

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Lifelong Learning Committee – 29 May 2013

PERTH CITY CAMPUS AND VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on the Lifelong Learning Committee agreement in August 2012 (Report no 12/319 refers) to establish and develop a Perth City Campus approach to aspects of the Senior Phase in the four Perth Secondary schools, and to the continued development of a virtual learning environment. It was agreed that a progress report be made to the Lifelong Learning Committee at the end of the school session 2012/13.

1 BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The Perth City Campus development intended to develop a common timetable and access to increased subject choices across all four secondary schools in the City of Perth for session 2013 /14.
- 1.2 The key benefits for this initiative were identified as:
- attainment and achievement levels of young people will rise;
 - a wider and more equitable range of learning options will be available to meet the learning needs of Senior Phase pupils;
 - learning opportunities will be more flexible and accessible;
 - the relationships and cooperation between our young people and schools will improve;
 - resources will be used more efficiently; and
 - the collegiate approach across the schools and with Perth College will be further strengthened.
- 1.3 Head Teachers from the four Secondary schools are core members of the Programme Board and are the consultative links with the schools involved. A teacher representative from the JNCT also attends.
- 1.4 Key stakeholders including staff, pupils and Parent Council representatives have been informed of developments. There is an on-going commitment to ensure continued communication and consultation as the programme develops further.

2 PROGRESS UPDATE

- 2.1 A coherent communications plan has been developed to keep all stakeholders informed. All parents have been informed by schools and Parent Councils are regularly kept informed of progress. This has been an ongoing and essential part of the development. Feedback has been positive. All staff

have been given regular updates by the Headteacher and Depute Headteacher (Campus). A meeting of the teachers involved in the campus courses has been held and further meetings are planned to involve the “Host” school teachers and the “Base” school teachers to discuss continuity, progression and support for pupils. Senior pupils were consulted about course options and this information was used to identify suitable areas for campus provision. The Project Leader has met with groups of senior pupils to seek their views about further developments and opportunities.

- 2.2 A range of campus courses have now been identified and offered to Senior Pupils as part of their course option choices for the forthcoming session. These include courses in Biology, Business Management, Drama, Physics, Spanish, Applied Mathematics, Graphical Communication, Geography, Physical Education, Beginners Mandarin, Beginners Gaelic, Beginners Italian, Childcare, Modern Studies, Computing, French, Art, Psychology, Automotive Skills, Beauty Therapy and General Insurance. See Appendix 1 Pupil Uptake
- 2.3 Virtual Learning (VLE) opportunities are also being developed and will be offered in respect of the following e-courses: Social Media, Higher Childcare, Web Developer, Starting and Building a Business, Pathway to Medicine, Pathway to Law, Games Developer, Digital Creativity, Beginners Spanish, Beginners Mandarin, App Developer. All Perth and Kinross secondary schools will have access to these on line courses.
- 2.4 The work of the Confucius Classroom (which is based in Perth High) will be expanded. The campus schools are exploring the possibility of providing the new ‘language for work and life’ courses.
- 2.5 Work has been completed on an eProspectus (bit.ly/perthcitycampuspkc) which is accessible online for pupils and parents of each school. This has been publicised directly and via school websites. Electronic Course Choice has been developed for use this academic year and this allows Guidance staff to see where vacancies exist in the Campus subjects. This very significantly increases options for all senior pupils in Perth City.
- 2.6 A comprehensive induction process for young people has been planned for June and again in August. This will involve preparation in the base school followed by a supported visit to the Host school. A video of each school is being made by senior pupils to be used in the induction process to welcome pupils to the Host schools.
- 2.7 Plans are in place for Personal and Pastoral Support for those young people who move between schools; this is crucial if the project is to be successful. An extensive series of protocols have been developed to support the pupils, parents and staff covering aspects such as “What to do if a pupil is unwell in a host school” and “How to liaise with Guidance in a base school”. See Appendix 2 FAQs

