

Upstream Battle Professional Learning Programme Twilight Three – Feedback Report

This Programme is funded by The West Partnership and implemented by Keep Scotland Beautiful in partnership with Education Scotland.

Prepared December 2019

Background

Focused on the River Clyde and its tributaries, Upstream Battle aims to raise awareness, gather evidence and inspire action to prevent marine litter at source. Communities, individuals, schools and the private and public sector are all encouraged to work towards one common goal: to stop litter from getting into the Clyde.

Available for teachers across the West Partnership Collaborative, the aim of the Upstream Battle Professional Learning Programme (PLP) is to develop confidence in delivering on each pupil's entitlement to Learning for Sustainability (LfS) and build STEM skills through the context of source to sea litter. The PLP is delivered through a blended learning model combining four face to face twilight sessions and online learning. An interdisciplinary approach supports skills in enquiry-based learning.

Online applications were received from 61 applicants representing 57 different establishments (early years, primary and secondary) across all eight local authorities of the West Partnership Collaborative (table one).

Local Authorities	Number of applicants	Establishments represented	Early Years	Primary	Secondary	ASN
East Dunbartonshire	11	10	2	6	3	0
East Renfrewshire	6	6	1	3	1	1
Glasgow City	9	9	1	8	0	0
Inverclyde	4	3	0	3	0	1
North Lanarkshire	5	5	0	5	0	0
Renfrewshire	10	8	1	9	0	0
South Lanarkshire	11	11	1	9	0	1
West Dunbartonshire	5	5	1	2	2	0
Total	61	57	7	45	6	3

Table One: Breakdown of applications for the Upstream Battle Professional Learning Programme



Programme Outcomes

- Build confidence and develop STEM skills in the context of source to sea litter.
- Support HGIOS best practice by taking a whole school approach to Learning for Sustainability.
- Collaborate across schools, communities and partners in the STEM family to learn and share best practice.
- Create applied local learning opportunities in a range of STEM activities, raising attainment and achievement
- Receive direct support to gain or renew an Eco-Schools Scotland Green Flag Award.

Twilight Three

Four twilights were held between Monday 18 – Thursday 21 November 2019. Hosting schools included Woodlands Primary (Renfrewshire), Douglas Academy (East Dunbartonshire), Blackwood Primary School (South Lanarkshire) and St Kevin's Primary School (North Lanarkshire).

Twilights provided an opportunity for feedback and explored the global perspective of source to sea litter. Participants shared progress on their plans to date and looked at the connections between their school project and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's). Links were made to all 17 SDG's highlighting the diverse nature of the topics selected and approaches used by different establishments. In some cases, enquiry questions were still in formation and participants used the twilight to seek clarification and guidance on how best to take a range of ideas forward. As many establishments have taken part in a clean-up, participants were encouraged to use their data to guide their projects e.g. what type of litter was found most, where could it have come from and how could it be tackled? Participants were also encouraged where possible to make use of the Upstream Battle citizen science tools and upload their survey results online to contribute to the larger pool of data. Linear and circular economies were explored as well as the waste hierarchy. Participants discussed ways in which a circular economy could be supported through their projects. Examples included pupil letters to manufacturers to switch to more sustainable packaging or addressing single use plastic within the school. The connection and relevance of our work to climate action was also examined.

Participants

A total of 33 participants from early years, primary and secondary establishments took part across the four twilights, representing all eight local authorities in the West Partnership Collaborative. Several participants provided apologies due to commitments ahead of the December break. Resources for twilight three were made available online via Microsoft Teams.

Activities

Activities provided an opportunity for feedback on school's enquiries to date and explored the global perspective of source to sea litter. They included:

- An activity to explore the sustainable development goals (creating connections between enquiry projects and their global impact)



- A card activity to highlight systems thinking and compare a circular/single use approach to waste management
- Discussion of the role of a circular economy in tackling source to sea litter and thoughts on how we can bring incorporate the circular economy into our learning enquiries
- Conversation to explore the connection between source to sea litter and climate change, identifying ways to reduce our carbon footprint and cut down on source to sea litter (where time allowed, groups engaged in a carbon jenga activity)
- Introduction to Young Reporters for the Clyde
- Q&A session on online learning activities and upcoming twilights

Online learning

The PLP uses the online platform of Microsoft Teams to support participants to engage in conversations, share resources and complete a series of online learning activities (table two):

Activity	Timeframe	Duration
Online learning activity 1/2: GTCS self/whole school evaluation	September - October 2019	2.5 hours
Online learning activity 3: Planning/implementing your unit of enquiry	October 2019 – February 2020	2.5 hours
Online learning activity 4: Reflect on your unit of enquiry	February 2020	3 hours
Online learning activity 5/6: GTCS self/whole school evaluation	March 2020	2 hours

Table two: Online activities taking place throughout the Upstream Battle Professional Learning Programme

For the fourth online activity, participants were provided with a template to reflect on the findings from their school's enquiry into source to sea litter. These case studies will be discussed further during the final twilight in February 2020 and be shared at an upcoming showcase/celebration event.

Highlights, Opportunities and Next Steps

Keep Scotland Beautiful participated in the West Dunbartonshire Upstream Battle pupil conference on 5 November 2019. This was a truly inspiring event which showcased the cross-curricular opportunities within the Upstream Battle campaign. Twilight four will take place between 13 – 19 February 2020. As the final twilight of the PLP, the focus will be on identifying the next steps of the project within schools, local communities and clusters. Twilight four will also provide an opportunity to reflect on participants experiences throughout the Upstream Battle PLP, specifically personal professional and whole school development.