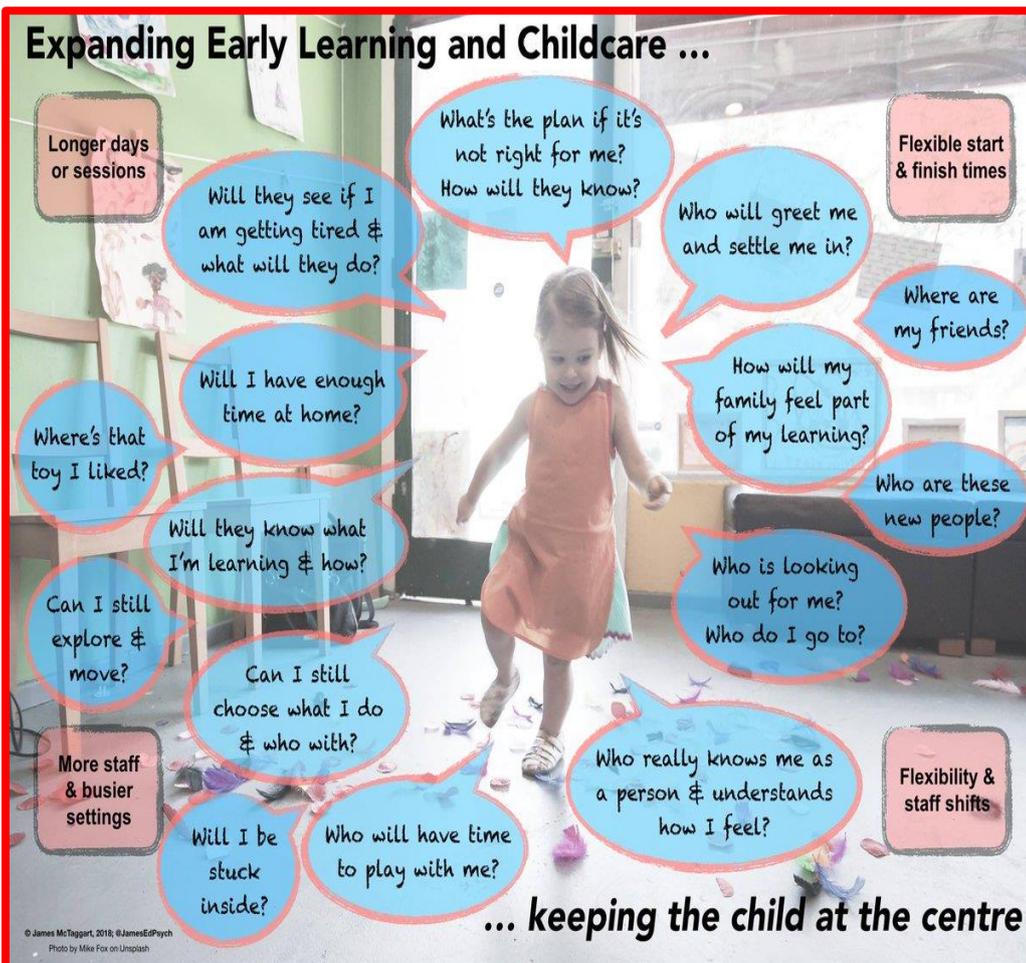


Early Learning and Childcare in Highland

keep up-to-date ~ share best practice

This is always an exciting, busy term with lots to celebrate and the lead up to Christmas.
We hope you have a great term full of play and learning.

Expanding Early Learning and Childcare ...



Expansion and flexibility are bringing lots of changes. Some are good whilst others need a lot of thought to make sure children have the best possible experiences of nurture and learning. This graphic from James McTaggart, Highland Early Years Educational Psychologist, looks at the quality related issues of expansion from a child's viewpoint. We all need to bear these questions in mind in all of our planning. The image may be useful to support your thinking.

Highland Council Allied Health Professionals AHP Advice Line Every Tuesday 2pm - 5pm 07785477686

The advice line is now open for all parents, carers and professionals in Highland area to access. Members of the Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy teams are available to answer any questions you may have about a child or young person's development. You may discuss a scenario and seek advice without naming the child. Please feel free to call in to discuss any concerns and to also to promote the line to your parents.

ELC Commissioners

Highland welcomes 3 ELC Commissioners who will deliver 1140 expansion plans at an operational level.

Angela Bain in North and Hayley Cameron in Mid will take up their posts, joining Hayley Brown in South.

19-23rd November is **Nursery Rhyme Week**

A great opportunity to celebrate them, develop lots of fun learning with rhymes and share the importance of this with families. You can find ideas and resources at [World Nursery Rhyme Week](#)



Maths Week Ministerial Visit

'Ms Maree Todd, Minister for Children and Young People, visited our ELC on Monday and saw first-hand the varied learning experiences on offer, both inside and out. At the start of Maths Week in Scotland, Ms Todd enjoyed her time at ELC, talking with the staff and children'.

Hilton Primary ELC

These Twitter photos of the visit show the use of loose parts outdoors to promote numeracy and the use of numerical language.

Busy Bees Inverness have been promoting the use of loose parts as a stimulus for transient art.



CPD

Please remember courses are added to CPD online so keep checking for any new courses that have been added. Following any courses run by the EYESO team you will be asked to complete a **Taking Improvement Forward** sheet. This will be emailed back to your manager. Please ensure you get a copy and complete it as you implement your actions over the following few months. This is a great part of self-evaluation.

Les Enfants' Westhill and Inshes Inverness have been working on developing their environment, following ideas from the theorist **Froebel**. Staff have been creating areas using natural resources and real items to provide learning opportunities for children.



Story Area



Construction



Mark making resources

Profiling and Reporting - Managers and Head Teachers from the majority of Highland Early Learning and Childcare settings attended this training between May and October, and are beginning to develop their setting approach to profiling and reporting. Family engagement is a key component. When initially developing approaches to profiling, managers should work with their family communities to develop a calendar of opportunities which best supports them to engage in their child's learning. Observations within profiles should include significant learning and show the child's progression over time.