- 2.8 Other protocols have been developed including Reporting to parents, Parents Evenings, Information Evenings for Parents and pupils, Transfer of information about pupils with ASN.
- 2.9 Pupil Reports will be written and issued through SEEMIS in line with the host school's Calendar. Parents will be invited to host school Parents Evenings.
- 2.10 SEEMIS Registration will allow pupils to be registered within whichever establishment they are studying. This will also allow the receiving establishment to access relevant pupil information. Relevant Perth College / UHI staff will be able to access the SEEMIS system as part of its important role in supporting the city campus programme.
- 2.11 Travel between schools has been planned and all pupils will have a Personal Travel Plan. The council's Public Transport Unit is investigating options and it is hoped that the Young Scot Smart card can be utilised to access buses to travel between schools or to their homes after school when they cannot access School Transport.
- 2.12 In addition to previous references to e learning, the overall development of the Virtual Learning Environment is making very good progress with the launch of 'Our cloud' (bit.ly/ourcloudpkc) in January. This site pulls together a range of e learning sites such as TedEd and iTunesU and it also hosts a wide range of revision materials and links to revision sites. All schools have been made aware of it and a link is on ERIC for staff. Parents have been informed through school websites.

3 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Perth City Campus project and the further development of virtual learning environments aims to deliver an enhanced educational experience with improved opportunities for choice, achievement and attainment for all pupils within the Perth City area by working in partnership to maximise the use of the resources available .
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Committee:
- (i) Notes the progress made in planning for the implementation of the Perth City campus and the development of the Virtual Learning Environment; and
 - (ii) Requests a further progress report on campus developments in October 2014.

Author(s)

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Approved

Name	Designation	Signature
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Date 13 May 2013		

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E-mail: ecsgeneralenquiries@pkc.gov.uk



Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The undernoted table should be completed for all reports. Where the answer is 'yes', the relevant section(s) should also be completed

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Yes
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	None
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	Yes

1. Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan

1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2013-2023 and Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013/2018 set out five strategic objectives:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to objective no (ii).

1.2 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Policy Framework in respect of the following key policy area:

- Learning: Realising Potential

2. Resource Implications

Financial

2.1 Any financial implications contained within this report will be contained within each school's budget, or from the £195k allocated by Council to support the programme's start up costs (Strategic Policy and Resources Committee – 28 March 2012, Report 12/136). This is distributed as follows:

- Project Leader costs and Virtual Learning Education Support Officer staff costs (secondments) - £115k.
- Allocation to Secondary schools to support planning and implementation – £80k.

Workforce

2.2 None

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 None

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA

Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

The proposals have been considered under the Act, however, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are requested to note the contents of the report only and the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

4. Communication

A communications plan has been developed to take forward the Perth City Campus and Virtual Learning Environment.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1- Pupil Uptake

Appendix 2 - FAQs

Appendix 1

Subject	Host	No.	PA	PHS	PGS	St J RC	PCC Nos
Col D							
AH Geography	PA	13	2	8	0	3	11
AH Drama	PHS	13	2	11	0	0	2
AH Biology	SJ A	14	6	6	0	2	12
AH Physics	PHS	20	8	12	0	0	8
AH Bus Man	PHS	12	3	3	0	6	9
AH Graph Comm	PGS	13	5	0	7	1	6
AH Spanish	PHS	4	0	3	0	1	1
AH App Maths	PGS	17	0	0	16	1	1
H Psychology	PHS	27	10	11	0	6	16
Mandarin	PHS	2	0	2	0	0	0
Gaelic	PA	4	3	0	0	1	1
ESOL I2/H	SJA	4	0	1	0	3	1
Dance	PA	8	2	6	0	0	6
							67
Col E							
AH Mod Studs	SJA	8	1	1	1	5	3
AH Computing	PA	13	7	5	1	0	6
AH Biology	PGS	11	1	5	4	1	7
AH Physics	PGS	8	0	0	5	3	3
AH French	PA/SJA	8	3	4	0	1	4
AH PE	PGS/SJA	4	0	1	1	2	1
AH Art	PA	18	9	3	2	4	9
H Photography	PHS	14	0	14	0	0	0
Italian	PA	6	3	3	0	0	3
H Psychology	PHS	16	0	16	0	0	0
							36
College (Col E)							
Childcare I2	Coll	15	5	0	3	7	15
Childcare H VLE	Coll	13	4	5	0	4	13
Hair Int 2	Coll	8	1	0	3	4	8
Beauty H	Coll	27	10	11	6	0	27
Psychology H	Coll/PGS	19	3	0	9	7	10
Politics H	Coll	6	2	2	0	2	6
PDA Insurance	Coll	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nature of Health VLE	Coll	4	1	0	0	3	4
Auto Skills	Coll	8	2	1	2	3	8
Photography H	Coll	16	7	0	6	3	16
							107
							210

