

Local Authority Context

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North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

Delivering our services with

Focus. Passion. Inspiration.



Professional
Learning
Academy



- **North Ayrshire** is one of 32 council areas in Scotland
- It is located in the southwest of Scotland
- 13% of population are school age
- 50 Primary schools (age 5 – 11)
- 9 Secondary school (age 12 – 18)
- 4 Special Schools (Additional Support Needs)
- 3% of Scotland's school population (693, 251)

North Ayrshire School Population

Primary	10 229	56%
Secondary	7 776	43%
Special	171	1%
Total	18 176	100%

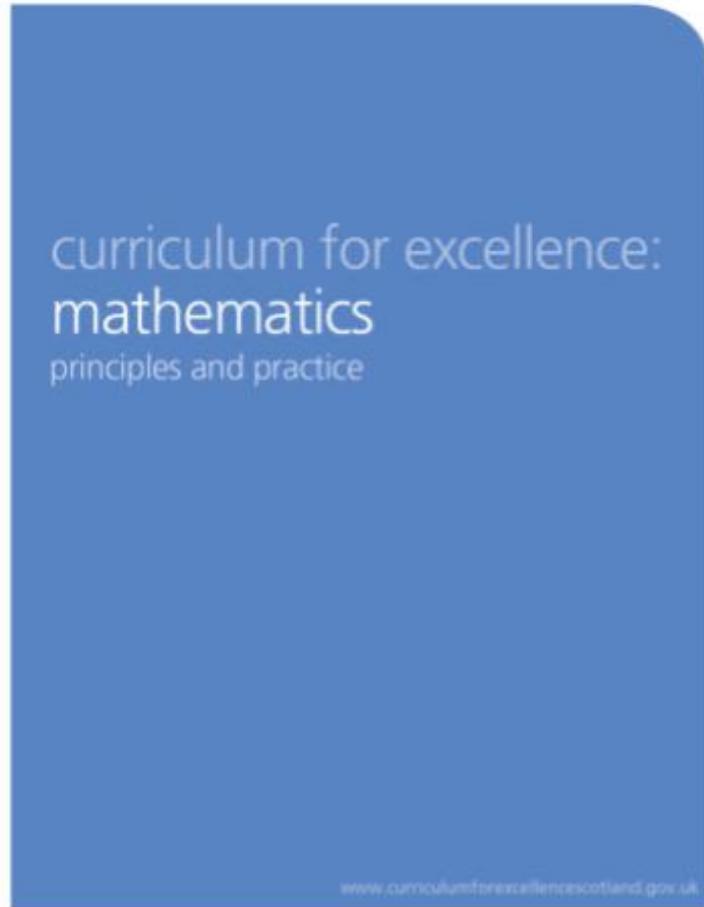


Freedom to Design Curriculum for Own Context

The curriculum should be designed on the basis of the following principles:

- Challenge and enjoyment
- Breadth
- Progression
- Depth
- Personalisation and choice
- Coherence
- Relevance.

Guidance



- planned active learning which provides opportunities to observe, explore, investigate, experiment, play, discuss and reflect
- modelling and scaffolding the development of mathematical thinking skills
- learning collaboratively and independently
- opportunities for discussion, communication and explanation of thinking
- developing mental agility
- using relevant contexts and experiences, familiar to young people
- making links across the curriculum to show how mathematical concepts are applied in a wide range of contexts, such as those provided by science and social studies
- using technology in appropriate and effective ways
- building on the principles of Assessment is for Learning, ensuring that young people understand the purpose and relevance of what they are learning
- developing problem-solving capabilities and critical thinking skills

North Ayrshire Policies

Taking steps towards updating policies

- Literacy policy ensuring explicit reference to meeting the needs of highly able pupils
- Numeracy and Maths policy ensuring explicit reference to meeting the needs of highly able pupils



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Transforming lives through learning

Whole-school Case Study Approach: Changing Mindsets

- All teacher involved
- Topic Chosen
- Collaborative planning for progression including pace and challenge as a focus
- Peer observations



Impact

- More dialogue amongst staff talking about differentiation for highly able learners, including pace and challenge
- Challenge mentioned in staff evaluations
- Future planning showed more evidence of challenge
- Pupils' feedback about learning was positive



Next Steps

- Consider other techniques e.g. enrichment and acceleration
- Expand to more areas of the curriculum
- Adapt school policies
- Dialogue with parents

