



Early Learning and Childcare in Highland

keep up-to-date ~ share best practice

We hope you are settling into the final term of the 2018/19 session and are making the most of the better Spring weather. This is an ideal time to get out and about in your local environment and community to increase children's awareness of the wider area in which they live.

Bringing Generations Together

This new document from the Care Inspectorate shares examples of intergenerational practice from care services across Scotland highlighting the benefits of bringing people together from different generations. Little Learners Nursery in Fort William plan regular intergenerational learning opportunities with residents from Invernevis House. There are so many benefits to all involved, especially in terms of health and well-being.



Craft session at Invernevis House with children from Little Learners Nursery in Fort William.

Reminder – Notifications to the Care Inspectorate

Certain incidents need to be reported to the Care Inspectorate by ELC managers. The document 'Records that all registered care services (except childminding) must keep and guidance on notification reporting' highlights incidents that need to be reported and can be found [here](#). Some of these include:

- Major injuries resulting from accidents/incidents
- Child Protection incidents
- Outbreak of infectious disease
- Refurbishments
- Significant equipment breakdown



Using Developmental Overviews Effectively

Developmental Overviews are an integral part of children's profiles. They should be used to inform next steps and provide data for targeted support. This support can be provided for individuals or groups of children. E.g. If children are not secure pouring liquids, provide opportunities for pouring at snack time, when watering plants or during water play. If children are not secure following 3 part instructions, provide opportunities for them to practice this by being a helper for the week or during a game.

Excellent Practice



Well done to Ankerville Nursery, Inverness College UHI ELC and Grantown Playgroup for receiving excellent grades for 'environment' in their most recent Care Inspectorate inspections. Keep up the excellent work!

Personal Care Plans

Every child in ELC in Scotland requires a Personal Care Plan. These should be completed by both parents/carers and EYPs when the child begins attending a setting. The Plans should be reviewed and updated with parents/carers at least every six months or as required. You can find more information about Personal Care Plans [here](#) on the ELC Blog.



ELC Highland Webinar



A Webinar is replacing the local ELC workshops which have previously taken place in Highland. This session will be an opportunity to hear how ELC Expansion plans are progressing and to meet with colleagues at a local level. There will also be input from Sharon Smith (Speech and Language Therapist) and the EYESO team regarding new support tools for embedding high quality adult-child interactions in your settings.

The webinar will be broadcast from the Council Chamber in Inverness on May the 15th from 10am to 12noon with video conferencing links to Dingwall, Fort William, Portree and Wick. The sessions in areas will be facilitated by your area EY team and ELC Commissioners. Sign up via Highland CPD.

Has your setting embedded the Words Up Key messages?

Outdoor Learning Training

We know the benefits outdoor play and learning can bring for young children in terms of their health and wellbeing, and physical and cognitive development. An important part of this is ensuring that children have daily, active outdoor play experiences supported by trained staff confident to deliver learning outdoors.

A new Outdoor Training Plan for Early Years in Highland has been developed and outlines a phased approach to training.

Phase 1

One day training in Outdoor Play and Learning for 72 early years staff by July 2019

Phase 2

An 18 month Outdoor Leadership programme for 16 candidates beginning in September 2019. The application process for staff to be included in this will be announced soon.

All of the training will be delivered in partnership with Stramash Ltd.



Online Words Up Training

A self-directed online Words Up Early training is available on the Highland Literacy Blog. This can be used by individuals or staff teams to review how well the Words Up key messages are embedded within your setting. It can also help you plan for next steps in developing high quality adult-child interactions.

CLICK HERE for the Words Up: Early (Level 1) - Key Messages Online Training

