipment on the table. The background shows a classroom setting with shelves and a window.

Edinburgh Learns For Life

Edinburgh Learns for Life

Our Vision

A fairer, healthier, greener future for everyone, where learning for life happens at home, in school, in the wider community, and in the workplace.

Our Mission

To create a world class learning city where everyone's skills, knowledge, creativity and relationships with people and places are equally valued. To create an environment of collaboration that inspires connections, improves wellbeing and reduces poverty.

Our Goals

A solid orange circle containing the word 'Transform' in a dark blue, handwritten-style font.

Transform

We will provide inclusive, equitable, valuable learning opportunities for everyone.

A solid yellow circle containing the word 'Connect' in a dark blue, handwritten-style font.

Connect

We will use a place based approach to build collaborative and sustainable learning communities and networks.

A solid green circle containing the word 'Empower' in a dark blue, handwritten-style font.

Empower

We will co-create the environments where learners can lead and shape their own learning.

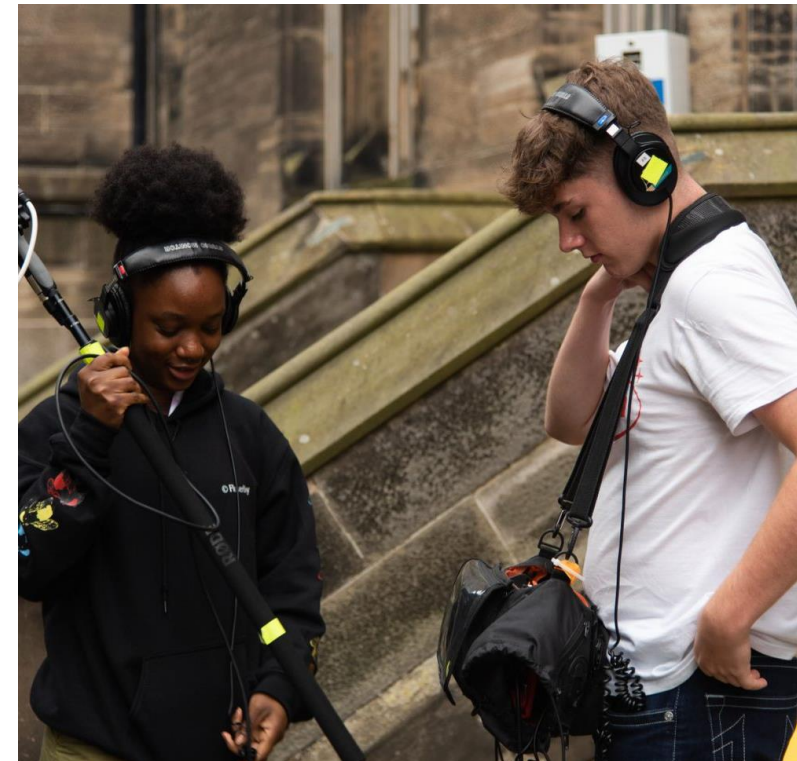
Engagement with Parents and Carers



Reference Groups



Boards





Our Boards

Equity

Inclusion

Parental
Engagement

Equalities

Health &
Wellbeing

Pupil
Participation

Wider
Achievement

Quality
Improvement

Sustainability

Membership

- Equity Board (1 member)
- Health & Wellbeing (1 member)
- Learning Together (1 member)
- Sustainability (1 member)
- Equalities (Reference group 3-4 members)
- Leadership/Teacher Professionalism (1 member)
- Teaching, Learning & Assessment (inc Digital) (1 member)
- Wider Achievement (1 member)

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

- Combined with Digital
- Teachers' Charter
- Numeracy Strategy
- Assessment & Moderation
- Distributive leadership e.g. LTA Lead network
- Raising attainment

Equalities

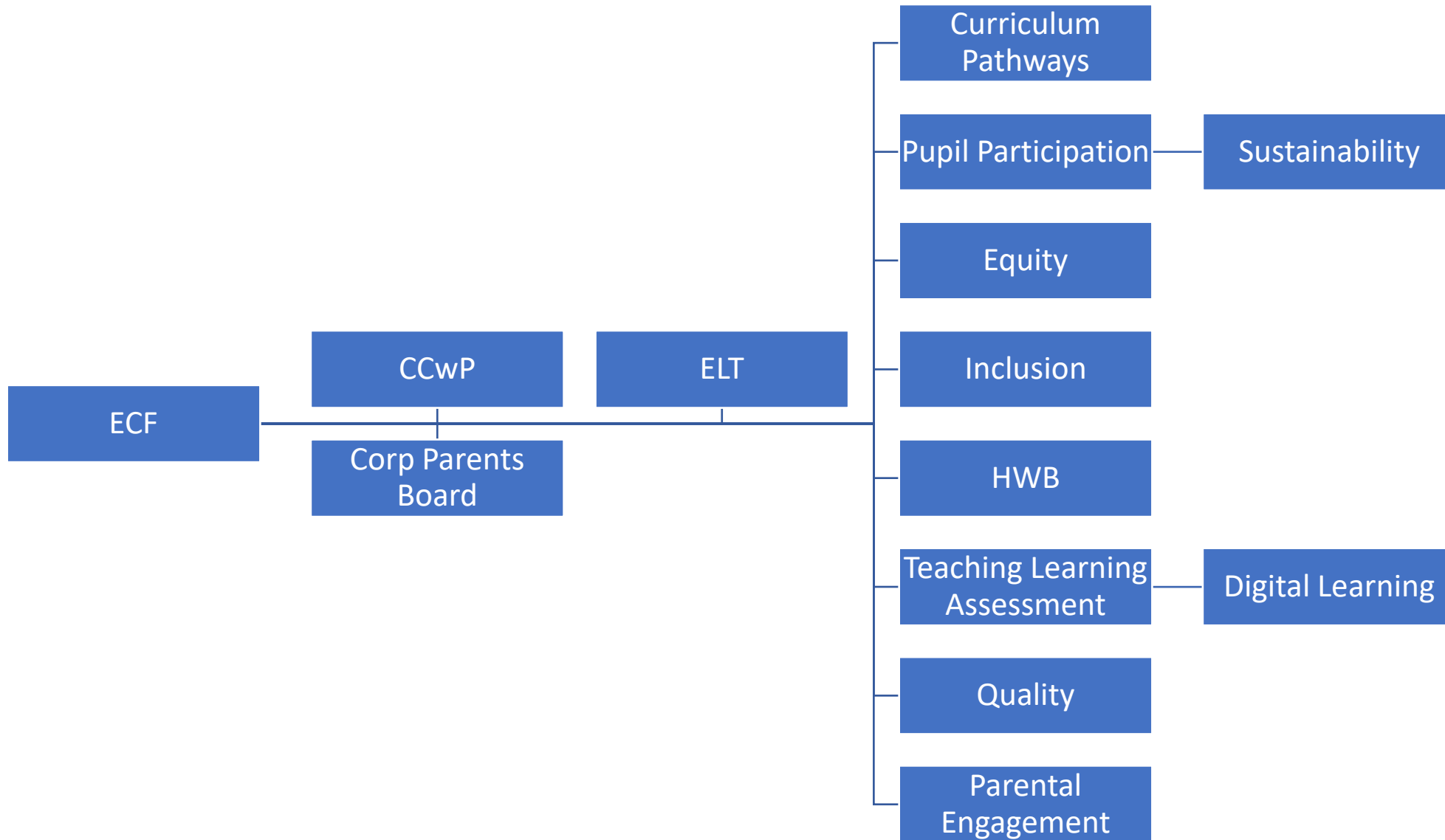
- **Equalities Board**
- Council officers – incl. Head Teacher reps, third sector organisations, parent-carer rep., external advisers
- Oversees Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan
- Themes: increasing diversity in the workforce; Curriculum; Preventing and Responding to Bullying and Prejudice
-
- **Equalities Parent-Carer Reference Group**
- ‘On the ground’ view to inform the decisions of the Equalities Board
- Representative on Equalities Board
- Supports communication with wider parent-carer groups

Wider Achievement

- Steering Group
- Draft Strategy – March 2023
- Board
- Reference Group

Learning Together

- Action Plan in response to the National Parental Involvement and Engagement Survey
- Support, advice and training to schools
- Celebrating Success Event – May 2023
- Family learning guidance – strategies to support families living in poverty, those from BAME communities and those with English as an Additional Language



Get in touch

A grayscale photograph of two young women in a science laboratory. They are both focused on using microscopes. The woman on the left is looking through the eyepiece, while the woman on the right is adjusting the stage. A third person's arm is visible on the right side of the frame. The background shows shelves with various lab equipment and a bright, airy environment.

Jackie.reid2@edinburgh.gov.uk