How Scotland intends to close its attainment gap

Scotland's current attainment gap can be shown in terms of the disparity between the number of children who do not achieve the standard required for entry to university and those who do. This gap can be traced back to the early years of primary school, where children from disadvantaged backgrounds may struggle with basic skills such as reading and numeracy.

To address this issue, the Scottish government has launched a three-year plan to improve the educational outcomes of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The plan includes measures such as providing extra support for children in schools, increasing teacher training, and improving the quality of early years education.

The plan also aims to reduce the gap between children from different socio-economic backgrounds. It seeks to do this by ensuring that all children have access to the same quality of education, regardless of their background.

A key component of the plan is the focus on the early years. The Scottish government has committed £50 million to improve the quality of early years education, including the introduction of a national framework for early years practice.

The plan also recognises the importance of parent involvement in children's education. It aims to provide parents with the skills and information they need to support their children's learning at home.

In summary, Scotland's plan to close its attainment gap is a comprehensive approach that seeks to address the root causes of educational inequality. By focusing on early years education, teacher training, and parent involvement, the Scottish government aims to ensure that all children have the opportunity to succeed regardless of their background.