

ANGUS COUNCIL

ANGUS COUNCIL – 11 NOVEMBER 2014

INSIGHT – SENIOR PHASE BENCHMARKING TOOL

Background

This schedule sets out details regarding the introduction of Insight – the new Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool by the Scottish Government which went live in September 2014.

Curriculum for Excellence is a coherent approach to education for learners of 3-18 years of age. For secondary young people, learning consists of a Broad General Education (BGE) until the end of S3 and a Senior Phase from S4-6. During the Senior Phase young people will continue to develop the four capacities and have opportunities for specialism, depth and rigour while working towards achieving qualifications at the highest level of which they are capable.

The Scottish Government and its partners have developed Insight – the Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool, designed to help a local authorities and secondary schools analyse, compare and improve the performance of young people in the senior phase of Curriculum for Excellence. The new online tool went live in September 2014 and will replace Standard Tables and Charts (STACS), the previous approach used. Members will be familiar with the STACS reports and the increasing concern that they did not represent all attainment given the increasingly expansive range of alternative qualifications gained by young people in Angus. The new Insight tool will help to address this concern.

Insight is a tool for professional reflection and it aims to:

- encourage professional reflection and collaborative working,
- prompt reflective questions by practitioners.

It has been designed to show a rounded picture of performance by displaying a national dashboard which shows the four nationally consistent measures for schools and local authorities, namely:

1. Increasing post-school participation
2. Improving attainment in literacy and numeracy
3. Improving attainment for all
4. Tackling disadvantage by considering how we can 'close the gap' in attainment within different parts of the pupil population

Local dashboards within Insight will contain further information about schools and local authorities, curriculum subjects, courses and learning partners.

A briefing and training session for Members has been organised to allow a more in depth look at Insight. This training session will take place on Friday, 28 November 2014, from 9.30am to 11.00am in the Boardroom, Angus House, Forfar and all Elected Members are cordially invited to attend.

Contact for further information:

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