



E-SGOIL NEWS

OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

E-SGOIL RESPONDS TO OMICRON WITH AN ENHANCED PROGRAMME

In this edition of our newsletter we explore the programme of enhanced provision we offered from the beginning of Term 3 up until the February half-term break.

This programme was designed and created to support learners and schools who may be experiencing continued disruption due to the Coronavirus pandemic and specifically during the increase of cases caused by the Omicron variant.

Our normal programme of live sessions, learning spaces for Early Years, P1 - 7, DYW Live and Study Support was supplemented with new sessions such as French Story Puppets for Early Years and Primary, new learning spaces for S1-3 and Mental Health and Wellbeing sessions for S1-6 learners.

The chart opposite shows the estimated number of viewers we had for all live sessions delivered.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Enhanced provision
during January

Meet the e-Sgoil team

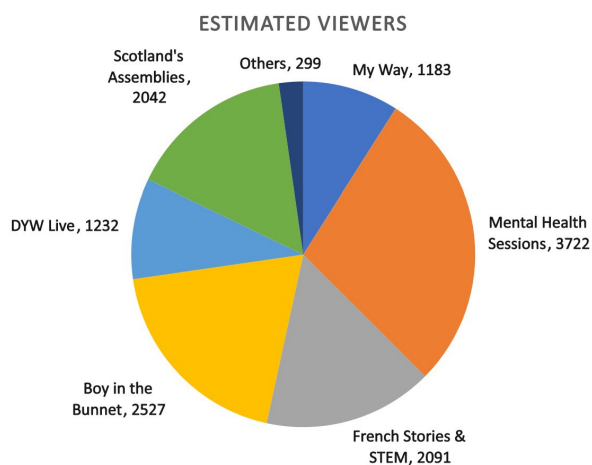
Northern Alliance
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What's coming up?

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Keeping in touch with e-Sgoil

E-SGOIL OPEN-ACCESS 'ENHANCED PROVISION'
10TH JAN - 11TH FEB 2022



Recordings of the live sessions delivered as part of the enhanced programme and all associated resources are available to access on demand on our website.

Early Years & Primary

http://



Click on any of the bold text or images to access further information and resources.

During January we were pleased to offer an expanded range of live and recorded sessions aimed at Early Years & Primary Learners.

For Early Years and 1st level learners we had **French Story Puppets**, offering interactive French language fun which ran along with our regular **Dug's Discovery Den** learning spaces.



Primary 2nd level learners also enjoyed live & interactive **French language STEM** sessions.



Broadly covering the theme of "Discovering Our Scotland" we explored traditional music and the Scots language during eight live lessons based on the book **The Boy & the Bunnet**. These lessons featured live musicians and storytelling as well as ways for learners to explore the story themselves.

Scotland's Assembly explored RZSS Highland Wildlife Park to meet some of our native species (including some brilliant Wild Cats and Reindeer).

We also visited the National Galleries of Scotland twice. First for a live session exploring how we can come up with ideas for our own art and stories, then secondly Scotland's Assembly heard a story using some artworks from the collection followed by a live Q&A with guests from as far away as Kenya!



We have had a host of **DYW Live open access sessions** exploring careers and industries across Scotland. See the DYW Live section further on for details of these.



Our Learning Spaces for **1st Level** and **2nd Level** have been updated - they are full of creative, playful learning pupils can explore themselves.



All live sessions were recorded and can be watched on demand via our website **here** where you'll also find links to accompanying resources.



Click on any of the bold text or images to access further information and resources.

Secondary



As well as relaunching our **Big Questions** (a set of 20 interactive IDL learning resources aimed at S1-3 learners) January saw the creation of two new **Learning Spaces for secondary BGE** - one on Robert Burns and another with a Winter Olympics theme.



The Winter Olympics resource, created in partnership with West OS, asks questions such as 'How sustainable is artificial snow? What are the mountains of Scotland really like up close and personal? Why are Maths and Science so important in snow sports?', while our Robert Burns resource poses the question 'Who was Robert Burns and why is he an important figure in Scotland's heritage and culture?'

We have also launched a new feature called '**My Way**'. This is a live interview (accessible afterwards in an online video gallery) featuring a diverse range of people talking about how they have achieved success in their chosen field. Contributors talk and answer questions about what it is they do, obstacles they may have overcome along the way, and the people who have supported and influenced them.

Our first three contributors were Rachael Johnstone (Celtic Football Club), Scott Arfield (Rangers Football Club) and Anja Hall (Orkney Distillery). 'My Way' is an inspirational resource, showing that there truly is 'no wrong path' for young people in Scotland today and we have more sessions in the series coming up.

Our live **Study Support** evening Webinars have been well-attended in the early part of this year, with learners from all over Scotland continuing to sign up in large numbers. We have new staff delivering in Higher Modern Studies and N5 English and also launched a new feature called "**Your Questions**".

This enables learners to submit questions via the individual study support teams, to be answered by peers and subject teachers.



Secondary

[http://](#)


Click on any of the bold text or images to access further information and resources.

S1-6 Mental Health & Wellbeing Learning Sessions

We have just completed a full programme of Mental Health and Wellbeing learning sessions for secondary pupils from S1 through to S6. These learning sessions were created with Brian Costello, director of the company **Headstrong**. Brian and his team work tirelessly to try and improve the mental health and wellbeing of young people and adults across Scotland.



For **S1-3 learners**, six exciting sessions were developed focussing on their mental health and wellbeing. Each can be used as a stand-alone learning session or as a complete series. Each learning session comes with a lesson plan with activities for teachers to use in class in conjunction with the videos.

For **Senior Phase learners in S4-6** we delivered four live learning sessions which were presented weekly with each session featuring a live Q & A giving young people an opportunity to directly ask Brian specific questions. These sessions provided advice and understanding around mental health and wellbeing for young people at their particular age and stage in their lives. These learning sessions can also help parents and carers to have a better understanding of mental health and wellbeing in a bid to help support the young people in their lives.



All of these resources are free and available now on our website **here**

DYW Live open-access webinars

To support schools facing potential disruption up to the February half-term, DYW Live offered a number of open-access sessions.



Delivered by a range of partners, these work-related sessions, streamed directly through the e-Sgoil website, were suitable for learners from P2 - S6 and included an opportunity for a live Q & A.

All the live sessions have been recorded and you can watch them **here**

Each month we will introduce you to some of the members of the e-Sgoil team. In this edition of the newsletter we meet **David Downham** - Digital DHT and **Lorna Campbell** - Art teacher

Meet the team



“ I am currently a Depute Head Teacher (DHT) with e-Sgoil and I am based in North Uist. I am originally from Tobermory on the Isle of Mull and after 17 years teaching in West Lothian at St Margaret's Academy I was happy to be moving back to a small island community. I was lucky enough to have a number of positions within Sgoil Lionacleit, but unfortunately they were all temporary contracts. Now with my role as a DHT within e-Sgoil I am able to continue my own professional development by overcoming the issues of limited job opportunities in rural and island communities.

Within e-Sgoil I have responsibility for inclusion, wellbeing and supporting marginalised young people which can be very rewarding. Here in the Outer Hebrides geographical challenges can cause particular problems for these groups of young people so I love to see their improved situations first hand and I hope to use this experience to support young people across Scotland as a whole. Away from education there are also benefits to the local community with my wages feeding into the economy and my family and I being able to involve ourselves in a whole range of community clubs, committees and enterprises. With e-Sgoil my family now have the opportunity to live in our community of choosing and have the lifestyle that we want without compromise. ” - David Downham

“ I am a newly qualified Secondary Art & Design teacher, working with e-Sgoil and for Castlebay Community School, on the Isle of Barra. After six years of studying and working on the mainland, it has felt like a privilege to be able to come back to my home, Vatersay, to live and work. While studying, I received my Art & Design teaching certificate through the medium of Gaelic and e-Sgoil have provided me with the perfect platform to reach a range of GME pupils, who benefit from Gaelic language development while learning different artistic skills as they create their own artworks. Teaching pupils all over Scotland is not only beneficial from a language point of view, but as an Art teacher I am continuously seeing a broad array of artworks from budding artists, who regularly inspire my teaching.

