

Learning and Teaching in 2021 and beyond

Session 1 – 15 March 2021

Session 2 – 22 March 2021 (see page 4 below)

Theme: Health and Wellbeing

Question 1

Mental wellness is a pre-requisite for being able to learn and achieve. Will additional mental health support be available as part of recovery planning for staff and young people's wellbeing?

Theme: SQA and Assessment

Question 2

How do you see the future of qualifications and assessment within the Scottish system? Is it time to revitalise the qualifications model to be fairer, more inclusive, and to better allow young people to demonstrate their learning over time?

Question 3

Do you think that the Alternative Certification Model will ensure that our young people receive appropriate certification this year?

Theme: Digital learning and teaching

Question 4

What aspects of remote and blended learning do you see as being valuable to retain when moving back to in school learning and what opportunities and challenges (particularly in relation to workload) does this open up for the profession moving forward?

Question 5

Covid-19 highlighted the vast digital divide across Scotland. Do you agree that it needs to be mandatory for all school age pupils to be provided with access to wifi and a digital device and that teachers should receive training on how to use these devices in their practice?

Theme: Equity

Question 6

What measures will be put in place to help close the widening attainment gap caused by Covid-19, especially for children who are most disadvantaged, for example, will PEF and SAC funding be continuing?

Question 7

What additional measures and guidance are being put in place to support learners with additional support needs, especially considering some of these learners have been unable to engage independently with remote learning?

Theme: Curriculum

Question 8

I wonder if this would be a great time to ignite new thinking and be innovative with regards to Scotland's Curriculum. Will you support a continued focus on core curriculum and interdisciplinary learning allowing a de-cluttered curriculum rationale? Or are we in danger in of narrowing the curriculum in an attempt to address subject specific gaps? What is the future of CfE?

Question 9

What more can we do to further promote the parity of esteem between vocational and academic qualifications so that employers, college and university institutions recognise and fully understand their worth, value and relevance. How will vocational qualifications such as Foundation Apprenticeships be supported through the phased return to school arrangements?

Theme: Early Learning and Childcare

Question 10

What consideration is the government giving to re-imagining those first precious years of children's education? How do we ensure that the messages of playful pedagogies and outdoor learning continue amid a pressure to 'focus' on literacy and maths when all pupils return?

Theme: Education Scotland Inspections**Question 11**

What will the scrutiny process look like from Education Scotland if and when it resumes?

Theme: Staffing and NQT Support**Question 12**

How are those who benefited from last year's funding, with temporary jobs, supposed to feel confident in gaining employment in the upcoming school year when funding is ending and councils are saying they are at their capacity. Has there been consideration of a retention scheme or the need for additional staffing to support recovery?

Question 13

Some students and probationer teachers have had considerable disruption to their school placements and have not had the traditional experience they would normally have. Will there be additional support for NQT's and Mentors in the coming session?

Session 2 – 22 March 2021

Theme: partnership working

Question 1

How do we improve partnerships between various sectors of the education system, particularly with CLD, and make better use of available data to support all learners in a post-COVID Scotland?

Question 2

How does the Government consult with those working on the ground about the decisions made in education?

Theme: Curriculum

Question 3

What more can we do to further promote the parity of esteem between vocational and academic qualifications so that employers, college and university institutions recognise and fully understand their worth, value and relevance. How will vocational qualifications such as Foundation Apprenticeships be supported through the phased return to school arrangements?

Theme: Innovation

Question 4

Would the Scottish Government see any merit in utilising some of the online learning resources developed during this past year to create a national, online school, with a full suite of certificated courses, for young people who have barriers to attending school in person?

Theme: Incorporation of UNCRC

Question 5

What does the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots Law mean for learning and teaching. What opportunities does this open up?

Theme: Curriculum and Assessment**Question 6**

How do we better align our curriculum and exam/assessment processes? There is a big change from BGE to NQ.

Theme: Early Learning and Childcare**Question 7**

What are your thoughts with regards to a kindergarten stage for children meaning they would begin formal education aged 6 or 7?

Question 8

What are the plans for moving forward with resuming the 1140 hours?

Theme: Teaching workforce**Question 9**

What are governments thoughts/plans for encouraging diversity in teacher applicants? How does the government plan to encourage disabled, BAME, LGBTQ+ people to enter the profession?