

[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@scis.org.uk>
Sent: 25 September 2015 12:35
To: [redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: C&YP Act Revised draft GIRFEC Guidance - early redrafting for comment

Dear [redacted],

My colleague, [redacted], passed me the Revised draft GIRFEC Guidance. I have a couple of comments.

Firstly, I would be interested to know if the 'Glossary of Terms' section will be included elsewhere in the Guidance. Secondly, feedback SCIS received from schools suggested that they found the examples in paragraph 2.7.7 particularly useful. I note that these are absent from the reviewed draft Guidance and hope they will be included at some point within the Guidance.

Best wishes,

[redacted]
Policy and Liaison Officer
T: 0131 524 [redacted]
www.scis.org.uk



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From: John Edward [mailto:John.Edward@scis.org.uk]
Sent: 03 February 2015 09:16
To: Robertson FMG (Fiona)
Subject: John Edward has shared a file with you using Dropbox

Dear Fiona

We did not need to use this, at least not yet, but herewith the statement we prepared. Comments from SLS and EIS have been helpful clarification too.

Kind regards

John

Here's a link to "SCIS statement on Post Results Service.pdf" in my Dropbox:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/2re2u7h773cjejb/SCIS%20statement%20on%20Post%20Results%20Service.pdf?dl=0>

Sent from my iPhone

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29 January 2015

SCIS statement on SQA Post Results Service

Following further questions, in the Scottish Parliament and elsewhere, on the Post Results Service which replaced the appeals system for Scottish Qualification Authority examinations in 2014, John Edward, SCIS Director, made the following observations:

"The new Post Results Service changes absolutely nothing in the relationship between pupils, families and independent schools. As the changes were introduced, schools made clear to families the conditions under which such checks would be supported and finance plays to no part in those academic decisions. What has changed is that far fewer requests for a check or remark are being made than under the previous system.

Individual parents simply cannot pay directly for checks of scripts. They do not get a "second chance" that others are prevented from, nor do they get special access to the system. Only the school can request such a check, and only the school will be invoiced by the SQA if no change is made to the grade awarded. Schools and families are acutely aware that grades can now be changed downwards, as well as up, so there is no risk-free encouragement to "gamble" on such a request.

It should also be remembered, thanks to the substantial widening access to schools made possible by means-tested assistance, that no assumptions can be made about the economic ability of individual parents to pay – even if the school or SQA allowed them to do so.

Pupils in all schools in Scotland study hard and sit exams to accredit their learning and progress to the next phase of life. They are all Scotland's learners. It is always unfortunate when assumptions are leapt to about one sector over another without the slightest recourse to supporting evidence."

SCIS

[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@scis.org.uk>
Sent: 01 October 2015 16:09
To: [redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: C&YP Act Revised draft GIRFEC Guidance Named Person Service - early redrafting for comment

Hi [redacted],

Please see SCIS' comments below.

Best wishes,

[redacted]

[redacted]
Policy and Liaison Officer
T: 0131 524 [redacted]
www.scis.org.uk



General comments

The revised guidance appears to be much more integrated and linked together as a whole document. SCIS also welcomes the increased emphasis on the voice of parents and children and young people.

Specific comments

4.1.4

We welcome the increased details of the Named Person Service. The list provided is very comprehensive. In particular, the emphasis on partnership working is positive and SCIS hopes this can be supported by joint training opportunities

4.1.3

This paragraph mentions recognised academic and professional qualifications and skills. It is unclear who this would be recognised by.

4.1.4

SCIS is concerned that the point about understanding 'What constitutes a 'targeted intervention' has been removed. This will play an important part in the Named Person duties.

We would also welcome clarification that the bullet point on information sharing has been moved to the information sharing chapter as opposed to having been omitted altogether.

4.1.15

It is pleasing to see national support materials are specifically mentioned

4.1.16

It is positive to see that children who live outwith Scotland and who attend Independent Schools are mentioned.

4.1.18

It is encouraging to see the reference to dialogue between the Named Person and other professionals.

4.1.27

SCIS welcomes the mention of the role of the Lead Professional. However, we believe this paragraph would still benefit from guidance about the retention period for information regarding a child's wellbeing (although we realise this may be present in another part of the guidance)

Continuity of Named Person Service

SCIS hopes that a mention of children who live outwith Scotland during school holidays could be added to this section.

6.1.4

It is positive that the role of information sharing with other services has been recognised.

