Gathering evidence of impact

As part of any learning cycle, an evaluation of the Professional Learning or Practitioner Enquiry is vital to ensure that it has had impact and informs your next steps.

Professional Learning or Practitioner Enquiry often involves
- new knowledge,
- new skills and abilities, or
- development of self-knowledge and attributes
Whatever evidence you use, it should be analysed, reflected upon and captured in your learning log.

When you gather evidence of impact, reflect on;
- What you do (your behaviours)
- Why you do it (your values, belief, assumptions, aspirations)
- How you feel (use your emotional intelligence)
- How you think

What counts as data/information?
The list below give some suggestions of data/information that could be collected
- Professional Learning log
- Professional Dialogue
- What do I hear myself saying? (record myself?)
- Observation of self (using technology)
- Observation by peer
- Learner experience
- Learner motivation
- Learner outcomes
- Learner voice
- Learner achievement
- Learner engagement
- Formative assessment
- Survey of learners
- Focus groups/interviews
- Summative assessments
- Pastoral notes
- Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Attendance data
- Parent/Carer support
- Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)
- Benchmark/Insight data

From data/information to evidence?
Questions to ask yourself:
- What data/information will I collect?
- How do I plan to collect evidence?
- Why is this the best method for collecting evidence?
- How will this data/information help me to answer my questions?
- Why is this data/information important?
- How do I plan to analyse my data/information?

How will I interpret my data/information?
- What questions will I ask of the data/information?
- How might I test assumptions?
- What is my data/information telling me?
- What is missing from my data/information?
- How might I organise my data/information?
- Are there any patterns in my data/information?
- What does the literature say about my questions/issue/provocation?
- Does my data/information agree or disagree with current thinking, policy, literature?
- How might I check out my findings?
- What are my next steps?
- Who can I share my learning with?