MIICE Newsletter 5

This is the fifth quarterly summary for all who have expressed interest in MIICE. If you have comments on what should be in this newsletter, please contact Roddy Stuart on roddy@miice.org.uk or on 0141–339 7127. Contributions about initiatives in schools, teacher education establishments or education authorities will be most welcome

Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to anyone who is interested in the use of MIICE to promote good learning and teaching using ICT. Please advise MIICE about changes of e-mail address or to recommend others to receive it - to roddy@miice.org.uk

Please remember that all MIICE publications are available from http://www.miice.org.uk

MIICE conferences

52 participants from 20 EAs and 6 other agencies took part in the fourth MIICE implementation conference in Moray House School of Education in Edinburgh on Friday 21 November 2003

Introduction and update

Tony van der Kuyl welcomed everyone to the fifth national MIICE conference and thanked Apple for continued sponsorship of the event. He offered an outline of recent activities by the MIICE partnership

1 Batch of publications in August 2003
   • Discussion Paper 5 on selection of MIICE measures to audit progress with implementation of national, EA and school policies on ICT in subject departments in a secondary school
   • Discussion Paper 6 on links between MIICE and the Standard for Full Registration
   • Discussion Paper 7 on links between MIICE and the Chartered Teacher Standard
   • Expanded toolbox to help to show links between How good is our school? and MIICE, developed by John Ferrie of Inverclyde Council

2 The Masterclass programme had a MIICE contribution throughout and this generated much interest nationally and locally. A second MIICE video conference on 18 September 2003 focused on the experiences of Masterclass participants; another is planned for February 2004 (see below)

3 Revised website to permit display of materials - www.miice.org.uk - permits addition of further publications and links to locally generated reports and publications

4 Publications in preparation, including Discussion Paper 8 on links between MIICE and the national priorities in education in Scotland; and Discussion Paper 4 on links between MIICE, 5-14 ICT guidelines and guidelines in other 5-14 areas (see below)

Case study 1: MIICE in a primary school

Lorraine Hunter and Tracy Hurst from Lawmuir Primary School in Bellshill spoke about their home and school video learning project. Lorraine explained that this was helping to answer the standard parental question 'What did you do in school today?' The project was also designed to help develop the children's ICT skills and other learning skills

Tracy told us that the children had practised recording; their initial attempt to teach the whole class to edit the footage was not successful and they tried doing it in small groups with more success. The results were shown at school parents' afternoons (and to the conference)

They made use of a range of MIICE outcomes, which provided a helpful framework for articulating qualitative success. They have linked these to the *How good is our school?* quality indicator 5.4 on Partnership with parents, the School Board and the community

Future plans included the addition of sound commentary by the children, continuing professional development for staff (the first round of this was very successful) and integration into project work

Lorraine's and Tracy's PowerPoint presentation (16 slides) is on the MIICE website

Case study 2: MIICE in secondary schools

Ian Stuart of Gleniffer High School in Paisley explained that all Masterclass participants in Renfrewshire had been invited to join one of 4 groups. 5 of them made up the MIICE group and they were initially trying MIICE out in their own schools, with a view to presenting to the Renfrewshire ICT Showcase in February 2004

Ian tried out 2 aspects of physical education evaluation in his own school: one on the use of video to evaluate performance; the other on the use of specialist software from Learning and Teaching Scotland. The PT's initial reaction to MIICE was that it would be difficult to know where to start dipping in. A range of MIICE outcomes, from all 3 groups, were being used to help to judge progress with both the video and the CAL package. Ian's project threw up 3 questions
 • can MIICE be useful if the pupils are not themselves using the ICT?
 • can MIICE be useful for ICT virgins?
 • is there a need for both levels 2 and 4?

Linda Hall showed a presentation about her work in 3 subject departments at Trinity High School. History/Modern Studies selected a range of MIICE measures to monitor the success of an e-voting project; the results were related to *How good is our school?* and had proved useful for discussion within the department and for planning further (ICT) projects. In Chemistry a different (but overlapping) set of measures was used to assess the success of the use of Simple Data Handling (DJB Software). Finally, a similar approach was being used to assess the value of Alphasmart keyboards in English

The material from Ian's and Linda's presentations - PowerPoint presentations and the forms they used (in either AppleWorks or PDF) collected into Zip files - are on the MIICE website

Case study 3: MIICE for an EA priority

Lesley Allan of Argyll and Bute Council painted the extensive background to the uses of video conferencing in Argyll and Bute, which she reminded us has a longer total coastline than France. They were keen to use MIICE to help them to assess the contributions of video conferencing to national priority 3 on inclusion and equality. They had decided that HTs (half of them sole teachers) had more than enough frameworks to cope with and were not promoting MIICE *per se*; it will be used for particular projects