It would be helpful to know if there will be more clarity on what is meant by the term 'timely'. SCIS is concerned it could mean different things to different people.

Named Person Service for children who leave school before their 18th birthday

We welcome the increased focus on the communication of information on their available services. However, it is still unclear if information must be communicated from independent schools to local authorities if there are no wellbeing concerns about children

More than one Named Person involved with a family

The situation around step/half siblings in different local authorities or outside Scotland remains unclear

Duty to help Named Person

The guidance still lacks information on what routes can be taken if a request is refused.

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This email has been received from an external party and

[redacted]

From: SSLN
Sent: 09 November 2015 14:23
To: '[redacted]@scis.org.uk'
Subject: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy 2016 - Copy of registration letter to Headteachers

Dear [redacted]

I refer to previous correspondence regarding the Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy – Literacy 2016.

Please find attached a copy of letter and guidance issued to schools by post on 5th November. The letter provides Headteachers with information on the 2016 survey and how to register their schools participation by 27th November 2015.

I hope you find this information helpful.



SSLN 2016 -
Registration - Le...



SCOTTISH
SURVEY OF LITE...

Regards

[redacted]

Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy Team
Scottish Government
2-D South (mail 28)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
tel: 0131 244 [redacted]
fax: 0131 244 0354

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/SSLN>

The Headteacher



5th November 2015

Dear Headteacher

SCOTTISH SURVEY OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY – LITERACY 2016

Following the recent announcement by the First Minister on the National Improvement Framework, I am now in a position to confirm arrangements regarding the Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy – Literacy 2016.

The First Minister outlined that the National Improvement Framework will be supported by the introduction of new national standardised assessments for pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3, focusing on literacy and numeracy. The new assessments would be piloted in the Challenge Authorities in 2016, before national use in 2017 and that over time they would replace the SSLN. Given this timeframe, the SSLN 2016 is integral to providing a national picture of performance in literacy in Scottish schools.

Information attached in Annex A provides further information on the National Improvement Framework and the transition from the SSLN to the new assessments as part of the Framework.

SSLN 2016

Given Ministers' commitment to the SSLN, the literacy survey will be administered in Scottish schools in May 2016. Sampled P4, P7 and S2 pupils participating in the survey will be asked to complete a written booklet, an online assessment, participate in either a group discussion activity or submit two pieces of class based writing, and complete an online pupil questionnaire. Teachers will also be asked to complete an online questionnaire on their views and experiences of teaching literacy. There will be no requirement for schools to pre-test numeracy materials.

As with previous surveys it is anticipated that the written booklet, online assessment and questionnaires will be administered by teachers in participating schools. In line with the

2014 literacy survey, external Support Assessors will conduct the listening and talking assessments.

The Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS) supports the SSLN and recognises the importance of involving independent schools fully in the survey in order to provide a complete picture of attainment across Scotland

We greatly appreciate the help of everyone who is involved in the SSLN. This has contributed directly to developing a picture of national performance in literacy and numeracy, and to the development of the SSLN Professional Learning Resources developed for practitioners by Education Scotland. The most recent addition to these growing set of resources was the publication of the Listening and Talking resource on 21st October, with resources on Reading and Writing to follow in due course.

Previous published survey results are available at www.gov.scot/sslN. The results of the 2015 numeracy survey which took place in May will be published in Spring 2016. The 2016 literacy survey results will be published in Spring 2017.

SSLN 2016 Registration

Your school will receive an email from SQA by **13th November** asking you to register for the SSLN 2016 through www.ssln.org.uk. The email will contain a username and password unique to your school. If you have not received the email by 13th November, please contact the SSLN Helpline on 0345 213 6964.

You will be asked to complete a short online form that should take no more than five minutes of your time. Step by step guidance on completing the registration form is provided with this letter. Further details on the required number of pupils are also provided in the registration guidance.

All mainstream primary and secondary schools are expected to register for the survey, and given the small number of pupils involved per school we hope that all schools will participate. However, if your school is unable to participate then please indicate this and provide a reason through the online registration form. We are seeking your cooperation in completing the registration form by the **27th November 2015**.

Further information, including key dates for the SSLN and details on the administration of the survey in your school, can be found at www.ssln.org.uk.

Further information on the National Improvement Framework can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/NationalImprovementFramework>.

The time and commitment from schools is highly valued and we are very grateful for your continued support in the delivery of the SSLN in your school.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

[redacted]

Head of Learning Analysis
Education Analysis

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
www.gov.scot



Why is SSLN 2016 important?

