

This is the fourth 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 rodny@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 rodny@miice.org.uk

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

MIICE conferences

Participants from 7 partner EAs - Aberdeen, Argyll and Bute, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Fife, Renfrewshire and Western Isles - took part in the second MIICE **video conference** on the afternoon of Thursday 18 September 2003. This had a focus on ways in which the MIICE framework might be useful for Masterclass participants as they plan and evaluate the success of their projects. Shirley Campbell-Morgan explained that, as her Masterclass project, she was planning to develop interactive materials in environmental studies, making best use of interactive whiteboards and has been considering use of the MIICE toolbox at the planning stage. Alastair Beaton said that it had been useful to have the draft project planning sheet which Andy Watson has drafted; it has the potential to be a friendly interface to the MIICE toolbox for planning; his Masterclass project was to develop some online courses; from the 28 areas in the project planning sheet, 4 have been used to help focus on his particular project; these had helped to move from a "guddle of ideas" to a clearer focus on what was important in learning. Andy Watson articulated the process by which the project planning sheet, using materials from MIICE to help determine success criteria ahead of a project, had been drafted. The subsequent discussion confirmed that this was a good idea which the partnership would be wise to take further

The fourth MIICE implementation conference will take place in Moray House School of Education in Edinburgh on Friday 21 November 2003. Colleagues from North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and Argyll and Bute will share some of the experiences of use of the MIICE quality framework for activities in primary schools, secondary schools and for evaluation of EA special educational needs respectively and there will be a chance to share local plans for further use of MIICE. Invitations to nominate for free places for this conference have been sent to each Scottish EA and teacher education institute. Anyone else who is interested in attending should contact rodny@miice.org.uk

MIICE presented an update of the partnership's activities at a seminar at the SETT Show in Glasgow on Thursday 25 September 2003. Andy Watson explained how MIICE had contributed to Aberdeen City Council's evaluation of the use of integrated learning systems (SuccessMaker and RM Maths). Laura Compton explained how MIICE had given purpose to a project teaching maths in one of West Lothian Council's primary schools

MIICE website

There is a new MIICE website but it remains at <http://www.miice.org.uk>. The new version is better able to accommodate the continued flow of new materials and has space for EAs and other agencies to contribute

Publications

A pile of publications (this is the official collective) was added to the new MIICE website on 18 August 2003 - <http://www.miice.org.uk>

Discussion Paper 5 is based on the presentation which Jim Scott, Rector of Perth High School, did at the first MIICE video conference in February 2003. It is a selection of components by which a secondary school may judge progress in its ICT policies (7 pages; available in AppleWorks or Word)

Discussion Paper 6 is a 'mapping' exercise showing the synergies between the MIICE quality framework and the Standard for Full Registration, which defines what a competent teacher should look like (8 pages; available in AppleWorks or Word)

Similarly *Discussion Paper 7* maps the links between the MIICE quality framework and the Chartered Teacher Standard which, for the first time, articulates what a 'damned good teacher' looks like (18 pages; available in AppleWorks or Word)

John Ferrie of Greenock High School developed an *extended toolbox linking MIICE and How good is our school?* initially while on secondment to Inverclyde Council. This has added suggested features to consider when coming to your conclusion about current performance for self-evaluation. There is space in which schools can record their conclusions and/or the evidence on which they based their conclusions (38 pages; available in AppleWorks or Word)

Matters at the planning and discussion stages

David Lines of Midlothian Council has drafted materials, currently being discussed within the partnership, which shows links between delivery of ICT attainment targets within the 5-14 curriculum and assessment programme in Scotland, those in other subjects (English language, mathematics, some aspects of environmental studies and expressive arts) and the MIICE quality framework. The aim of this ambitious series of guides - which it is hoped will be published before the end of 2003 - is to help teachers to see the ways in which the learning experiences which are covered can contribute to the longer term learning skills which everyone would like to see

Lesley Allan of Argyll and Bute Council has drafted a shorter publication which shows links between MIICE and national priorities in education in Scotland. Again, it is hoped that this will be published before the end of 2003. Anyone who is interested in commenting on the draft should contact rodny@miice.org.uk

David Walls has developed an interactive format for using the MIICE toolbox, using Access software initially. This was originally done in connection with his remit to provide evaluation of the successes of some aspects of the use of ICT for learning and teaching in Edinburgh schools; his report is available through <http://egfl.net>. A number of participants at one of the Masterclass courses had agreed to look at and comment on this material. Anyone who is keen to comment on this interesting approach should contact rodny@miice.org.uk

