

Ballyclare Staff

Northern Ireland Curriculum

Staff Involvement

David Knox, Principal, Ballyclare High School (Grammar)

DAVID KNOX: In this school, Assessment and Reporting is a senior post. So, a member of our senior staff group, which is essentially our leadership team, has full responsibility for that area. He works closely with the vice principal in charge of curriculum, and with a senior teacher who is in charge of teaching and learning.

Essentially, it's a management role and a leadership role, because he oversees the production of the reports and, in a sense, he quality-assures the reports. He will work with any staff who may be having difficulty using the computerised system.

We've had many new staff who have joined the school, so he would pick up on the training of those staff. But he also coordinates a committee which works on the assessment of cross-curricular skills, and that committee comprises the coordinators for the cross-curricular skills.

The other members of that group are the heads of the specialist subjects, there are English, Maths and the coordinator for ICT. And that group have been looking at, firstly, how we will manage the assessment of cross-curricular skills in school, and how we will report on those in the redesigning of our computerised report.

They have an input to staff training as well, and our staff training on assessment of cross-curricular skills will be driven by that particular group. There's an ongoing redefinement of roles here as we learn more about what is involved. Just bear in mind the training is ongoing and is fairly current. So as we take new points away from that training, this group will look at redefining the roles of the various people concerned.