



Early Learning and Childcare in Highland

keep up-to-date ~ share good practice

New Childcare Minister



A warm Highland welcome to MSP Maree Todd, our newly appointed Minister for Childcare and Early Years. She represents the Highlands and Islands region during a very important and dynamic period for Early Learning and Childcare. Maree grew up in Ullapool and previously worked in the Inverness area so knows our areas and unique needs well.

Year of Young People 2018

Scotland's first ever [Year of Young People](#) is going to be an opportunity to celebrate the amazing young personalities, talents, and achievers that make up Scotland. It's all about inspiring our nation through its young people's ideas, attitudes and ambitions. Check out the link above to find out more about how your organisation or group can get involved.

The themes are:

- culture
- education
- enterprise and regeneration
- equality and discrimination
- health and well-being
- participation

'Toddler and Young Children: food mood and health'

'Toddler and Young Children: food mood and health' is new and different from anything in this topic that you may have seen before. It's about healthy relationships with food, your body and others, not just about physical health. Most people are familiar with the normal healthy eating messages like 'eat 5-a-day' etc, but this guidance allows us to think about food, health and wellbeing in a different way. Key strategies include Eating Well: How We Eat and What We Eat, Healthy Body Weight, Physical Activity, and Promoting a Healthy Body Image.

http://www.forhighlandschildren.org/4-icspublication/index_160_2533496786.pdf

2018 Play Award

The **Highland Council**, in association with **Play Highland**, are offering an award of £1000 to the group, organisation or community that has done the most to promote play. The priority focus for this year's Play Highland Improvement Plan is inclusive play. Applications that emphasise how they have promoted inclusive play are invited. The 2018 award is open to any school group, charity or community organisation working with children and young people at any age group from infants up to aged 18.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY 12TH February 2018.

The winner will be the highest scorer overall based on the following criteria:

1. Promotion of inclusion
2. Promotion/implementation of the Highland Play Strategy
3. Promotion of free play
4. Innovation
5. Can we learn from it - is it transferrable?

You are invited to submit information about the work you have undertaken on this form. You will find the Highland Play Strategy and useful information on good practice at: <http://www.playhighland.co.uk/>



EYESO South - A big welcome back to Ruth Davidson, also to Helen Mudie who is joining the team for six months. We have a dedicated team of EYESO staff in Highland.

Our Creative Journey Document



'Our Creative Journey' (2017) is aimed at promoting good practice in all types of early learning and childcare (ELC) settings, to help all services aspire to be the best they can be and have the greatest impact on children's lives. It may also be of interest to parents/carers and anyone looking after or working with children or young people, including statutory social work and education, voluntary sector support services and activity-based provision.

'Creative play helps children flourish as confident, resilient and happy individuals and it is vital for child development. Creativity is a key ingredient for children to learn how to follow their curiosity, solve problems and make sense of the world. This document provides examples from practice under the key headings of the well-being indicators'.



Eye Infections Document

<http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/News/Eye-blog-for-care-providers-Aug-2017.pdf>

In-Sheirbheis Foghlam Gàidhlig - 21/2/18

Coltach ri 2017, thèid an tachartas a chumail ann an Ionad-Coimhearsnachd Mharc-Innis bho 9.30m gu 3.15f. Tha an tachartas bliadhna seo a' toirt cothrom sònraichte do luchd-obrach Gàidhlig bho na Tràth-bhliadhnaichean, Bun-sgoil agus Àrd-sgoil tighinn còmhla agus còmhradh mu chothroman leasachaidh. Bidh grunn bhùithtean-obrach fa leth ann tron latha, gu sònraichte airson nan Tràth-bhliadhnaichean air Hi 5, Bookbug Gàidhlig agus Words Up.

Faodaidh luchd-obrach an ainm a chur sìos air a shon a-nis tro CPD Manager a' cleachdadh an fhiosrachaidh a leanas: Dearbh-aithne Cùrsa: 56517/Còd-aithneachaidh Cùrsa: KCM1.
<http://highland.cpdservice.net/default.aspx>

Intimate Care: EYPs do not normally require this training but must be familiar with their policy, especially Appendix 10.

CALA training: An Introduction to Play and Learning into Practice

This is a FREE introductory two-day course for both new and inexperienced practitioners and experienced practitioners looking to refresh their skills and knowledge in the value of play and learning.

Aviemore - St John's Church, Rothiemurchus
Saturday 20th and Saturday 27th January.

Inverness - Merkinch Community Centre,
Friday 2nd and Friday 9th February

Skye - Aros Centre 1st and 2nd March

<https://www.careandlearningalliance.co.uk/upcoming-free-training-play-learning-practice-inverness-aviemore-skye/>

To book online:
<https://careandlearningalliance.co.uk/training/plip2day.html>

Also online is 'How we Eat'

<https://calaelearning.co.uk/our-courses/>

****Remember to check the Highland Council CPD calendar regularly for new and further options for training courses. ****

Self-Evaluation:

EYPs should have a paper copy of the relevant parts of their Improvement Plan in their Self-Evaluation folder for regular reviews with senior management.

Happy New Year from the EYESOs

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Please note the shortened blog address:

<https://elchighland.com>