



Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative

CYPIC NEWSLETTER

December 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

More information

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Welcome to the winter edition!



Read on to find out about:

- Last month's CYPIC national events
- Work underway on the Early Child Development Transformational Change Programme
- Progress of the National Improving Writing Programme

CYPIC QI Alumni Event

CYPIC QI Alumni came together on 27 November to refresh, reinvigorate and inspire each other to champion QI across Scotland. We used the opportunity to reflect on our experiences of participation and models that can help us as well as exploring system stability and variability using Six Sigma. The event was rounded off with a thought provoking keynote about the benefits of applying QI when working in complexity from Ruth Glassborow.

You can find more details on the event on our website, which also includes recordings of the keynote session and a range of resources:

<https://cypic.co.uk/connections/cypic-national-event>



CYPIC National Conference 2023 Focus, Connection and Method

The CYPIC National Conference took place on 28 November at the SEC in Glasgow where delegates connected around the most important themes impacting on children's outcomes.

We took the opportunity to **focus** on key national priorities, **connect** over our common aspirations to improve outcomes for babies, children, young people and families whilst highlighting the benefits of using a systematic **method** in our improvement work. The event, which was chaired by Diana Beveridge (CYPIC Head of Programme), included a panel discussion, themed workshops and keynotes provided by Ruth Glassborow (Public Health Scotland) who discussed the importance of method in improving **complex systems** and Karyn McCluskey (Community Justice Scotland) who highlighted the power of **prevention**: If we change the beginning of the story we change the whole story!

Of those who responded to our evaluation, 86% were **inspired** by the events to do something different and 89% plan to **share knowledge** gained with others.

More information on the key themes covered in the event are on the following pages and you can find more details, including session resources and recordings from the main stage, on our website:

<https://cypic.co.uk/connections/cypic-national-event>





Early Speech & Language

Delegates with a wide range of knowledge and experience on improving children's early language and communication came together to learn and share in connection with our evidence-based [National Change Theory](#) and discuss improvement priorities. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet the new regional language leads (pictured above) and talk about how they can work together. More information can be viewed on our [website](#).

Keeping the Promise

Delegates from across the system explored the benefits of applying a systematic approach that could help us to Keep the Promise to care experienced children and young people by 2030. Together we explored a variety of methods and supports that are available to support improvement in practice and continued to help identify new opportunities for sharing and learning. We were joined by colleagues from The Promise Scotland and from Glasgow and East Renfrewshire who shared their stories of improvement. More information can be viewed on our [website](#).

Whole Family Wellbeing Funding

Delegates working to support families connected around our common purpose of achieving the [Family Support Vision and Route Map](#). They shared stories and learning from their local areas before exploring and experiencing elements of the Quality Improvement Journey and undertaking a systems mapping exercise highlighting the benefits and unintended consequences in this type of large scale systems change. More information can be viewed on our [website](#).





Improving Futures Through Children's Services Planning

Strategic leaders from Children's Services Planning Partnerships and National Partnership bodies came together to explore how we best join up quality planning, controls and improvement to help us deliver quality services that ensure more children develop to their potential during the critical window of pre-birth to three.

We heard from Joanne Smith, Policy and Public Affairs Manager at NSPCC Scotland, about the compelling evidence for putting babies at the heart of strategic planning and used the [Quality Management System Framework developed by Healthcare Improvement Scotland](#) to explore what we could do next to strengthen our approach in Scotland, building on our early years journey to date, and recognising that we need a strong learning system at the heart of this.

The rich insights provided will be used to help develop specific actions to progress our [early child development change theory](#) and strengthen our Children's Services Planning Guidance in the months ahead. Further information will follow on the [CYPIC website](#).

Focus, Connection & Method in Action

We also spent time considering how to create the conditions for change at all levels of our systems; winning hearts and minds. Key takeaways included the importance of starting small; starting with early adopters and capturing success; presenting robust numerical data alongside the power of stories. It was recognised that positive relationships were essential and staff should feel empowered to make changes; using data for learning. There was also the recognition that processes to manage expectations, accountability and using the methodology to collect data overtime were needed.



**Creating
Conditions**



**Understanding
Systems**



**Developing
Aims**



**Testing
Changes**



Implement



Spread



Early Child Development

The conference was a good opportunity to think about how we can focus on the things that will have the most impact on outcomes, and we don't need to preach to our CYPIC community about the importance of the early years and improving equity!

At our [previous conference](#), the CYPIC hive brain contributed really useful insights about what is working well and what can be improved around early child development in Scotland. Building on that, using evidence including the [WHO nurturing care framework](#) and conversations with a range of experts, we have now shared our national early child development change theory.

From before they are born, all babies and young children experience the nurturing care they need to develop to their full potential

Aim: To reduce the proportion of children with developmental concerns at 27-30 months by a quarter by 2030 (from 18% to 13.5%)



*nutrition & health - play & stimulation - sensitive responsive caregiving - safe from harm

This change theory needs to belong to everyone in Scotland and we are excited at how our CYPIC community can play its part in the improvement journey to come, building on the collective efforts to date. You might also have seen that there was a [debate in the Scottish Parliament](#) about the programme last month. More information on the programme can be found on the Scottish Government website:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/early-child-development-transformational-change-programme/>



National Improving Writing Programme

The National Improving Writing Programme took centre stage at the conference, demonstrating QI in action at all levels that everyone could relate to.

“What a difference a programme like this can make in [our] local authority. The difference it is having on one bairn, one whole class and then a whole school ... it’s fantastic.” Local Authority Director of Children’s Services

ACEL data published this month demonstrates that the Wave 1 stretch aim was achieved early, in June 2023, with all 5 reporting 70% or more:

By June 2024 the five local authorities participating in Wave 1 will achieve at least 70% in first level CfE (Baseline 0 of 5)

We will share more outcome data as additional analysis of ACEL figures are carried out. In the meantime, evaluation of Wave 1 was consistently high. Tracking against the [Kirkpatrick Scale](#), the programme demonstrates Level 3 “Behaviour Change” and Level 4 “Results”.

- ★ 100% of teachers who completed the programme in Wave 1 Cohort 1 agreed that it had increased attainment for learners.
- ★ The improvement in teacher confidence to teach and assess writing was substantial (32% to 79%) and (24% to 81%).
- ★ Teachers reporting that they enjoy teaching writing a great deal or a lot rose from 54% to 94%.
- ★ Children’s enjoyment of writing increased from 25% to 90% over this period.

Wave 1 local authorities have recruited their third cohort of schools and the programme is being delivered by their own local leads. Some Cohort 1 schools are spreading the methodology beyond First Level, we are looking forward to capturing their data and learning through the School-Wide Spread Network.

Wave 2 is underway with five additional local authorities, twilights continue in the new year for Cohort 1 schools, with Cohort 2 beginning next term.

Wave 3 is recruiting in January 2024, this will be offered to a further five local authorities with the programme launching in September 2024.

We wish the CYPIC community all the best for 2024!