



High Quality Learning and Teaching – Higher PE

Stuart McCracken – Education Scotland HWB National Advisor

For Scotland's learners, with Scotland's educators

High Quality Learning and Teaching - BGE

Secondment to Education Scotland HWB National Advisor:
Curriculum Improvement Cycle

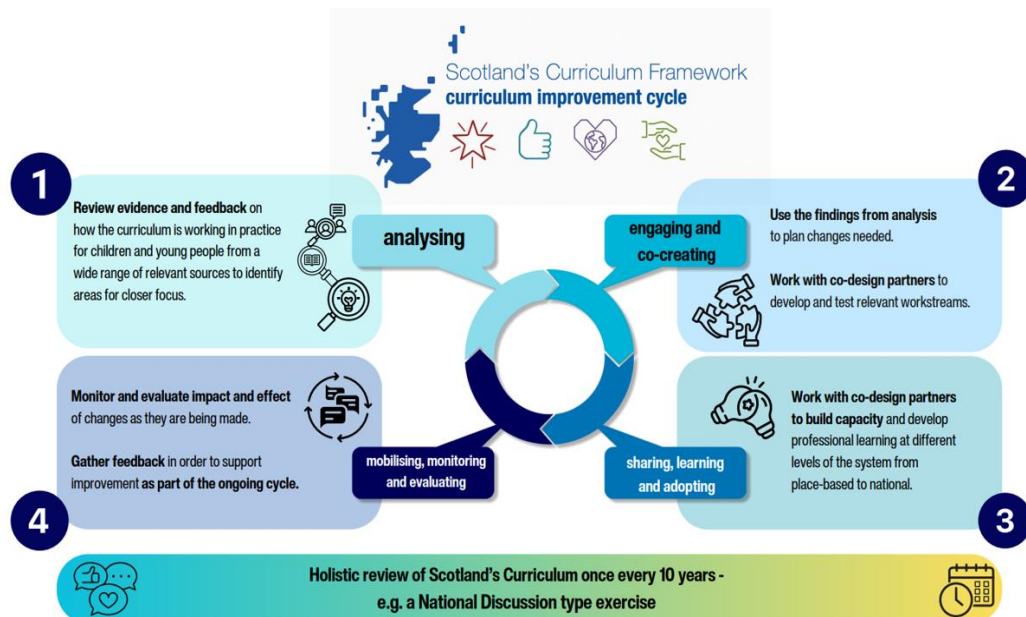
Faculty Head of Health and Wellbeing @Woodfarm HS
SQA N5 Depute Principal Assessor

Feedback from the Physical Education, Physical Activity, and Sport (PEPAS) network meeting highlighted the following question:

"What does high-quality learning and teaching look like in Physical Education?"

Aims:

- ☐ Support the profession to identify and develop a clear understanding of what high-quality learning and teaching looks like across primary, early secondary, and senior phase Physical Education.
- ☐ Engage and collaborate with a diverse range of stakeholders to enhance professional learning and share best practices.
- ☐ Co-create pedagogical approaches and teaching resources developed by subject specialists to support all practitioners



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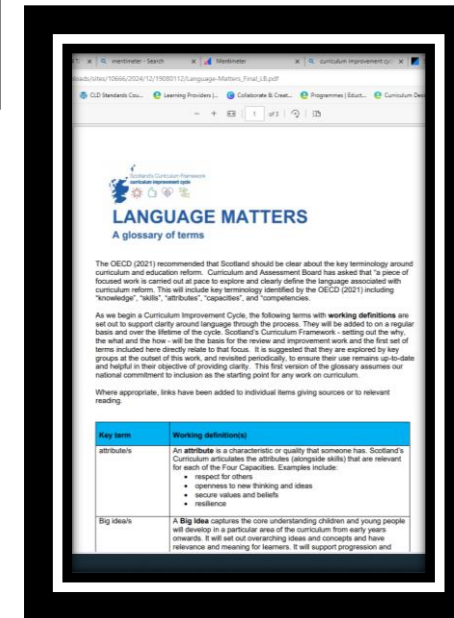
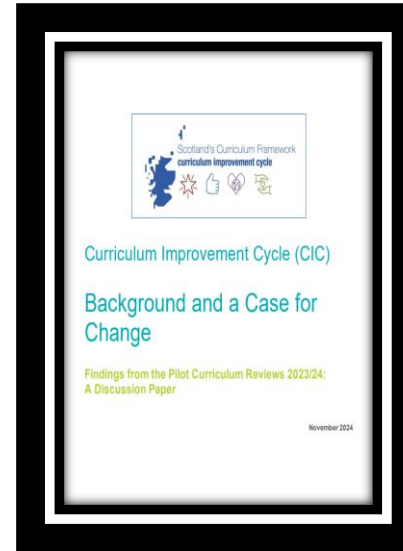
Curriculum Improvement Cycle

Discussion papers:

Paper 1 – Background and a Case for Change

Paper 2 – Towards an evolved technical Framework

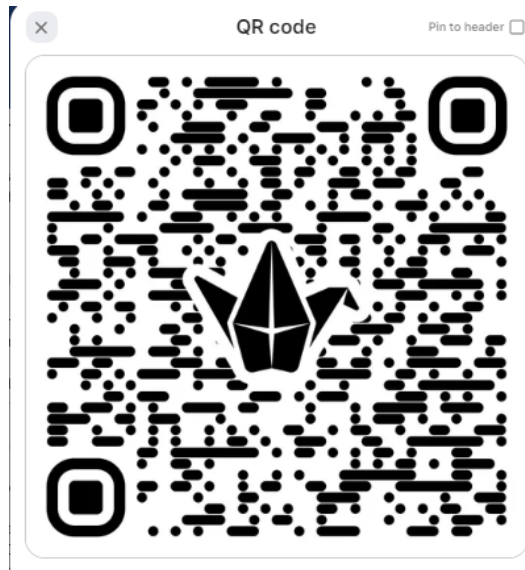
Paper 3 – Language Matters – a glossary of terms



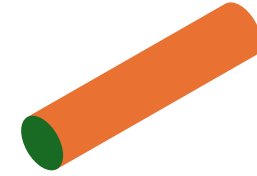
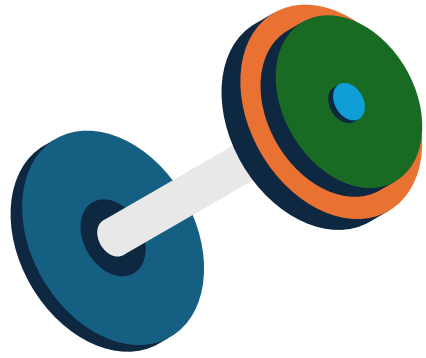
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Padlet for tonight's session

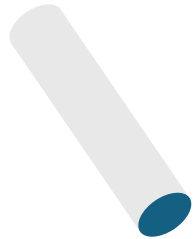


<https://padlet.com/stuartmccracken/education-scotland-higher-pe-the-teaching-and-learning-behind-4wotmfyj3ain1bin>



Ritchie Durno

Trinity High School, South Lanarkshire Council
Faculty Head of Physical Education & Dance
Depute Principal Assessor Higher PE



Higher Overview

June	Variety of team/ individual activities	Factors impacting on all 4 factors
August - October	PDP 1 Softball	Main PDP focus is Physical & Social
October - December	PDP 2 Basketball	Main PDP focus is Physical & Mental/ Emotional
January - April	PDP 3 Badminton	Main PDP focus is selected by pupils

Complete cycle of analysis working towards live performance

4 x practical and 2 x classroom

2 x single periods 2 x double periods

August - October

PDP 1 Softball (Main PDP focus is Physical & Social)

Experience	Class completes basic PDP on softball, experience variety of methods of gathering data, basic approaches, conditioned games and period a week on performance.
Content	Cover less challenging areas e.g describing methods of gathering data, approaches, recording & monitoring and evaluating. A lot of describe and explain responses.
Assessment	End of term assessment similar to Section 1 completed Live Performance 1

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

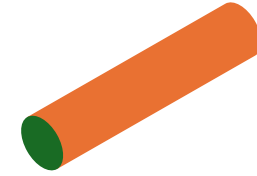
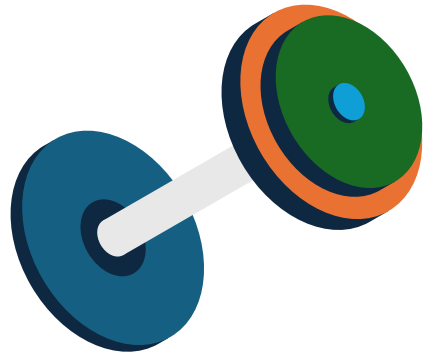
PDP 2 Basketball (Main PDP focus is Physical & Mental/ Emotional)

Experience	Class completes PDP on basketball, experience different methods of gathering data, more focus on pupil created PDP, experience different approaches, conditioned games and period a week on performance.
Content	Re-peat cycle of analysis but look at more complex areas of mandatory content and focus more on explain/ evaluate. Scenario introduced.
Assessment	End of term assessment similar to Section 2 & 3 completed. Live Performance 2

