

Midlothian

SNSA Responses: Midlothian responses in bold

1. If you conduct standardised assessments at local authority level as well as SNSAs in your schools, do you plan to retain the standardised assessments at local authority level as well as SNSAs in the long term? If so, please provide some detail on:

- a. the reasoning for this (what it provides that SNSA cannot),
- b. which assessment you use from which provider, and
- c. the annual cost of the local authority standardised assessments.

Longer term, we do not plan to retain other standardised assessments.

2. Does your local authority seek to guide your schools as to when in the academic year SNSAs should be carried out? If so, please provide details and the rationale for your approach. If your local authority does not prescribe a particular timescale for SNSAs, are you aware of any practice within your schools where senior management teams prescribe the timings and, if so, what do you consider to be the benefits of this approach?

We have allowed schools to decide themselves on the most appropriate time to administer the SNSA.

3. Are you aware of the extent to which the results of SNSAs are shared with parents and, where age appropriate, children? Is there a local authority level policy on sharing this information? (for example, to aid development including learning at home with parental involvement)

We do not have a policy and have not widely shared this information.

4. Given the results of SNSAs are being analysed and reported on at a national level (linked below), are you provided with a breakdown of performance at local authority level of the results? Are you provided with a breakdown at school level or smaller cohorts (class level for example or for SIMD areas)? How will this data be used to improve education in your area?

I am provided with a local authority report which I can interrogate with targeted groups if necessary. I also discuss results with schools to ensure intelligent use is being made of the data.

5. How are you collating evidence on how the SNSAs are bedding in at local authority level? For example, the benefits to the teachers and as a consequence the children and young people or any practical concerns with how the tests are operating (resource issues including technology and also staff time, unintended consequences etc.)

We collated feedback from all practitioners who administered assessments last session. Results were fed back to schools, our LNCT another appropriate departments eg Digital Services.

Schools Group Managers discussed results with Head Teachers alongside their Teacher Judgement Survey results to see what use was being made of them.