



F/T: 0300 244 4000
E: dfmcse@gov.scot

Clare Adamson MSP
Convener
Education and Skills Committee
Scottish Parliament

By e-mail to: es.committee@parliament.scot

30 April 2019

Dear Clare,

I am writing to update the Scottish Parliament's Education and Skills Committee on progress with the implementation of the LGBT inclusive Education recommendations.

As I confirmed to Parliament during the debate on 8 November 2018, an LGBT Inclusive Education Implementation Group has been formed to oversee delivery of the Working Group's recommendations.

The Scottish Government and COSLA are committed to taking forward the work of the Implementation Group in an open and transparent manner. I am therefore delighted to enclose a copy the action plan that the Implementation Group has agreed for publication on the Scottish Government's website. The action plan sets out, within four phases, the associated milestones for delivery of the recommendations by the end of the current Parliamentary term, in March 2021.

I referred in my letter of 8 November 2018 to the Scottish Government's intention to issue guidance on LGBT inclusion to local authorities at an early stage of implementation. I am therefore pleased to enclose a copy of the intermediate guidance notice that issued jointly from Cllr McCabe, the COSLA Children and Young People Spokesperson, and myself to all publically funded schools. The guidance note is intended to clarify that education should be LGBT inclusive, encourage schools to work collegiately and in partnership with their learners to enhance LGBT inclusivity and draw their attention to the programme of work ahead.

I know the Committee shares my determination to take these recommendations forward to ensure Scotland is providing an inclusive educational experience for all our LGBT young people.

JOHN SWINNEY