



Glasgow City Region Education Committee

Report by: Sharon Hayward, Senior Partnership Officer

Contact: Sharon Hayward, Senior Partnership Officer

ADES/Staff College 'Learning Beyond Boundaries' Update

Purpose of the Report

To provide members of the committee with an update on the collaborative work between ADES / Staff College and West Partnership (WP) on future place of Artificial Intelligence in Scottish education.

Recommendations :

The committee is asked to:

- note and comment upon the project progress and the WP strategic involvement.

1. Background

- 1.1 In April 2024, collaborative work began between ADES and Staff College to consider the future place of Artificial Intelligence in Scottish Education. The West Partnership had already undertaken a literature review and provided practitioner professional learning on this subject and were involved in the strategic progress of this new work from the outset.
- 1.2 Local Authorities were invited to contribute to the funding of this work and become 'Pathfinders'. It was agreed that all eight local authorities across the West Partnership would like to be involved. As the work aligned with Improvement Plan priorities, this involvement was fully funded through the West Partnership Grant 2023-24.

2 Key Points

2.1 Project Aims

The 'Learning without Boundaries' project has three clear aims:

- Create resources and tools for schools to experiment with and consider approaches to AI related themes such as personalised learning, pupil choice, assessment, and mental health and wellbeing;
- Stimulate discussion and imagination in Scottish schools on the potential of AI and using it safely and confidently to enhance learning experiences; and
- Provide a small qualitative research evidence base to support policy discussions (using the critical feedback from the project).

2.2 Project Stages

The project takes place in four stages:

- **Phase one:** February - March 2024 - collect research evidence on the development and application of AI in education settings through a series of quickfire interviews with key stakeholders in Scottish Education;
- **Phase two:** May - June 2024 - For pathfinder Authorities, a series of engagement events in Schools with students, classroom practitioners and with education staff;
- **Phase three:** September - November 2024 - Development of resources, toolkits, top tips for schools to think about how to approach and use AI in learning, all available through a new website; and
- **Phase four:** The project materials will be launched at the end of 2024. Schools will also be able to book a slot with the Staff College to run facilitated sessions.

- 2.3 All four phases have been delivered on time. West Partnership Core Team staff have played a pivotal role in creating and facilitating the engagement activities with children and young people. In addition, bespoke engagement sessions were conducted online specifically for West Partnership practitioners and central officers earlier this term. This ensured the 'voice' and experience of colleagues fed into the final report and recommendations.
- 2.4 The ADES AI microsite is currently under development by Staff College to house the project resources (scenarios, video, toolkits) about the project, guidance to teachers on using the resources, feedback loops, case studies, pupil stories and think pieces for policy makers. It is anticipated that a scenario toolkit will be housed on the microsite, with the opportunity for schools to book a facilitated session with the Staff College team to deliver engagement activities in individual schools.
- 2.5 A final report, detailing the findings of the engagement activities and recommendations to schools, local authorities and Scottish Government was recently published (Appendix One). The RIC Lead and Senior Partnership Officer had the opportunity to comment on this in draft.

3. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- note and comment upon the project progress and the WP strategic involvement.