

Priority	Sub-Priority	Impact
Skills and Learning	Modernised and High Performing Education	Improving learning provision to get better learner outcomes

This is a priority this year because we need to:

- Continue to achieve better learning opportunities, outcomes and wellbeing for all children and young people.
- Support the national Welsh Government priorities to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes and reduce the impact of poverty on educational attainment.
- Make better use of education resources through reducing surplus places and improving learning environments.
- Maintain effective and challenging governance arrangements in schools for the benefit of local learners and communities.

What we will do in 2014/15:

1. Make a difference through our Education Improvement and Modernisation Strategy by raising standards through: -

- Improving skills in literacy and numeracy
- Improving educational achievements of children in a position of disadvantage including our Looked after Children
- Sharing best teaching practice and resources across schools and the region
- Improving the preparation of young people for the work place
- Continuing the implementation of 21st Century Schools programme
- Implementing the outcomes of asset review including Primary School Organisation
- Strengthening collaborative work between schools to improve curriculum continuity and facilitate additional delegation of responsibility and resources
- Raising standards through effective use of new technologies
- Ensuring best quality educational support during implementation of the national model for regional working

Achievement will be measured through:

- Outcomes in Mathematics, English/Welsh 1st Language and Core Subject Indicator at all Key Stages
- Percentage of learners achieving 5 or more A* to C passes at GCSE or the vocational equivalent
- Raising standards achieved by learners who are entitled to free school meals, "Looked After" or are otherwise identified as vulnerable
- Reduction of surplus places
- Completion of 21st Century school milestones in line with target dates

Risks to manage:

- Ensuring that schools receive the support they need from the Council and those organisations commissioned to provide school improvement services.
- Ensuring schools work together effectively to share and develop best practice.
- Changing demographics and impact on supply of school places.
- Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in educational and community assets.
- Programme delivery capacity for the 21st Century Schools Programme.

What we mean by: -

Core Subject Indicator – learners achieve the expected level in Mathematics, English or Welsh 1st language and Science.

21st Century Schools – a national programme of funding to improve school buildings and environments.

Surplus places – the difference between the number of learners a school can accommodate and the number on roll.

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Priority	Sub-Priority	Impact
Skills and Learning	Apprenticeships and Training	Meeting the skills and employment needs of local employers

This is a priority this year because we need to:

- Extend and improve the education, employment and training opportunities available for people.
- Improve the employment prospects of local people.
- Meet the needs of local employers.
- Help young people take the step from education to employment.
- Place and retain people in work.

What we will do in 2014/15:

1. Work with the public, private and voluntary sectors to increase the number of apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience opportunities.
2. Make an impact with the Employers' Promise in key areas e.g. developing further apprenticeship opportunities and employees' skills.
3. Market and communicate broadly the range of apprenticeship and training programmes available.
4. Identify sectors with skills gaps in order to develop apprenticeships and alternative programmes and investment in training.
5. Support the Young Entrepreneur Programme with the Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network.
6. Continue to develop and increase the number and range of Communities First job clubs.
7. Commission and deliver skills development programmes in partnership with local employers.

Achievement will be measured through:

- Reducing the number of 18 – 24 year olds claiming Jobseekers Allowance
- Securing high levels of 16 years olds in education, employment and training
- Improving the local skills base to improve employability and earning prospects through improved qualifications
- Increasing the number of people who successfully establish and grow a business
- Increase the number of apprenticeships in the public and voluntary sector

Risks to manage:

- Ensuring that employer places match current and future aspirations and needs.
- Ensuring capacity to support paid work placements and other programmes.
- Ensuring that education providers participate fully.
- Strengthening the links between schools, colleges and employers.
- Work with local employers and learning providers to meet the skills based needs of the future.

What we mean by:

Employers' Promise – employers committed to working together to create additional training, apprenticeships and work opportunities.

Communities First job club programmes – work to support adults into employment.

Young Entrepreneur Programme – an opportunity for young people to work with mentors on their business ideas.

Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network – employers working together to support Entrepreneurship Programmes.

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