<u>Pioneer schools report shows journey</u> of improvement

A <u>report</u> published today shows that the schools feel more supported and confident in their work developing six different Areas of Learning and Experience — the subject areas that will make up the new curriculum to be rolled out from 2022.

Interviews carried out as part of research with the pioneer schools revealed that they felt confident that they understood the aims and objectives of their AoLE groups and were happy with how they were being run. They also felt sufficiently supported to progress independently and work with other schools.

Responding to today's report, Education Secretary Kirsty Williams said:

"Our Pioneer Schools are at the heart of the process of designing the new curriculum. That's why it's so important for us to listen to their views and act on them accordingly.

"There will always be challenges when introducing a new curriculum but it's encouraging to know that schools are feeling confident and supported in taking this vital work forwards. There is a clear sense of momentum here and it demonstrates that our approach is the right one.

"We will continue to monitor progress, listen on where and how we can improve and ensure that the curriculum is fully fit for purpose when we start rolling it out in 2022."