The SSLN remains the only national source of attainment information for the Broad General Education, and school participation in the SSLN 2016 will provide valuable information on literacy performance at P4, P7 and S2. Using the same methodology as 2014 will enable trends over time to be produced for listening and talking performance for the first time, as well as providing three year trend data for reading and writing.

What will the SSLN 2016 involve?

Pupils participating in the survey will be asked to complete a reading assessment (a written booklet and an online assessment) plus either a writing assessment (based on two pieces of class based writing) or a listening and talking assessment. As with SSLN 2014, the listening and talking assessment will be a facilitated group discussion, administered by a visiting Support Assessor.

How will Group Discussion Support Assessors be recruited?

As with SSLN Literacy 2014, SQA will be seeking to recruit Group Discussion Support Assessors and will shortly be in contact with SCIS. All SSLN Group Discussion Support Assessors who successfully complete all aspects of the role are presented by SQA for the award of Professional Recognition in Assessment by the General Teaching Council of Scotland.

How does the SSLN fit within the National Improvement Framework?

The National Improvement Framework for Scottish education brings together key information to evaluate performance and informs the action taken to improve attainment and wider outcomes for every child in Scotland. The Framework outlines the introduction of new national standardised assessments for pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3, focusing on literacy and numeracy. The First Minister highlighted that the assessments would be piloted in the Challenge Authorities in 2016, before national use in 2017 and that, over time, they would replace the SSLN. Given this timeframe, the SSLN 2016 is integral to providing a national picture of performance in literacy in Scottish schools.

How will the information gathered as part of the SSLN be used?

The findings from the survey are a vital source of information, which is used to inform targeted resources for practitioners. As with previous years, Education Scotland will use an in-depth analysis of the results to identify strengths and areas for improvement. These materials align with all relevant publications that support the development of literacy and numeracy within Curriculum for Excellence.

SCOTTISH SURVEY OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY – LITERACY 2016

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Please follow these steps to check and update your school information and complete registration for SSLN 2016.

Step 1: Go to the SSLN web area.

Please use the following link to the login page <http://www.ssn.org.uk/moodle/user/edit.php>

Step 2: Log in.

Log in using your SSLN username and password (these will be issued separately by email) and you will be redirected to your school's 'Edit profile' page.

Step 3: Register – Check / Update Sections A to D.

Section A: School details

This will be pre-populated with any information we already hold. Please check this information and amend or add where necessary. Once you have checked your school details select 'Yes' from the drop-down menu.

Section B: Pupil numbers

Select the appropriate response from each of the drop-down menus for each of the survey stages P4, P7 and S2.

Section C: SSLN participation

Please confirm whether you are participating in the SSLN 2016 by selecting 'Yes' or 'No' from the drop-down menu.

If you are not participating please give a brief reason in the box provided.

Schools with only 1 pupil at P4 and P7 or with less than 5 pupils at S2 are not obliged to participate but may do so if they wish.

Section D: SSLN Coordinator Details

If you are participating please enter the name, position and email address for your school's SSLN Coordinator twice and select whether you may require Gaelic survey materials using the drop-down menu.

Once you have completed Sections A to D, click 'Update profile' to save your entries.

Step 4: Final Check

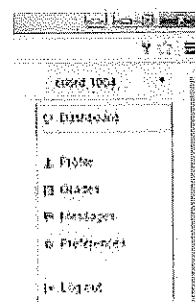
After you click 'Update profile' you will be taken to your updated school profile. This allows you to check what you have entered. If you notice any errors in your school details please click the 'Edit profile' link in the left hand column to get back to the editing page and repeat Step 3.

Step 5: Log out

Select log out from the drop down menu at the top right of your screen.

Thank you for updating your details!

If you have any problems please call the SSLN helpline on **0345 213 6964** or email ssln@sqa.org.uk.



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 tober-2015 16:15
To: [redacted]
Subject: SCOTTISH SURVEY OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2016

Dear [redacted]

Please see attached letter which advises of continued arrangements for the Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy 2016.

SSLN 2016 - Letter
to SCIS 291...

