

Highland

SNSA

In relation to SNSA and standardised assessment, we recently completed a survey with head teachers across Highland, the feedback suggested most schools found having broad set times in the year beneficial for testing so we have set broad assessment times this session for the different stages accordingly. Most comments and options were to complete earlier in the session (with exception of P1), to allow time for children to improve towards achievement of a level by June. We do not currently undertake any additional testing across the pupil population in Highland.

We have been very clear that these assessments should be used for diagnostic purposes only to inform planning for next steps in learning. While it will likely be useful to do this in stages / groups at the same time, there may be occasions where it is not a suitable time for an individual or a school with regard to pupil's pace of learning and / or teacher planning. So, broad times are set for the majority of pupils / schools but not necessarily all.

Broad times to carry out assessments are recommended as:

- **S3 – Sept – Nov**
- **P4 & P7 – Jan - March**
- **P1 – March – May**

The data is available at a school and local authority level and we have provided CPD for head teachers to support them in using their own data to inform improvement. The data team have provided trend school CfE level data with this year's SNSA school data and schools were given a Highland overview for both for comparison.

We are monitoring the use of SNSA through our Quality Improvement Team at an authority level and through individual Quality Improvement Officers at an individual school level.

Should you require any further specific detail on the responses provided in relation to these areas of interest, please do not hesitate to request this.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Campbell

Interim Director of Care and Learning