MIICE Newsletter June 2010

Case studies

A series of case studies has been written up which show ways in which schools and education authorities have used MIICE to help with evaluation and/or planning tasks. These can be accessed via the MIICE website - directly at http://www.miice.org.uk/caseStudies.html

- Andy Watson of Aberdeen City Council incorporated a selection of statements derived from the (original) MIICE toolboxes into their 'MOT' annual snapshot tool on a school's ICT progress

- Dundee - pair of case studies: (1) Rosetta McLeod and the ICT team in Dundee have made various uses of MIICE to help with reviewing the success of using ICT to enhance learning and teaching in Dundee schools; (2) Fiona McCarthy reports on how the adaptation of MIICE for school reviews was extended to providing a tool to assess use of SEEMIS and other MIS in Dundee schools

- In the Spring of 2008 MIICE was used to help East Lothian authority officers and school managers to develop a framework which would help them to judge progress with learning using ICT

- Fife Council has used MIICE for a range of surveys, online and on paper, about aspects of ICT management and use

- Also in Fife, Sharon Logie of McLean Primary School in Dunfermline has made a selection and adaptation of part of the MIICE toolbox which will help to focus on aspects of teaching primary science; she has linked it to appropriate ambitions within Curriculum for Excellence

- Games and learning - can MIICE help to articulate and focus the benefits which can be derived from using games in an appropriate context in the classroom?

DIY MIICE

In the last 12 months there has been development and trialling of ways of making a selection of MIICE measures into a manageable and purposeful questionnaire. This started with the development of a FileMaker Pro database to test the concept, which was amended as a result of initial reactions. A genuinely interactive online version has now been developed by Martin Johnston of Moray House School of Education, who manages the main MIICE website

The draft version can be viewed at http://www.miice.org.uk/questionnaire

Please take a look at this and send any reactions - general or detailed - to roddy@miice.org.uk

Please note

- You can save a questionnaire with a numeric ID and a password which you can supply (there are no rules about this); depending on the reactions, we will be

exploring the potential for a 'bank' of such questionnaires, publicly accessible on the 'one somebody did earlier' principle

- You can export any questionnaire, at any stage of development, either as an email message (the questions are in the body of the message, not an attachment) or as a Word file (.doc) for further processing

- You can copy the sample questions from the MIICE toolbox (2009 revision) and amend to suit, or you can 'bash in' your own questions from scratch; editing is straightforward at various stages in the process

If you want to look at the earlier draft materials, this can be accessed at http://miice.roddystuart/net/interactive; you will need to use the name miice and the password partner to get through the very modest protection

MIICE conference 2010

46 people attended the MIICE conference 2010 in the former Rockwell High School building in Dundee, now the Educational Development Service base for Dundee City Council's Education Department, on Friday 14 May 2010. Louise Henderson of the Dundee ICT team chaired

We heard from 4 colleagues about their experience of using ICT as part of their learning and teaching

- Donna Bullivant of Cowie Primary School (near Stirling) spoke about the use of animation and of various games with her P6 class

- Maggie Irving of Argyll and Bute Council spoke of the work she is developing for making the links between ICT use and experiences and outcomes for Curriculum for Excellence; this material can be viewed at http://www.margaretirving.co.uk; Maggie would welcome reactions at maggie.irving@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk

- Ian Simpson of Inverurie Academy spoke of the work he has been doing with his Higher Information Systems class, in association with one of the Inverurie primary schools, to use Little Big Planet to make some of the fundamental concepts of software engineering clear and practical

- Jo Bell, seconded from Clepington Primary School to the Dundee ICT team, spoke of the work she has done and seen which integrate ICT skills development with other important experiences and outcomes within Curriculum for Excellence

Delegates discussed some important aspects of perception of ICT, key drivers, barriers, appropriate support and the possible role of MIICE. A (Word) summary of the collective wisdom can be downloaded from the MIICE conference 2010 website at http://miice.roddystuart.net/conference2010; you will need the name miice and the password partner to get through the modest security

John Craven of Bridge of Allan Primary School told other delegates about recent initial use of part of the MIICE toolbox in his school to get a 'quick win' feedback on how they were making progress with their ICT strategy. John had found the process straightforward and helpful and plans to do more: "The MIICE toolbox can, if used well,

yield high quality information on how effectively the school is using ICT to enhance learning and teaching. To achieve this MIICE needs to be used to inform planning decisions, quality indicators need to be carefully selected to match the questions we want answered (informed by decisions made at the planning stage), the information yielded needs to lead to changes that have a direct and positive on the quality of learning and teaching"

Glowing Thursday on MIICE

There will be a Glowing Thursday about MIICE in practice on Thursday 28 October 2010, starting at 4.00 pm; this will give colleagues a chance to say something of their own experience of using MIICE as a means of evaluating the success of their use of ICT as part of learning and teaching

Glowing Thursdays is a group within the generally accessible Glowing Potential group; you can access it directly at
https://portal.glowscotland.org.uk/establishments/nationalsite/Glowing Potential/Lists/Pages/Glowing Thursdays.aspx

MIICE

MIICE is a partnership of Scotland's education authorities, teacher training universities and Learning and Teaching Scotland. The 'open source' materials developed in the 10 years since MIICE began in 2000 are accessible to all from the MIICE website, at http://www.miice.org.uk/

Among the materials there are

- A set of toolboxes (the original versions developed in 2000 and 2001, and the revised version, following several years of use and taking account of Curriculum for Excellence and How good is our school?, developed and published in 2009)

- A set of presentational and other support materials which can be used in a staff development event looking at MIICE

- Some discussion papers about ways in which MIICE impinges on other aspects of life in Scottish school education

- Miscellaneous materials, subject guides and case studies which reflect ways in which people have made good use of MIICE to help with planning and/or review

- An interactive paper which demonstrates how the 13 quality indicators and 41 themes of the MIICE toolbox work out in practice

Any enquiries about MIICE to Roddy Stuart at roddy@miice.org.uk or 0141-339 7127