Asking for Forgiveness not Permission

The birth and impact of the Swire Chinese Language Centre, Edinburgh

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Context - SCLCE

- Began operation in August 2016
- 3 School Independent/State School Partnership BHS/JGHS/GWC;
- 21 Schools (8 High Schools) and 2400 pupils engaged with the SCLCE;
- 8 FTE teachers (compared to 15.2 FTE for all the LAs in Scotland);
- Total budget: +/- £2.7M over 10 years
- GWC employs all teachers and manages deployment with additional governance from an Advisory Board;
- Accounted for 20% of all Nat 5 entries in Scotland by 2019 and sometimes up to 30%;
- 100% A-C for N5, Higher, Advanced Higher since 2019
- Strong focus on addressing disadvantage and the poverty related attainment gap Chinese is main foreign language available at Castlebrae High School in Craigmillar

 SWIRE

Flow Diagram to Success

Establish Relationships Identify Shared Aspiration "Blue Sky Thinking"

Design Project and Governance then Secure then Secure Funding

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Things to Note:

- GWC and Other Core Schools provide bandwidth and know-how but no cash
- GWC provides "legal personality" money could not have been given to LA
- No money from Scottish or Chinese Governments
- "Light Touch" accountability from funder but no stupid targets
- Impact on disadvantage and neuro-divergence nationally significant research projects have spun off.
- A lot of blockers to overcome on the way partnership strengthened by adversity
- Now spun off into Computing Science project on similar model.



JGHS BHS CHS Impact:

- Increased curriculum offer
- Links to cluster Primaries
- Staff CLPL
- International links
- Pupil uptake of Mandarin.
- Staffing support.



JGHS BHS CHS Impact:

- Opportunities for Pupils with International aspect.
- Wider engagement in curriculum.
- Pupil opportunities increased.



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