

Report

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Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	14 June 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Celebrating the Success of Young People and Employees
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise of the range of achievements and success of young people and employees in national and local awards and other programmes from August 2010 until June 2011.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) the very positive success of young people and employees in national and local awards and other programmes during 2010/11 be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. Celebrating the success and achievements of young people and employees has been a key feature for Education Resources over the years. The purpose is to recognise and celebrate achievement as well as attainment. Nurseries, schools, youth learning centres and other services are all involved in helping to raise attainment and to celebrate the achievements of children and young people. One successful way of doing this is through participation in national and local awards and events. This approach is also closely aligned to the principles of Curriculum for Excellence, where there is a focus on achievement as well as attainment. Opportunities are also taken by establishments and services to promote good practice and recognise the success of employees.
- 3.2. Schools and youth learning services are centres of creativity, talent and diversity and this makes them strong and successful. It is, therefore, important that Education Resources continues to recognise and celebrate the achievements and success of young people and employees. For young people this helps to boost their self-esteem, confidence and foster an active interest in future learning. It is also an opportunity to challenge the negative stereotypical view that there can be of young people and to demonstrate that there is a lot to be proud of in our young people in South Lanarkshire.
- 3.3. As well as recognising learning and academic achievements, the participation of young people across our establishments and services in a wide range of sporting activities, the arts, music, social enterprise, citizenship programmes and neighbourhood related projects (supporting children's appeals, local charities) deserves to be recognised. Promotion and celebration of success leads also to

more positive learning outcomes and also helps to demonstrate what can be achieved through the adoption of healthier lifestyles.

4. Celebrating Success 2010/11

- 4.1. Over the last year children, young people and employees have achieved success in a wide variety of highly prestigious national and local awards.

The Scottish Education Awards that will take place on 15 June 2011 has three finalists from South Lanarkshire:-

- Cathkin Community Nursery – Partnership for Learning Award
- Lanark Primary School – Active Nation Award
- St Elizabeth's Primary School – Teacher of the Year (Christine Emmett)

Earlier in the year, the Psychological Services team in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Care won a **COSLA award** for their work in developing "Give us a break." An innovative therapeutic programme designed to help children and young people cope with bereavement, loss and major negative changes in their lives. This is the first programme of its kind in the UK.

In June, over 300 young people attended the **South Lanarkshire Pupil Award Ceremony** with hundreds more taking part in nursery, school and youth learning award ceremonies. On 3 June 2011, 60 young people attended the **Globally Aware Schools Day** hosted by Heather Reid to mark the work schools have been doing to reduce global warming. On 7 June 2011, over 350 young people attended the **Youth Learning Awards** to receive Youth Achievement Awards, Dynamic Youth Awards, SoLVE Awards, Youthlink Awards and Duke of Edinburgh certificates.

These events demonstrate the commitment by nurseries, schools, youth learning and other services to show how they are developing very successful learners and supporting them to be responsible citizens and effective contributors to the life of their school and local community.

- 4.2. It has been another rewarding year for many young people and employees. Below are some examples of the breadth of achievements gained during the period from August 2010 until June 2011:-

- *In April 2011, Stonelaw High School, Rutherglen, won the national Young Person's Social Enterprise of the Year Award.*
- *Heathery Knowe Primary School and Trinity High School won the primary and secondary awards in the John Walker Equal Opportunities Competition.*
- *Graham Kane was named as Scotland's Youth-Worker of the year and was presented with his award by YouthLink Scotland. This follows-on from the Youth Services Manager won last year by Roz Gallacher.*
- *Calderside Academy won the secondary schools debating competition.*
- *John Ogilvie High was recognised as an example of good practice in the promotion of modern languages by the Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching (SCILT).*
- *St Vincent's Primary School was the winner of the Micro-Tyco Entrepreneurial Challenge.*
- *Auchinraith Primary School and St Peter's Primary School both won "Rights Respecting" School Awards.*
- *Rutherglen High School won the Coca-Cola enterprise challenge.*
- *The musical talent of young people from across South Lanarkshire continues to be recognised at national and local level with some notable achievements – the performance of the South Lanarkshire Schools' Big Band performance at the*

national Tapestry conference and the individual achievements of two pupils from Uddingston Grammar and one from Biggar High in gaining places in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain

- *The International Children's Games will provide young people with opportunities to participate in various sporting activities. Many other children will also take part in a range of events including the flag relay, a tiles project and a Scots language programme as part of an ICG legacy initiative.*
- *1,897 have gained nationally recognised awards outwith school in 2010/11, including Youth Achievement Awards, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and certificates for REHIS and First Aid.*
- *1650 primary school children have participated in this year's Artsnet Outreach 'Safe and Sound' workshops.*
- *The very effective contribution made by schools and young people to the work of local and international charities with significant support provided to the Tsunami Appeal is worthy of recognition.*
- *To mark International Children's Day on 1 June, Stonehouse Primary School was the host school for a 'Glow meet' in recognition of the support they have provided to Mary's Meals.*
- *Over 20,000 children are now being taught in the 17 new mainstream secondary schools plus Rutherglen High and Sanderson High the new additional support needs schools. 57 new primary schools have now opened with more to follow after the summer period.*

4.3. The publication in the Education Newsletter of the achievements of young people and through the 'Celebrating of Success' supplements help to highlight many examples of the success of young people in non-certificated activities. Establishments and services also make use of local media, Glow and websites to promote and highlight the success stories of young people and employees.

4.4 Over the years, the Council has helped to promote the success of young people through various programmes, such as the Road Safety Programme, Crucial Crew, Home Happening, Sports Programmes and other community involvement activities. These enable young people to participate in a wide range of active learning activities where they have the opportunity to further develop their skills and talents.

4.5 Further consideration continues to be given by Education Resources in light of the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence to a national developed portfolio of children's achievements. The national portfolio of achievements will be recognised by employers and further education providers as part of the overall approach to recognising the success of young people.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

6.1. Financial implications are met from within existing budgets.

7. Other Implications

7.1. Other communication means such as, Glow will be used in the near future to showcase examples of good practice.

7.2. The risk assessment associated with the proposals in this report is deemed to be low and will not have an adverse impact on Education Resources.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. There was no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 8.2. Education Resources will continue to invite establishments and services to recognise and publicise achievements as part of the overall approach of sharing success stories with parents/carers, local elected members and other stakeholders.

Larry Forde
Executive Director (Education Resources)

23 May 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values

- Raise educational attainment
- Improve lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults

Previous References

- Education Resources Committee – 31 August 2010

List of Background Papers

- Celebrating success supplement

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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