

Good morning colleagues

You may have seen media coverage over the weekend that the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills has announced plans for a new national centre to ensure excellence in teaching across Scotland.

Announcing the new centre at the SNP conference in Aberdeen, Ms Gilruth said that “excellent learning and teaching must be the foundation of all that we do in Scottish education”.

It will be set up as part of the education reform programme and will be co-designed with teachers and professional associations, and will put Scotland at the forefront of innovative research in teaching practice. You can read the [supporting press release](#) on the Scottish Government website.

I am speaking with colleagues in Scottish Government today and we will continue to work closely with the reform team to discuss how this work will interact with the reform of the national bodies and how we will contribute. I have been assured that the skills, expertise and knowledge of ES staff will be critical to the development of this new initiative, and there will be opportunity for us to help shape this work as it progresses.

I look forward to discussing at our Leading Together session on Thursday, but thought it important to share the announcement with you at this early stage.

Regards