JANUARY - APRIL

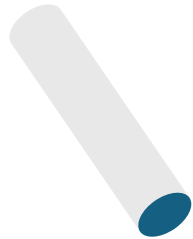
PDP 3 Badminton (Main PDP focus is selected by pupils)

Experience	Class completes full PDP on badminton, experience different methods of gathering data, pupil created PDP, detailed training diary throughout.
Content	Areas of mandatory content re-visited from PDP 1 & 2 and most complex areas have greater focus.
Assessment	Full prelim (2.5 hours section 1, 2 & 3) early January Any remaining Live Performances

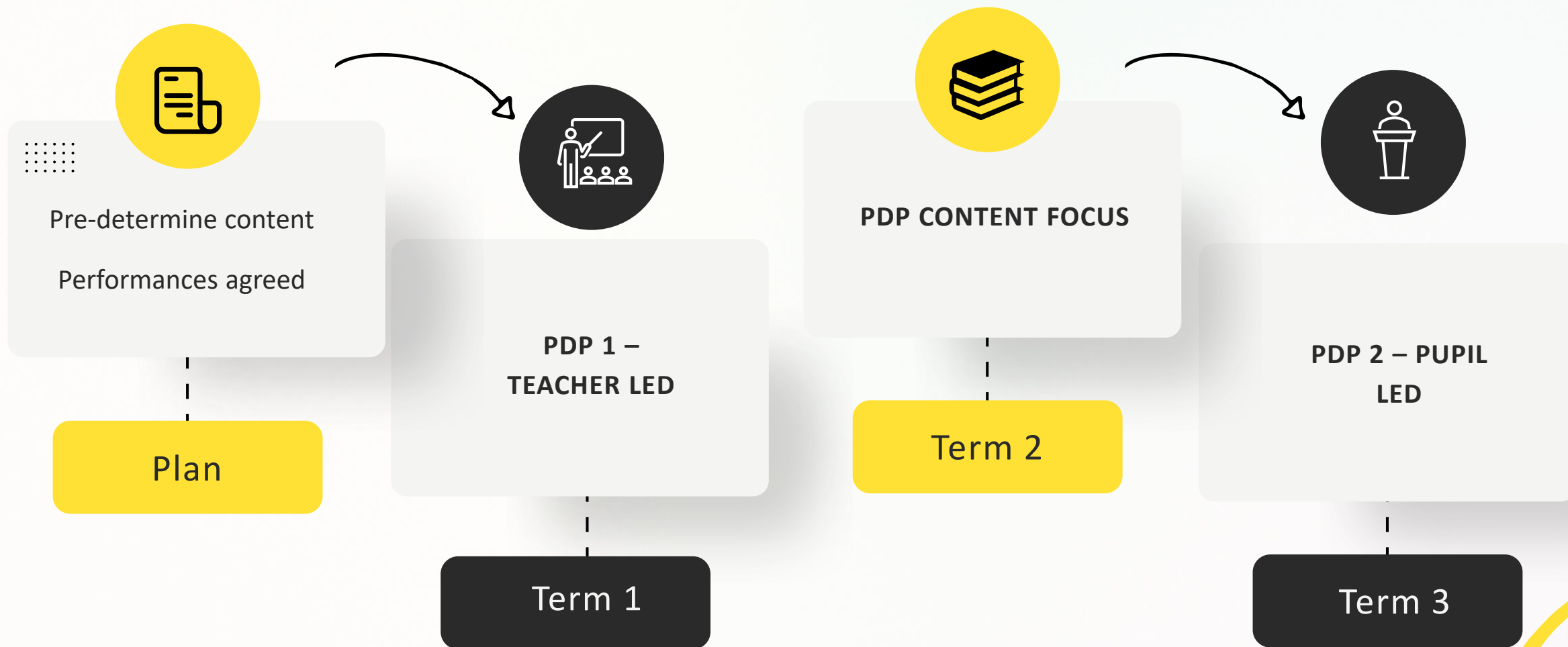


Kyle Haldane

Graeme High School, Falkirk
Higher Team Leader & Visiting Verifier



HIGHER PE OVERVIEW





JUNE

- 3 sub-factors selected per factor.
- Methods of Gathering Data, Approaches to Develop, Monitoring Methods and Evaluation Methods pre-determined.
- Practical Performances agreed and pencilled in.



JUNE

PDP 1 – TEACHER LED



August:

Activity 1 - Team

Theory: learning (created) definitions of factors, and how they impact performance.

