



Curriculum for Excellence in Bell Baxter High School

The Scottish Government has continued its commitment to improving learning, attainment and achievement for all young people by introducing a *Curriculum for Excellence*

I am being prepared for learning ...



I am being prepared for life ...



I am being prepared for work ...



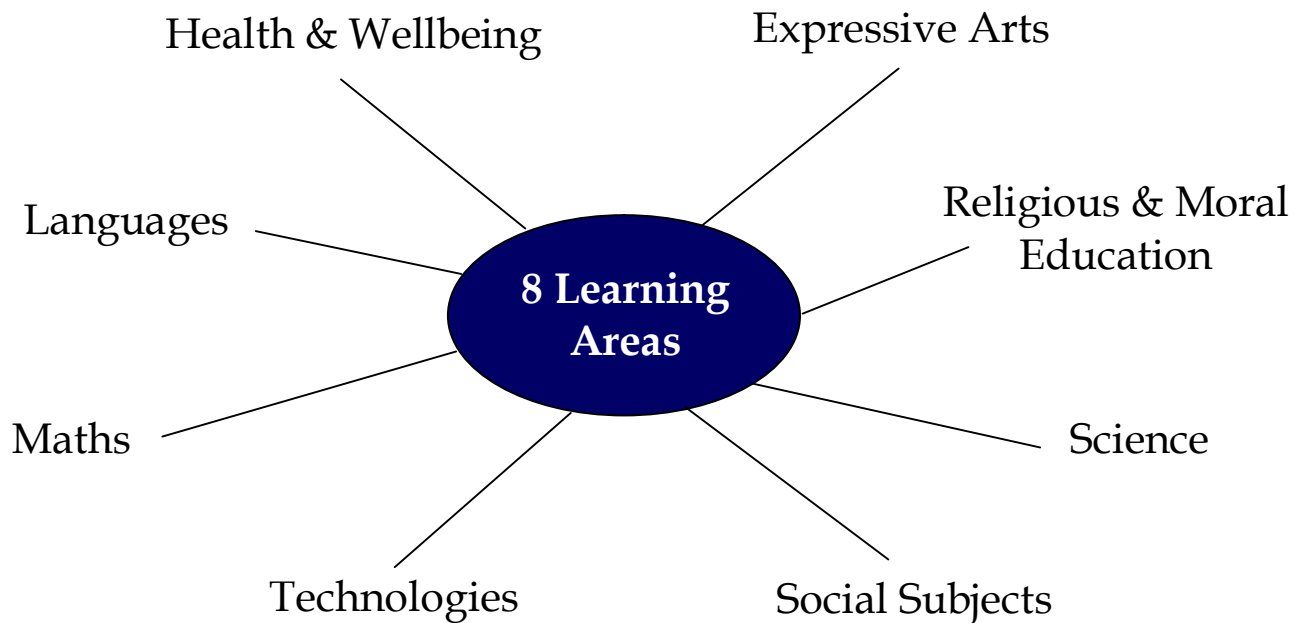
The purpose of *Curriculum for Excellence* is to provide children and young people with skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work through learning and teaching which is relevant to our changing world

A Curriculum for Excellence

The National Context

The New Curriculum

To provide a more cohesive experience, *Curriculum for Excellence* sets out eight learning areas, rather than traditional subjects. Within each area, the Government describes the learning experience, and what is to be achieved by young people.



There is also a focus on literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing across all curriculum areas.

Organisation of The Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence has an impact on the way in which schools plan and organise their curriculum. It sets out entitlements for learners which include:

- A broad general education across all of the eight learning areas through to S3.
- A senior phase of education after S3 which provides the opportunity to obtain qualifications.

The new curriculum is supported by new examinations which will replace Standard Grade and Intermediate qualifications.

The Curriculum at Bell Baxter

The First Year Experience

At Bell Baxter pupils will follow a curriculum which is made up from each of the eight learning areas set out in *Curriculum for Excellence*. Departments and faculties have been reviewing the pupil experience to ensure that it is engaging, promotes active learning and meets the principles of *Curriculum for Excellence*.

The S2/S3 Curriculum

As pupils progress into S2 and S3 they will continue to consolidate their learning in each of the learning areas. They will have the opportunity to personalise their curriculum, study subjects in more depth, or try learning in new contexts by adding elective courses to their curriculum.

The Senior Phase

As pupils move into S4 they will choose courses in specific subjects and prepare to be presented for the new national qualifications. These qualifications will include literacy and numeracy. Some pupils may choose to follow courses offered by colleges during this stage.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Will my child still be working at Levels A-F?

A. *No. From August, 2010 they will be working within the levels listed below.*

Level	Stage
Early	The pre-school years and P1 or later for some
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some
Third & Fourth	S1-S3, but earlier for some
Senior Phase	S4-S6 and college or other means of study

Q. What qualifications will my child take, and when will they take them?

A. *From S3 your child will be working towards a qualification in Literacy and Numeracy. Between S4 and S6 they will take qualifications called Access, National 4, National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher and Baccalaureates. The National 4 and National 5 are new qualifications which replace Standard Grade and Intermediate qualifications.*

Q. How will these exams be assessed?

A. *The new qualifications at level 4 and 5 will be unit based and will be assessed internally at level 4 and include an external examination for level 5. The S.Q.A. will provide quality assurance of the course assessments.*

Q. Who will take these new exams?

A. *If your child is currently in Primary 7 (Session 2009/2010) they will be the first to take the new exams.*

Q. Is it just at Bell Baxter that changes are being made?

A. *No. Curriculum for Excellence affects every school in Scotland. The new examinations replace Standard Grades and Intermediate levels currently available, and are provided by the Scottish Qualifications Agency (S.Q.A.).*

Further Information:

www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence

www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone