ASCL Association of School and College Leaders

Enhancing the delivery of diplomas

14-19 Reform Conference
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Enhancing the delivery of diplomas

- Revised secondary curriculum
- Assessment
- Four routes
- Extended project
- Functional skills
- Diploma complexity
- Diploma issues
- Partnerships
- The future

Revised secondary curriculum

- KS3 implementation
- 12 statutory subjects, plus RE, sex education, careers education, PSHE
- Review of PSHE
- Cooking
- KS3 changes well received
- Two-year KS3 in some schools

Assessment

- End of KS3 tests
- No single level tests at KS3
- Assessment for learning
- Assessing pupils' progress (APP)
- Targets and reports to parents
- National sampling
- Chartered assessors
- Diploma assessment

Four routes

- Aims to clarify routes
- Entitlement by 2013 to all four routes for all learners
  - GCSEs and A-levels
  - Diplomas
  - Apprenticeships
  - Foundation Learning Tier

Extended project

- Available at level 3
- Free-standing or part of diplomas
- Positive reaction from HE
- UCAS points

Functional skills

- Important qualification
- Part of GCSE?
- Assessment

Diploma complexity

- 17 x 3 = 51
- Entitlement – realistic?
- Extended diplomas
- Phase 4 diplomas (science, languages, humanities)
- Clarity of message
- Communications strategy

Diploma issues

- Diploma design
- Learning style
- Logistics
- Employer engagement
- Higher education
- IAG

Partnerships

- 21st century school
- Behaviour partnerships
- 14 to 19
- Governance and leadership
- Accountability
- Quality assurance
- Performance indicators

The future

- Why not a general diploma?
- Welsh Bac : the umbrella model
- Raising the participation age to 17/18

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