September - October:

Activity 1

Theory: PDP 2 factors. Focus on Describe and Explain

**Unit 1 assessment: Identify, Describe and Explain (2 factors)
(Section 1) - Pupils given “focus” command word and receive
differentiated tasks / homework.**

Term 1

PDP CONTENT
FOCUS



October - Christmas:
Activity 2 - Individual
Theory: Focus on Describe and Explain.

**Unit 2 assessment: Identify, Describe and
Explain (4 factors) (Sections 1 and 3)**

Term 2

PDP 2 – Pupil Led



Jan - Feb:

Activity 3 - Personalised for class.

Theory: Creation of PDP. Focus on Describe (C/D), Analyse (A/B) and Evaluate.

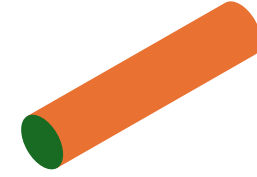
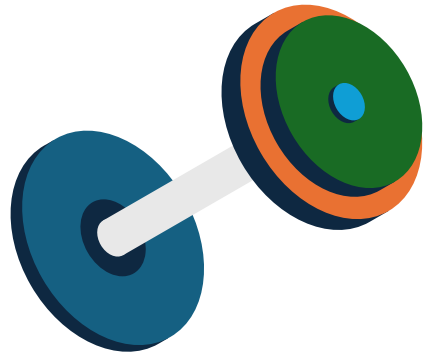
End of Feb - Full Prelim (Sections 1, 2 and 3)

March - April:

Activity 3

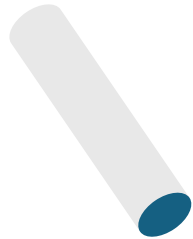
Theory: Mop up of content, key areas as identified from prelim data.

Term 3



Ashley Montgomery

McLaren High School, Stirling Council
Curriculum Leader- Creative and Aesthetic
N5 Senior Team Leader



Higher PE at McLaren High School

Key Strengths

Stirling Council Network
Higher Markers
Approaches to learning and teaching
Practical Activities
National 5 Presentation

Higher PE at McLaren High School

Stirling Council Network

Working Groups each have a focus e.g. Higher, National, BGE, Dance

Creation of shared assessments/prelims/ marking instructions

Moderation/ verification of assessments/ prelims

Sharing good practice

Tapping into expertise of Higher markers- they would lead the moderation/ verification of the assessment papers

Higher PE at McLaren High School

Higher Markers

We have three Higher markers in the PE department (two are currently marking).

Better understanding of how to access marks- focussing on structure

We have been able to pick up hints and tips (similar to National 5 e.g 3F CAR)

Higher PE at McLaren High School



Approaches to learning and teaching

June is key- candidates typically finish the portfolio mid March and do not return to PE until change of TT in June. We focus on research based tasks where pupils can lead the learning. Group work- each group has one factor and they take the class through FIP, a method of gathering data and an approach.

Prior to the assessment diet in December, staff will complete various revision techniques with the Higher class to allow them to identify what work for them.

SQA Timed Questions- we start this in August

Video of lessons that have been completed in school so pupils can refer back to them as often as they like as, if it is just slides, it can be difficult for them to understand what they need to do from slides themselves.

Higher PE at McLaren High School



Approaches to learning and teaching

Creating a bank of answers and pupils will mark the answer provided. If they give the question 3/4 they then to create the fourth mark.

Using Google Docs, pupil's work in groups to create a model answer. 'Pupil A' writes the first mark and then 'Pupil B' adds their line and so on.

We share model answers from pupil assessments so they can compare their answers to them.

This year our Higher pupils have utilised Flashcards (not a new thing) but it seems to have worked really well for them.

Self reported grades

Higher PE at McLaren High School

Practical Activities

Similar to other schools, the reintroduction of the second practical activity will potentially impact on overall attainment. This has been a focus of ours and we have carefully considered what activities pupils can perform well in. We have also used our Core PE periods to support performance development.

Main activity N5/Higher- Touch Rugby

Volleyball (Higher)

Introduction of Handball (2025-2026) for a second practical activity. This is currently being delivered in S3 to build knowledge and skills as they progress into S4.

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National 5

Pupils working towards N5 in both practical AND portfolio.

Focus on written answers e.g 2a. We ask pupils to go that one step further. If they have inaccurate data, what impact will this have? It is important that they do not get into the habit of using the phrase 'inaccurate data' without knowing what it means.

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Feedback/next steps:

- Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport network meeting – Tuesday 21st of January 4pm – 5pm
- Next session – March 2025 TBC
- Feedback:
- https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKb6Kv_PlwT1LtldfNr4BliZUOUdUM0tBSVhVQUhESjZOTDlPNkITVTJHMi4u



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Thank you!!!!!!!!!!



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