MIICE around Scotland

MIICE and East Renfrewshire

Anne McLean, Staff Tutor in E-Learning and Information for East Renfrewshire Council, summarises her initial reactions to MIICE, a revival of interest and plans for its use in schools in East Renfrewshire

When the original MIICE toolbox arrived in East Renfrewshire in August 2001 it was quite a weighty piece of work. It was sent to my line manager at the time who passed a

copy to me but said that we were not ready to move on the MIICE project at that time. It was duly filed. I had a wee look at the contents; I liked the advice given regarding the 'pick and mix' approach according to the context in which it was being used

In May 2002 I attended a MIICE conference. I was interested to hear of progress and there was a mention of Masterclass; I had heard a little about this initiative and I knew that my name had been put forward as a participant. In November 2002 I attended my second MIICE conference. By this time the documents had been simplified; there was a primary and a secondary toolbox, which were easier to work with. Also attending were Andy Watson from Aberdeen who shared with us his ICT MOT test, which I thought was a great idea, and Laura Compton from West Lothian who had used the toolbox to measure the impact of ICT in maths, where staff used the measures to self-evaluate and identify a staff training timetable

Having reached the end of the NOF teacher training programme (which I was coordinating), I could see that the toolbox could be of real value post-NOF in determining where a teacher, stage/department, school or even an authority was in terms of using ICT in learning and teaching

Of course one idea leads to another and, having been involved in the authority's Take a Closer Look procedures - which evaluate school's self-evaluations, identifying what the school does well, where there are areas for development and next steps - I could see a value in using the toolbox to look closer at the use of ICT within schools. I was also aware that the authority has put a great deal of money into Promethean boards and that several schools had purchased class in a box, the impact of which could be measured using the toolbox. So East Renfrewshire became a MIICE partner

At my first partnership meeting I discovered that there was a great ethos of sharing. Jim Scott, head teacher of Perth High School, put on the table a list of ways in which the toolbox could be used in his school to check implementation of policy areas in his school [this became MIICE Discussion Paper 5 (qv)]. Following this I was asked to visit St Luke's High School in Barrhead to speak to one of the deputy head teachers (Patricia Scott) who had been given the role of developing a strategic plan for the way forward for ICT in the school. There is a Masterclasser - we are everywhere - in her school and MIICE was mentioned. We went to the web and printed off a copy of the secondary toolbox and she was really interested in what she saw. We arranged to meet and look at the work Jim Scott had done. She decided that she wanted to look at departmental planning and evaluation after the NOF ICT training, as St Luke's had achieved 100% completion. I put together the appropriate outcomes for her in booklets, based on work done by John Ferrie in Inverclyde, for the staff to complete. Patricia has written the use of the MIICE toolbox into the school's development plan, so all staff are aware of the reasons behind the work they will be asked to complete

I will use the results of the use of the toolbox to suggest that it becomes a tool for the rest of the authority when looking closely at evaluating the use of ICT in their schools

Aberdeen has drafted a project planning sheet which was an aspect of the MIICE video conference on 18 September 2003; their MOT test, issued to city schools to afford them the chance to speedily assess their ICT road worthiness, is available from the MIICE website

Edinburgh is providing in-service training for senior school staff on ways in which they could make good use of the MIICE quality framework, in November 2003

Falkirk is initiating projects to assess the teaching of information handling in primary

schools and the use of *Scolar* in secondary schools which will incorporate aspects of the MIICE quality framework

North Lanarkshire is providing in-service training for senior school staff on ways in which MIICE can be used in October 2003

Renfrewshire has established a group of Masterclass participants to promote ways in which the MIICE framework could be useful; we shall be hearing something of this work at the MIICE conference on 21 November 2003

Stirling has organised a conference to be held in Balfour High School in November 2003, featuring local instances of the use of MIICE for school improvement

University of Paisley at Ayr is using MIICE with their primary teacher-trainees

University of Strathclyde at Jordanhill is introducing MIICE activities for fourth year BEd students through a series of seminars

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

Aberdeen City Council
Angus Council
Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Dundee City Council
East Ayrshire Council
East Dunbartonshire Council
East Lothian Council
East Renfrewshire Council
City of Edinburgh Council
Falkirk Council
The Fife Council

Glasgow City Council
Highland Council
Inverclyde Council
Midlothian Council
North Lanarkshire Council
Orkney Islands Council
Perth and Kinross Council
Renfrewshire Council
Scottish Borders Council
South Lanarkshire Council
Stirling Council
West Lothian Council

TEIs

University of Aberdeen
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