8/5/13

Key : Yellow is the host school

Red is not running due to the numbers

Further information about Perth city Campus and the courses offered may be obtained online at the Campus website which can be found at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/pk/perthcitycampus/>

Alternatively, you can contact your home school and ask for the appropriate link DHT below.

**CONTACT DEPUTE HEAD TEACHERS
FOR SESSION 2013/14**

*Perth Academy - Mr Ross
01738 458000*

*Perth High School - Mr Hynd
01738 628271*

*Perth Grammar School - Mrs Horsburgh
01738 472800*

*St John's (RC) Academy - Mr Hagney
01738 472300*

Rough Timeline of useful dates

Jan / Feb	Course choice begins in the four Perth City secondary schools
March	Course choice forms returned to base school
April	Class lists finalised after Easter holidays
June 10th	New timetable begins. Pupils introduced to course Induction materials online and informed of arrangements for visits to host schools as part of Induction programme.
June 17th	Induction visits to host schools at some point this week and introductory meeting of class
August	Class lists finalised in light of SQA results and teaching begins

PERTH CITY CAMPUS



Frequently Asked Questions

a guide for parents and pupils

Why create a campus in the first place?

The aim of the Campus is to provide a wider range of opportunities in the senior phase and to ensure that resources are used effectively.

Who is involved?

Perth High School, Perth Grammar School, St John's (RC) Academy and Perth Academy (all 4 Perth city schools) and Perth College are Campus partners.

Who are Campus courses open to?

Campus courses are open to S6 pupils who attend one of the City schools although pupils from other Perth and Kinross Council schools may join a course when appropriate. In exceptional circumstances courses can also be open to S5 pupils.

How do I know which courses are on offer?

Your course choice booklet contains information about Campus courses and your Guidance teacher can also talk to you about them.

How do I travel between schools?

A travel plan will be put in place for you and agreed with you and your parents. It will provide details of how you can travel between schools during the day and also how you can get to your host school first thing in the morning and back home again at the end of the school day, if you live out of town.

Do I pay my own fare?

No. This will be free to you. A system will be in place which will allow you to use your Young Scot card without charge to you.

What do the terms 'host and base school' mean?

Host school is the school that you will travel to where the course is taught. Base school is your own school.

How will I know where to go when I arrive at the host school for the first time?

Your host school will know you are coming and will be expecting you. The first time that you visit you will be met and given a tour of the school. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions and to meet your teacher and classmates. Things may appear a bit strange to start off with, but you will soon get to know your way around.

Who will I contact if I am going to be absent?

Just let your own school know. Office staff will let the host school know that you will not be in class.

What will I wear?

You should wear your normal school uniform.

Who do I hand my homework to?

Your class teacher in your host school will issue and correct your homework. In some situations, a member of staff in your base school may issue homework in which case you would just follow the normal procedures.

How will I know how I am doing?

Your class teacher in your host school will monitor your progress and will provide you with feedback to help you achieve your potential. Any concerns that your class teacher has will be shared with you and your Guidance teacher in your base school. In addition, your class teacher will write progress reports. These could be issued at a different time to reports produced by your base school.

Where will the parents' evening take place?

The parents' evening will take place in the host school on their S5/6 parents' evening to which you will be invited. It *may be an idea for you to accompany your parents and to introduce them to your teacher. But if this is not possible, there will be plenty of staff around in the host school to help them.*

Where will I sit my exams?

You will be given details about prelim exams by your class teachers nearer the time. SQA exams will be sat in your host school along with your classmates.

Who do I turn to if I have a problem?

If you have a problem with course work, you should talk to the class teacher in your host school. Anything else can be discussed with your Guidance Teacher in your base school. Every effort will be made to resolve the situation and find an acceptable solution.



PERTH CITY CAMPUS