Regards

[redacted]
Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy Team
Scottish Government
2-D South (mail 28)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
tel: 0131 244 [redacted]
fax: 0131 244 0354

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/SSLN>

Director-General Learning & Justice
Education Analytical Services Division

T: 0131-244 [redacted] F: 0131-244 0354
E: ssln@gov.scot



[redacted]
Scottish Council for Independent Schools



29th October 2015

Dear Director

SCOTTISH SURVEY OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY (SSLN) – LITERACY 2016

Following last month's announcement by the First Minister on the National Improvement Framework, I am now in a position to confirm arrangements regarding the Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy – Literacy 2016.

As you are aware, the National Improvement Framework outlines the introduction of new national standardised assessments for pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3, focusing on literacy and numeracy. The First Minister highlighted that the assessments would be piloted in the Challenge Authorities in 2016, before national use in 2017 and that over time they would replace the SSLN. Given this timeframe, the SSLN 2016 is integral to providing a national picture of performance in literacy in Scottish schools. The SSLN team will shortly be contacting Headteachers asking them to confirm their school's participation in the 2016 survey. Schools will be asked to register online via the SSLN web area (www.ssln.org.uk). We greatly appreciate the support of the Scottish Council for Independent Schools in previous surveys. It is important that independent schools are fully involved in the SSLN in order to provide a complete picture of attainment across Scotland. We would therefore welcome your continued support for the 2016 survey.

Information attached in Annex A provides further information on the National Improvement Framework and the transition from the SSLN to the new assessments as part of the Framework.

In line with the 2014 literacy survey, SSLN 2016 will assess pupil performance in literacy at stages P4, P7 and S2, based on First, Second and Third CfE levels respectively. Pupils participating in the survey will be asked to complete a written booklet and an online assessment, participate in either a group discussion activity or submit two pieces of class based writing, and complete an online pupil questionnaire. Teachers will also be asked to complete an online questionnaire on their views and experiences of teaching literacy. There will be no requirement for schools to pre-test numeracy materials.

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
www.gov.scot



The SSLN will continue to inform the development of the SSLN Professional Learning Resources, based on in-depth findings from the survey, available on the Education Scotland website.

Thank you for your continued support in delivering the SSLN.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

Dr Audrey MacDougall
Deputy Director
Analysis, Intelligence and Performance

Why is SSLN 2016 important?

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What will the SSLN 2016 involve?

Pupils participating in the survey will be asked to complete a reading assessment (a written booklet and an online assessment) plus either a writing assessment (based on two pieces of class based writing) or a listening and talking assessment. As with SSLN 2014, the listening and talking assessment will be a facilitated group discussion, administered by a visiting Support Assessor.

How will Group Discussion Support Assessors be recruited?

As with SSLN Literacy 2014, SQA will be seeking to recruit Group Discussion Support Assessors and will shortly be in contact with Directors of Education. All SSLN Group Discussion Support Assessors who successfully complete all aspects of the role are presented by SQA for the award of Professional Recognition in Assessment by the General Teaching Council of Scotland.

How does the SSLN fit within the National Improvement Framework?

The National Improvement Framework for Scottish education brings together key information to evaluate performance and informs the action taken to improve attainment and wider outcomes for every child in Scotland. The Framework outlines the introduction of new national standardised assessments for pupils in P1, P4, P7 and S3, focusing on literacy and numeracy. The First Minister highlighted that the assessments would be piloted in the Challenge Authorities in 2016, before national use in 2017 and that, over time, they would replace the SSLN. Given this timeframe, the SSLN 2016 is integral to providing a national picture of performance in literacy in Scottish schools.

How will the information gathered as part of the SSLN be used?

The findings from the survey are a vital source of information, which is used to inform targeted resources for practitioners. As with previous years, Education Scotland will use an in-depth analysis of the results to identify strengths and areas for improvement. These materials align with all relevant publications that support the development of literacy and numeracy within Curriculum for Excellence.

[redacted])

From: John Edward <john.edward@scis.org.uk>
Sent: 27 November 2015 17:51
To: [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot;
[redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot
Cc: Robertson FMG (Fiona)
Subject: LETTER TO FM SCIS, 27 November 2015
Attachments: LETTER TO FM SCIS.pdf

Dear All

Please find attached a copy of a letter sent to Ministers this afternoon at the request of our member schools.

Do let me know if you require a paper copy.

Kind regards

John



John Edward
Director
Scottish Council of Independent Schools
61 Dublin Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6NL
Tel: [redacted]
Mo [redacted]
www.scis.org.uk

*twitter @SCISschools/@SCIScpd
2015 SCIS CPD Programme*

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