

WORKSTREAMS OF THE C-19 EDUCATION RECOVERY GROUP

1. The aim of the C-19 Education Recovery Group is to ensure partnership working takes place across the education and ELC sectors whilst we are responding to the C-19 pandemic. With excellent work underway at local level to support CYP in the immediate term, the aim of this group will be able to look beyond the immediate impact to consider, from a strategic and policy perspective, how national and local government can best work with key partners to support the education and ELC sectors moving forward. It is intended that the group would then be able to work alongside existing working groups, such as the Scottish Education Council, to look more closely at the delivery of each aspect.

2. We recommend that members of the group focus primarily on one of the identified work streams outlined below, recognising that there is naturally overlap between areas of focus. Collectively, this will enable the group to respond to key questions, such as:

- How can learners, families and the workforce be best supported through the transition of re-opening schools?
- What opportunities should be considered when creating a 'new normal'?

3. We propose that each of the suggested work streams is considered in the context of short-, medium- and long-term contexts, where:

- Short-term refers to Term 4 and the period that current or similar lockdown restrictions are in place;
- Medium-term refers to a transition period from current lockdown restrictions to re-opening schools for all pupils;
- Long-term refers to when lockdown restrictions are no longer in place, but schools and society are still responding to or readjusting to the impact of C-19.

Work stream 1: TERM 4 LEARNING

- Provision for children of key workers
- Supporting learning in the home, including ASN provision
- Maximising the usefulness of GLOW
- Physical distancing within schools
- Transition into the next academic year (including work with ELC colleagues on transition into P1)
- Supporting disadvantaged learners through Term 4

Work stream 2: PREPARING FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

- Placing requests/deferrals – delays to processes & possible increase in requests to defer
 - How do we support parents, schools and LAs to navigate this?
 - School enrolment
- School building readiness for re-opening
- Physical distancing within schools / A phased re-opening of schools & the impact on disadvantaged children and young people

Work stream 3: CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT

FOR DISCUSSION & AGREEMENT

- Updates to CfE guidance
- Assessment of progress against CfE levels & standardised assessments
- 2020 & 2021 exam diet, qualifications & certification
- The long-term impact on the CfE and learner assessment, including for disadvantaged children and young people
- Partnership with the college sector

Work stream 4: SUPPORTING LEARNERS FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS

- Closing the attainment gap
 - Delivering equity in the short, medium and long term
 - The role of SAC post C-19

Work stream 5: PASTORAL CARE FOR CYP

- Transition into the next academic year
- Positive destinations support for summer leavers
- Providing support to learners most adversely affected by C-19
- Recognising the impact of social isolation on children and young people's wellbeing, and supporting schools to build resilience in their communities recreate the sense of community they are normally able to provide
- Identifying new risks or newly vulnerable children and young people as a consequence of new circumstances
- Providing ASN support to learners and families
- The impact of a phased re-opening of schools on disadvantaged learners

Work stream 6: WORKFORCE SUPPORT

- Supporting school leaders & teaching staff
 - Do teaching staff have the skills, resilience and confidence to teach in new circumstances?
 - Staff wellbeing
- Should Working Time Agreements (WTAs) be revised?
- Supply teachers
- Non-teaching staff

Work stream 7: WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Work with the SNCT on ITE & TIS
- Teacher recruitment and teacher numbers across the sector
 - August retirees
 - Promotion recruitment (creating posts for probationers)
- The impact of a phased re-opening of schools on the workforce

Work stream 8: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT IN A NEW CONTEXT

- Data & improvement planning

FOR DISCUSSION & AGREEMENT

- Collection and use of attainment data

Work stream 9: CRITICAL CHILDCARE

- Ongoing childcare needs children (all ages) of key workers and vulnerable families
- Summer holidays provision for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers
- Role of schools, local authority and PVI nurseries, childminders and out of school care providers
- Funding and charging arrangements

Work stream 10: EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

- Admissions
- Delivery of learning and care
- Workforce development
- Partnership arrangements with PVI providers including childminders
- Family wellbeing and support
- Transition into P1