

Early Learning and Childcare in Highland

keep up-to-date ~ share best practice

Welcome to 2020 – The Year of Expansion in ELC across Scotland.

Preparing for Full 1140 Rollout in August 2020.

Up North, the ELC team meet with Head Teachers regularly to discuss progress towards expansion for 1140 or reviewing the pilot centres. Last week we met the EYPs and new support workers to focus in closer. Next week the Team are visiting mother and toddler groups etc. to explain what 1140 hours means for them practically, before they fill in their enrolment forms. Everyone has been very busy.



Wick Practitioners Event

National Updates

Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Delivery Progress (December 2019) This is the latest in a series of data releases which track the progress towards achieving the expansion of funded ELC hours to 1140 a year.



Webinar: Quality in ELC

The next ELC Webinar will take place on Friday 31 January 2020 from 09:30 – 11:00. This Webinar focus will be on play based learning and ongoing quality improvement linked with the National Standard, this will be presented by James MacTaggart, Early Years Educational Psychologist. The event will be facilitated, through Video Conferencing, in the following places:

- HQ Chambers – Inverness
- Chambers – Dingwall
- Charles Kennedy Building – Fort William
- Town Hall – Wick.

Please sign up for this via the Highland CPD calendar.

The next webinar date is 1st May.

National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan:2020

The Scottish Government has set out their vision and priorities for Scottish education, replacing the NIF and Improvement Plan published last year. Plans to increase the focus on improvement activity in ELC are noted, with reference to the new National Standard and associated requirements around Care Inspectorate evaluations. Click [here](#) to find out more.

'We're Going on a Circle Hunt' in Bower Busy Bees!

The children in Bower Busy Bees in Caithness enjoy being outdoors every day, either in their outdoor area or within their nearby forest area. One group of children were searching in the forest for circles. 'It's a clock,' they sang and walked around the wood circle, they then made a pretend barbeque pit, where they provided us all with 'sausages' stirring the pan with their sticks. From observation it was found that these children were interested in rotation schemas. Staff extended their learning by ensuring there were opportunities for exploring such as nuts and bolts, wheels of different sizes, singing games such as 'Ring-a-Roses', twirling streamers, pinwheels, mixing and whisking. Isn't Early Years exciting! Find out more about schemas [here](#).



Training related to Food Provision

Catering services are working on training regarding Allergen Awareness Training for ELC.

Data Protection and Mandatory Training, including Induction Training

It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with the Data Protection legislation. If you have not done so you should complete training. See the Information Management Training module on My Online Learning for Highland Council staff.

SSSC Online Learning Resources for Early Years

Practitioners and Managers

There are a number of online training modules and online resources for Early Years Practitioners and Managers. Also, qualification pathways to help you progress into promoted posts in Early Years.

New Staff Appointments

Expansion Project Manager
– *Hayley Brown*
Project Co-ordinator Workforce
Development Officer
– *Amanda MacLaren*
ELC Expansion Business Analyst
– *Elias Gilbert*

Mapping directory

Highland Directory of Services to meet the needs of Children, Young People and Families 0-16 years of age.

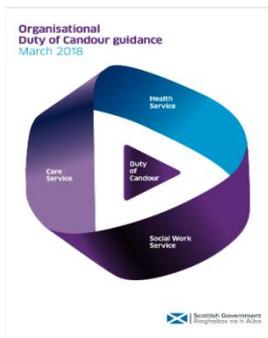
<https://highlandmapping.wordpress.com>

Duty of Candour

Starting from April 2019, care services and social work services must, by law, produce a short annual report showing the learning from their duty of candour incidents that year, publish it, and notify Care Inspectorate that it has been published.

Scottish Government have established a dedicated page including FAQs on their website (<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/Policy/Duty-of-Candour>) and also a dedicated email address for any questions (dutyofcandour@gov.scot).

The Scottish Government report has now taken over from this but the template on page 29 and page 32 states the following: *'Where no events triggering the duty of candour have occurred in the preceding year, a report like this should be used'*. It then goes on to give an example of a 'no events' report. Here's the link to the SG guidance': <https://www.gov.scot/publications/organisational-duty-candour-guidance/>



Please note that all staff are required to know what Duty of Candour means. You could make notes for your Self-Evaluation folder!

Early Learning and Childcare - Statutory Guidance Consultation

<https://consult.gov.scot/children-and-families/early-learning-and-childcare-statutory-guidance/>

Since 2014 there have been substantial changes in the overarching policy and legislative framework for the delivery of early learning and childcare, in particular with the commitment to almost doubling the funded early learning and childcare entitlement for eligible children from 600 hours to 1140 hours from August 2020. The legislative changes required ahead of August 2020 - to increase the statutory funded early learning and childcare entitlement, and changes to the length of a funded early learning and childcare session - were agreed by the Scottish Parliament during 2019. The consultation will run until 4th March 2020.

Don't forget ... the ELC blog is a good place to access information and resources to answer your questions and gather new ideas.

- ❖ Knowledge Hub has weekly updates and news stories related to ELC and aspects of the 1140 expansion.

If you would like to join the Knowledge Hub then please email ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot.