

Curriculum for Excellence- What are we doing?

An audit of current practice in the
Modern Studies Department.

The Four Capacities

- Successful Learners
- Responsible Citizens
- Effective Contributors
- Confident individuals

The document

The following evaluation is derived from an evaluation of the document 'Modern Studies- a portrait of current practice in Scottish secondary schools', published by HMIE in February 2007.

Their collected evidence was seen in a number of inspections that took place between 2002-2006.

The Focus

- 1.-Quality of learning
- 2.- Teaching
- 3.- Meeting pupils' needs
- 4. Achievement

What are we doing?

- Successful learners

We teach our pupils to detect bias, exaggeration and selective use of facts.

We use ICT where we can to allow pupils to access relevant information about topical issues .

We work in groups to allow for individuals to share information and engage in their learning.

What are we currently doing?

- Developing successful learners

We encourage oral communication skills and develop tolerance of others views by holding both formal and informal discussions and debates on topical and contemporary topics.

We allow pupils to develop skills relating to the reliability of both written views and statistical information.

Developing confident individuals

We encourage pupils to take part in School debates teams often allowing them to travel and to engage with other teams from across the country.

We encourage them to take an active part in their local communities and to be involved in issues of a political nature that are of concern to them.

These issues are often debated and learnt about in class as part of our teaching/learning.

Group work allows pupils to be aware of how their views and actions can impact on others.

Responsible citizens

We actively seek to take our development of political and social issues and knowledge outside of the classroom.

We have taken students to the Scottish Parliament and to Westminster in the past.

Students have been to see and hear from our major party leaders and have invited them to the School as part of our development of knowledge and of our discussion skills.

We are taking a more active part in our wider community by doing these things.

Effective citizens

We promote the ideas of attentiveness and active listening in all our pupils.

We ask questions of all in our classes.

We are involved in the running and the promotion of the School council election.

We actively try and get pupils from all year groups that we teach to stand for election.

We encourage critical thinking as part of our learning process within the class.

CfE- What we should do now?

- Continue to develop opportunities for students to be further involved in setting their own success criteria.
- Continue to deepen scope for stand alone skills based exercises that allow students to hone and develop skills that involve independent and critical thinking in order to reach a conclusion based on interpreting and evaluating sources and discussing the findings with partners.

What should we do now? (2)

- Continue to offer feedback on work and get students to review their work after feedback given.
- Students to be more involved in setting topic, lesson, unit targets or goals.
- Try and secure more visits to places of interest to Modern Studies students and get more community involvement.