Some of the uses of video conferencing
 • speech and language therapy sessions for a child in Coll
 • partnership between 2 small primary schools in north-west Mull, which are often cut off in winter
 • recorder training from the primary school in Lismore (in return for teaching in French, Gaelic and art from other primary schools in the network)
 • teaching languages (French and Gaelic) in primary schools
 • links with the National Museums of Scotland
 • Gaelic teaching in schools and links between the 6 Gaelic medium units

- a top of the form competition involving 6 secondary schools, with a play-off between the winner and Paisley Grammar School at SETT (Tobermory High School won)

A selection of MIICE outcomes were being used, selectively. The language was 'tweaked' to suit the circumstances and they have added some particular questions to help them to assess the contributions of video conferencing to their priority. Lesley's PowerPoint presentation (30 slides) is on the MIICE website

In the afternoon the delegates split into 5 geographical groups to offer useful advice to the MIICE partnership, with 'quickfire feedback' (60 second reports) about a range of issues. Roddy Stuart briefly summarised some of the issues facing the MIICE partnership for the future
- how to deal with individual subjects and their uses of ICT, especially in the secondary school
- the role of MIICE for additional educational needs
- MIICE and early education
- MIICE and the teaching of ICT skills in secondary schools
- MIICE and information literacy in all schools

Following the success of the first 2 MIICE video conferences (February and September 2003), a third will be held on the late afternoon of Wednesday 18 February 2004, involving exchange of insights by local groups of Masterclass participants about ways in which they are beginning to make use of MIICE

A further conventional conference will be held in Moray House School of Education on Friday 14 May 2004

Publications

A further batch of new publications has been published (December 2003)

Discussion Paper 4 covers synergies between 5-14 curricular areas, ICT 5-14 guidelines and the MIICE framework, developed by David Lines of Midlothian Council at levels A, C and D. There is an introduction and illustrations of overlaps affecting aspects of English language (4 pages), mathematics (9 pages on Information handling; Shape, position and movement), social subjects (13 pages on People in the past; Skills for social subjects), science (17 pages on Energy and forces; Living things and the processes of life; Skills for Science), art and design (4 pages on Using materials techniques skills and media; Expressing feelings ideas thoughts and solutions; Evaluating and appreciating, only at level C). Once again all of these are available in both AppleWorks and Word files, collected in Zip files

Discussion Paper 5 is a selection of components by which a secondary school may judge progress in its ICT policies; this has been revised slightly from the original version published in August 2003 [9 pages, in both AppleWorks and Word]

Discussion Paper 8 is about links between the national priorities in education in Scotland and the MIICE quality framework, initiated by Lesley Allan of Argyll and Bute Council [3 pages, in both AppleWorks and Word]

A 4 pages introduction to MIICE, covering background, purpose and publications, again in AppleWorks and Word, and set up to download the relevant documents

All of these are available from the MIICE website on http://www.miice.org.uk

MIICE around Scotland

Aberdeen is incorporating a reference to national priorities into its draft project planning tool and will make this available on the MIICE website

City of Edinburgh had a twilight workshop for school staff on uses of MIICE on 27 November 2003

Scottish Borders had a briefing session for quality improvement officers and other support staff on 2 December 2003 and plan to extend this to school managers and to Masterclass participants

Renfrewshire's Masterclass MIICE group are preparing events for an ICT Showcase on Friday 13 February 2004

Stirling had a MIICE workshop as part of a large conference in Balfron High School on 17 November 2003

University of Strathclyde at Jordanhill plans to use MIICE as part of their national investigation into the impact of ICT

MIICE

MIICE - Measurement of the Impact of ICT on Children's Education - is a partnership of Scottish EAs and teacher education institutes, led by the University of Edinburgh (SiTC at Moray House School of Education). The partnership is dedicated to discussion and action research to enhance learning and teaching through appropriate use of ICT

EAs		TEIs
Aberdeen City Council	Glasgow City Council	University of Aberdeen
Angus Council	Highland Council	University of Dundee
Argyll and Bute Council	Inverclyde Council	University of Edinburgh
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	Midlothian Council	University of Strathclyde
Dundee City Council	North Lanarkshire Council	
East Ayrshire Council	Orkney Islands Council	
East Dunbartonshire Council	Perth and Kinross Council	
East Lothian Council	Renfrewshire Council	
East Renfrewshire Council	Scottish Borders Council	
City of Edinburgh Council	South Lanarkshire Council	
Falkirk Council	Stirling Council	
The Fife Council	West Lothian Council	