

Feedback from Scottish Guidance Association Committee

With reference to the PSE Report:

P4 Phase 3. Surely teachers of PSE are key stakeholders – we know the pupils, we know what has gone before, we know what is good/bad, what support we need. Directors of Education may never have taught PSE
PSE covers mental health too.

P5. Guidelines essential for S4 –S6.
SMT need to value PSE. Stop taking pupils out for anything and everything.

P6. Good quality resources are also needed. There is fantastic work going on in schools across Scotland. Why is this not being looked at and shared?

P7 Resilience. Pupils do not have resilience because they never make mistakes, never learn that things don't always go their own way. Pupils need to understand that failure is part of success.

P9. Tracking and monitoring of PSE, particularly assessment is very difficult – guidance and exemplars are needed.
There is good practice out there – who is going to collate it?

P9. Senior pupils frequently taken out of PSE; SFA refereeing; extra maths; catching up on SQA work in other subjects

P11 'Tutor time'. Teachers are sometimes 'forced' to take these classes – they have no training, no encouragement and can therefore be reluctant.
It is not always easy to get partners in, for example, the school nurse.
Staff are worried about assessing progress.

P12. Who provides universal support? Again, staff don't have confidence to do this without training.

P13. Secondary schools also have nurture rooms.
Guidance staff need more time/training to provide more effective support for young people.

P14. We need consistency in caseloads/contact time. Guidance staff frequently spend all day, every day with pupils. Sometimes they get no 'non-contact' time due to dealing with difficult situations then straight to class.

P14. Due to pupils being removed from PSE for various reasons we are losing weekly contact. This is not good for young people.

P16. Not seeing resilience being built for a lot of pupils, for example, the new S1. All staff should have Mental Health First Aid Training. CAMHs overloaded = pupils not getting the support they need.

P17. Not enough counselling time available. Pupils have to wait too long. There is an increased rate of attempted suicides.
CAMHs refusing referrals. We see these pupils everyday so know them well. We do not refer lightly.

P18 Consent. Parental support is essential. We are not encouraging pupils to have sex, question their sexuality etc. Pupils should not be removed for PSE.

P20. Can we get information about how young people are leading/evaluating learning in PSE?

P22 SHARE needs updated.

P23 Aspects for improvement. Ensure young people get to go to PSE and encourage them to see its value.
Tracking and monitoring – we need help with this.

P24. PSE must be valued by HTs/SMT in order for it to be valued by pupils.

SH 10 November 2018