Being able to live and work in the Western Isles has provided me with the opportunity to become more engaged with both Barra and Vatersay's local community and I hope there are similar job opportunities available for more young islanders, so we can continue to help our islands thrive and embrace our Gaelic roots. ” - Lorna Campbell



COCO project

After a successful initial pilot of the Northern Alliance Collaborative Online Curriculum Opportunities (COCO) Project, we are planning for Phase 2 and are looking for schools to deliver SQA courses as part of the project for session 2022/23.



Schools can express an interest in delivering courses until 18th March: complete the **lead school form** now.

Have a read of our **Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQs) on the project to find out more.

Looking at the tracking and success of the project so far, we know it's working:

- 100% of learners are on target to pass (A-C) and achieve their target grade
- Data from the most recent evaluation rates learner experience as 4.6 out of 5
- School feedback has also been positive and rated at 4 out of 5

Learners tell us they're pleased the offer is helping them to study subjects they wouldn't have been able to in school and that they're enjoying interacting with peers across the country. Colleagues are pleased to be able to expand their schools' curriculum offer and meet the needs of learners in an innovative way.

So far and with colleagues' support across the Northern Alliance, we've been delivering five courses across three levels with 17 learners from across five local authorities. We can deliver more with your help.

Digital Depute Head Teacher Jacqui Yule, who is leading the COCO project on behalf of the Northern Alliance, said: "Coco is a fantastic opportunity to maximise curriculum opportunities in the Senior Phase. Learners can study SQA courses that support their chosen career pathway whilst also benefiting from working with their peers across the Northern Alliance."

"There may be schools offering Senior Phase courses to a small number of learners. This is one example of how a school could become involved in Coco for session 2022/23 as a Lead School and extend the course offer across the Northern Alliance with a hybrid model of delivery. Schools are successfully delivering in this way this session. We are seeing great results."

Laurence Findlay, Lead Officer for the Northern Alliance and Director of Education and Children's Services for Aberdeenshire Council commented: "This project is about us all working together, looking at opportunities to improve what's on offer to our young people and sharing resources to make that happen. It is working really well for those who are already taking part and we are hoping to build on that, to engage learners and help them achieve great results."

You will find further information **here** and if you have any further questions, please email **naseniorphase@glowmail.org.uk**

COMING SOON

http://



Click on any of the bold text or images to access further information.



4th March

Scotland's Assembly for Primary schools - We're celebrating International Women's Day 2022! Join us for a great guest and a fab creative challenge.



28th February -
4th March

Talk to a farmer week - Over the course of the week we will have a host of different farmers from across the country on hand to talk to your class about how different food is produced.



7th - 11th March

Scottish Apprenticeships Week - a range of inspirational talks from apprentices during Scottish Apprenticeship Week.



18th March

Scotland's Assembly for Primary schools - more details to be announced.



21st - 24th March

World Education Summit, don't miss e-Sgoil's session on **Removing Barriers for All**, on Tuesday 22nd March at 3pm



7th - 14th April

Easter Study Support - Live daytime webinars covering upwards of 60 courses, with three inputs per course.

National e-Learning Offer

The National e-Learning Offer complements the delivery of teaching and learning by schools and settings, local authorities and Regional Improvement Collaboratives in Scotland.



It is made up of three elements - live, recorded and supported resources. Live resources include interactive, online classes. Recorded resources are available to watch at any time. Supported resources include assessments, practical experiments, revision resources and more.



All resources have been created by educators for educators to support the development of learning opportunities across the curriculum, from the beginning of the Broad General Education through to the Senior Phase.

Click on the NeLO & West OS logos above to find out more and search the resource banks.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH E-SGOIL



Every Friday during term time we publish details of what's coming up the following week along with detailed timetables for the live Study Support webinars and DYW Live.

These are published on the homepage of our **website** as well as on our social media channels. Click on the logos below to be directed.

If you would like to have our monthly newsletter delivered straight in to your inbox you can sign up to our mailing list using the form on the link below or scan the QR code.



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