

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services**

**Educational Services Committee: 15 May 2013**

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**Subject: Strategies for Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing in West Dunbartonshire**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** This report and its appendices inform members about 3 key strategies which are the “responsibility of all” as we take forward Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing in West Dunbartonshire.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1** The committee is recommended to:
- note the content of the report and the 3 strategies at Appendices 1-3.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1** Curriculum for Excellence requires that the experiences and outcomes within Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing are the responsibility of all practitioners regardless of subject or sector.
- 3.2** Learning should be planned across the curriculum to ensure that all experiences and outcomes are delivered within meaningful and relevant contexts for children and young people.
- 3.3** Educational Services has established 3 working groups comprising a range of staff and partners to develop the strategies and to oversee implementation.

### **4. Main Issues**

#### **4.1 Literacy Strategy**

The revised literacy strategy has been drawn up by a core working group with representatives from early years, primary, secondary, Quality Improvement Officer and Psychological Service.

The literacy strategy aims to respond to the Scottish Government’s Literacy Action Plans (2010) vision to raise literacy standards for all from early years to adulthood. It sits within the well established policy frameworks of the Early Years Framework, Curriculum for Excellence and Getting it Right For Every Child.

The literacy strategy emphasises the need to build on West Dunbartonshire Council's previous literacy initiatives to develop good early literacy skills, identify and intervene early with struggling readers and track progress with the re-introduction of the literacy baseline assessment in early years establishments and primary schools.

The strategy aims to contribute to the delivery of Educational Services' key strategic objective to raise attainment by developing more consistent approaches to enhance higher order thinking and literacy skills in our young people across the curriculum and to ensure a coherent approach to teaching and learning across transitions.

## **4.2 Numeracy Strategy**

The strategy aims to support the needs of the young people in West Dunbartonshire by delivering a numeracy curriculum in line with the principles of Curriculum for Excellence to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The numeracy strategy aims to contribute to the delivery of West Dunbartonshire Council's Educational Services' 5 key strategic objectives which include "Raising Attainment and Achievement", "Getting it Right For Every Child" and the "Early Years Framework".

The numeracy strategy has been devised by a core working group whose members included representatives from early years, primary, secondary, quality improvement staff and psychological services. The group has also benefited from advice from our Area Lead Officer from Education Scotland.

The numeracy strategy aims to encourage the development of sound learning and teaching practices to help our young people to develop an active, progressive and problem solving approach to numeracy which will support them for learning, life and work.

## **4.3 Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

The strategy sets out to provide guidance on health and wellbeing within the framework of Curriculum for Excellence.

The health and wellbeing strategy takes account of key Scottish Government policies such as "Achieving Our Potential", the "Early Years Framework", "Equally Well", and "Getting it Right for Every Child".

The health and wellbeing strategy will ensure the local authority is meeting the legal duty outlined in the Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition)(Scotland) Act 2007 where all schools are required to be health promoting.

The health and wellbeing strategy has been produced by a core working group with representation from the early years, primary and secondary schools, psychological services, quality improvement, Community Health Care Partners, and Education Scotland.

## **5. People Implications**

**5.1** There are no issues for personnel as a result of this report.

## **6. Financial Implications**

**6.1** There are no financial implications as a result of this report. The strategies will be funded through the core Educational Services revenue budget.

## **7. Risk Analysis**

**7.1** Failure to establish and implement strategies for Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing would disadvantage our children and young people and would impact negatively on their potential achievement.

## **8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)**

**8.1** An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out and found that there were no equalities issues raised as a consequence of the strategies.

## **9. Consultation**

**9.1** Legal Services and the Section 95 Officer have been consulted in relation to the content of this report.

**9.2** Head Teachers and Education Leaders have been consulted in relation to the strategies.

## **10. Strategic Assessment**

**10.1** This report reflects the Council's aspiration to improve life chances for children and young people which is one of the strategic priorities for 2012 - 2017

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**Appendices:** Appendix 1 – Literacy Strategy  
Appendix 2 – Numeracy Strategy  
Appendix 3 - Curriculum for Excellence 3-18  
Health and Wellbeing Strategy

**Background Papers:** EIA Screening

**Wards Affected:** All Wards