

**'The Changing Landscape - Joint challenges in the context of Curriculum for
Excellence & 16 + Learning Choices'
South East Forum Conference
10th March 2010**

Summary of workshop discussions and actions

Exploring Continuing Professional Development (CPD) - can we support staff in schools through a programme of CPD to help increase positive outcomes for young people? How can we promote the range of opportunities available to young people post school?

- The group recognised the need for **joint CPD** - this should be with all staff including guidance, subject teachers and college link teachers delivering to pupils in school.
- Ask schools should be asked to identify what their priority CPD needs are through 16+ Learning Co-ordinators, Depute Principals and guidance staff. This could be co-ordinated by the Forum. CPD should make use of school service planned early (March/April) as part of an annual cycle and make this cross-sectoral.
- Need for local knowledge of CLD provision to be kept up-to-date.
- There should also be opportunities for staff in schools to come together on priority topics. These might include sharing case studies/example of practice on topics such building partnerships with CLD, the voluntary sector and youth workers and impact of school activity agreements on young people and their trajectory.
- Shadowing of staff should be considered.
- The CPD Transitions Unit that SEF has developed and is piloting could be used and promoted.
- There should be further promotion of a range of progression routes to HE (not just Highers); a publicity campaign should be considered and information evenings for parents to increase knowledge.
- Up-to-date and accurate information about current labour market trends should also be provided. This information should be targeted at Subject Teachers in schools.
- There is a need to have access to up-to-date information quickly eg. to inform schools of increases in university entry requirements and changes in UCAS applications. An online portal was discussed as a possible tool.

Engaging with Parents -Working with parents, including the harder to reach, to provide up-to-date information and guidance around post schools options.

- There are lots of practical things that can be done to support each other and Schools, Colleges and Universities should work together more.
- It would be helpful to have the key contacts within schools, Colleges and Universities.
- It would helpful to have the contacts within schools, colleges and Universities of who is responsible for 16+ Learning Choices.
- Recognise that MCMC work needs to be better resourced.

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- An action for the Forum is to share examples of good practice of work with parents, especially work that has been done around engaging those harder to reach parents.

Scotland Bridging the GAP -Creating strong links between communities and schools based on the national report 'Bridging the gap'

- The importance of partnership working was recognised, given the impact of time, workloads and to share knowledge.
- How to work effectively in partnership was discussed, shared vision and common goals, joint planning and evaluation, clear understanding of roles and responsibilities.
- Joint CPD should be delivered, with schools and colleges and In service days in schools should be used.
- The value in information sharing was discussed, the value of a system like glow was discussed which could promote partnerships.
- Achievement should be recognised in the broadest sense, there should curriculum flexibility with schools.

Good practice that has had a positive impact on young people- Looking at examples of good practice, opportunity to share from your area and learn from others.

- Good practice that has a positive impact on young people does not have to be 'rocket science' changes can be small but have a big impact.
- Having experience and understanding of others work can make a difference and should be encouraged.
- A working group that could help co-ordinate the Senior Phase of Curriculum for Excellence could help to co-ordinate courses, aid communication and joint planning.
- Communication of all progression routes available to young people should be increased.
- Evaluation of work should be delivered jointly and findings should be shared.
- CPD has an important role to play and should be delivered jointly.

Key areas for action

- **Increased communication of all progression routes.**
- **Shared understanding of each others work.**
- **Sharing of good practice and work.**
- **Joint CPD is needed.**
- **Working together in true partnerships.**