



Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative

Welcome to the Summer edition!



Read on to find out about:

- the latest data on early child development and why it's so important to all of us
- support available to help apply QI to improving speech, language & communication in ELC
- the National Improving Writing Programme
- what QI means to award winner Joleen McCool

Feedback sought

We started writing regular newsletters in 2022 and are looking for your feedback to make sure the information we share is what you want to hear about!

We hope you can spare two minutes to answer a few questions to help us:

<https://forms.office.com/e/dim4QBP9zd>

CYPIC NEWSLETTER

June 2023

Who we are

CYPIC's purpose is to bring focus, connection and method where it is most needed to improve the wellbeing and life chances of children & young people in Scotland.

- Focus on improving outcomes for evidence-based priorities
- Connect people and share learning to accelerate improvement
- Support systematic use of the Quality Improvement journey to improve outcomes

Upcoming Events

ELC QI Learning Exchange

September – QI Learning Group for speech & language commences
21 September – In Conversation

National Improving Writing Programme

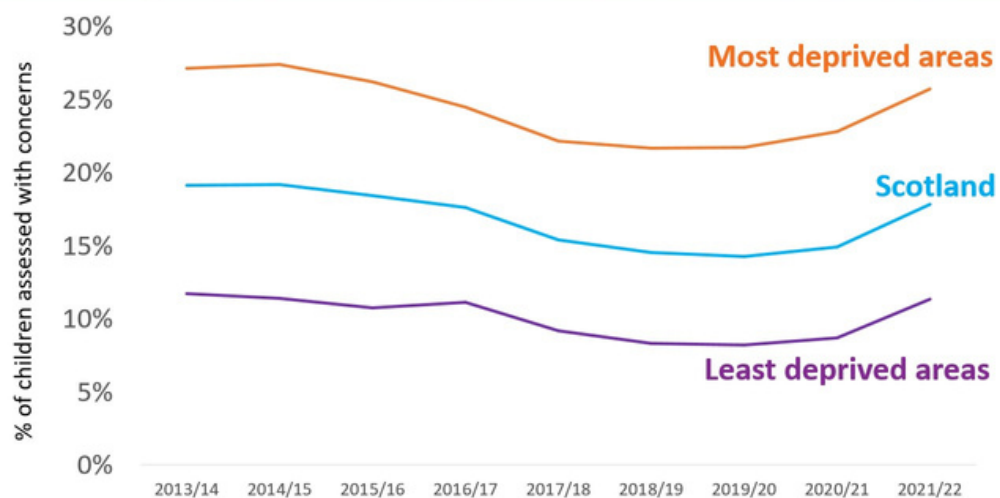
13 September – Wave 2 launch



Early Child Development

Since our last newsletter, Public Health Scotland have published their [most recent data](#) based on Health Visitor reviews. This showed increases across all age groups, and continued inequalities between our most and least deprived areas. How does it look in your area?

Developmental concerns at 27-30 month review



Getting early child development right is crucial for all of us because we know that what children experience during their early years, including pre-birth, lays lifelong foundations for physical and mental health, education and life skills.


Our CYPIC community is well aware of this and are doing some great work to support families. We want to make our wider colleagues and communities more aware of the science so they can help make that difference too. We think these videos are quite powerful to help explain the case, let us know if you find them useful!

[Partnerships in Early Childhood: Saving Brains \(harvard.edu\)](#)


[How Early Childhood Experiences Affect Lifelong Health And Learning](#)

[Building Adult Capabilities to Improve Child Outcomes: A Theory of Change](#)

We are continuing to look at how we re-energise the focus on early child development in Scotland and make sure we are doing as much as we can, so will be looking for your help, ideas and examples. Watch this space for opportunities to engage!



ELC QI Learning Exchange



We've been busy in the ELC QI Learning Exchange developing a range of collaboration opportunities for 2023/24 themed around Children's Speech Language and Communication (SLC).

We know from data, evidence and what members have been telling us this is a priority area for improvement. Our plans include:

- Themed learning sessions with 4 identified authorities starting in August to dig deep into our emerging [Theory Of Change](#). These will be recorded and shared on our Teams site for local sharing and use.
- Dedicated channel on our Teams site where we will share and learn together from Quality Improvement work across the country that relates to SLC.
- A third QI Learning Group is starting in September and will use SLC as the theme throughout, allowing individuals to develop QI Skills as well as dig into a subject matter relevant to the whole group – places are limited: [sign up here](#)
- Sharing our learning with Scottish Government and Education Scotland regional leads to ensure our communication and offers of support are aligned and helpful to you.

We also have our next In Conversation With session planned for Thursday 21 September when we will be looking at wicked issues

If you aren't already a member of the learning exchange, you can find out more and register here:

<https://cypic.co.uk/focus/elc-qi-learning-exchange/>



National Improving Writing Programme

Wave 1 cohorts 1 and 2 have completed their 12-week National improving Writing Programme and are now working to maintain the excellent improvements seen across their classrooms.

First Level Curriculum for Excellence data will be collated from all participants this month, with evaluation and impact of the first wave shared in Autumn 2023. The qualitative and process data indicate widespread improvement.

Here's just one piece of feedback:

"Implementing the writing bundle has transformed the teaching and learning of writing in our class. We have children who were only really writing a few words on their own to now writing extended pieces independently. The quality of writing has improved greatly; with all technical aspects improving"

Class teacher, Wave 1

Our National Improvement Science Writing Network is developing a schedule of online meets for next session to help each participant continue with their work. Many thanks to our steering group volunteers!

Welcome to our Wave 2 local authorities: Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, Highland, Scottish Borders & Western Isles. See you in September!



Joleen McCool

The winner of the QI Award for Improver of the Year in 2021 was Joleen McCool, Improvement Co-ordinator for Education and Children Services at Fife Council. We recently caught up with Joleen to hear about her recent work and what inspires her to continue to promote quality improvement to her colleagues every day!

We've shared some of her key insights below but you can [read the full blog](#) on our website.

"I am passionate about equity and tackling social disadvantage.

I remember vividly joining a school nurse undertaking Primary 1 health assessments and being struck by the stark difference of opportunity and wellbeing for the little people presenting.



I didn't enter the world of Quality Improvement until taking up post in Fife Council and undertaking the [ScIL Programme](#).

This was a game changer, providing a framework to ensure that our limited capacity to dedicate to improvement is purposeful and effective. Lack of time is always a huge barrier to improvement so a framework to maximise our efforts is key."

If you'd like to share your experiences of applying QI in a future newsletter, please contact the national team at CYPIC@gov.scot