

Chat about Childcare

Welcome to the June edition of Chat about Childcare

We are now in the summer term and the summer holiday period is fast approaching. It can sometimes be a bit daunting finding exciting, but inexpensive activities to entertain the children over the 7 week holiday, whether you are a parent, carer or childcare service. We have included some ideas that will hopefully help to give you some extra inspiration.

It's always good to hear all of the innovative and interesting work that the Early Years and Childcare Sector are doing with the children and young people of South Lanarkshire. In this edition we hear about some of the achievements and events that have been taking place in some of our services.

I hope you enjoy this edition, and if you have any feedback or would like to tell us about something you have been doing that we could feature in a future Chat about Childcare, please let us know.

I wish you all a very happy (and dry!) summer.

Jean E. McKeown

Councillor Jean McKeown

Chair, South Lanarkshire Early Years
and Childcare Partnership

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. Phone: 0303 123 1015
Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Machanhill Nursery Class

At Machanhill Nursery Class, the boys and girls have been working hard to learn about Finance and Enterprise, during week beginning 15th February 2016. All the nursery children visited various local businesses in Larkhall to find out about the services they provide for the public/community. We also purchased little bird boxes which we designed, painted and sold for £3 to our parents as part of our Nursery Enterprise.

During Science week 14th to 18th March 2016 the nursery children took part in various activities from planting seeds, erupting volcanoes, colour changing flowers, humpty dumpty egg experiments, melting chocolate and we also made fabulous pinecone bird feeders which we took home for our gardens.

On Friday 18th March 2016 we took part in Sports Relief walk a mile around our school and nursery playground. As well as taking part in our boogie fit dance fundraiser to raise funds for Meningitis Research Foundation. We all enjoyed taking part in simple and fun dance moves. We helped to raise over £50.

**For further information, please contact
Machanhill Nursery Class on 01698 882101 or
gw10scottlynsey3@glow.sch.uk**



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Family Friendly Cycle Routes in Lanarkshire

Strathclyde Park Circular Route

Distance: 3.75 miles
Time: Less than an hour

This is a easy traffic free route that follows the edge of the loch. Start at the Watersports Centre and go round the loch in a clockwise direction. There are plenty of picnic spots to stop at when its time to have a break.

Strathclyde Park to Chatelherault Country Park

Distance: 2.75 miles
Time: 30 minutes

This is a good surfaced cycle path that is suitable for all the family. Leave the Watersports Centre car park at the River Clyde side and turn right in the direction of the Mausoleum and golf course. After 200 yards cross the footbridge over the river Clyde, and when you reach the sign for National Cycle Network 74, turn left and follow the path through the trees to the road-bridge. Go under the bridge and resume path which now follows the river Avon. At the Avon Bridge Nursing Home turn left over the Old Avon Bridge. Go to the left and follow path between sandstone gateposts on the right. Continue uphill to Chatelherault Hunting Lodge.

Whitelee Wind Farm

There a number of different cycling routes on offer at the Whitelee Wind Farm and with over 50 miles of track there is something for everyone. The wind farm also has a visitor centre, museum and café. For more information and to download a detailed map please visit their website: www.whiteleewindfarm.com



Sweetie Brae does Sport Relief

Sweetie Brae Nursery, Strathaven were delighted to work with Sainsbury's Strathaven once again to bring the Sport Relief Mile to Strathaven Park. The Nursery teamed up with Sainsbury's Strathaven on Sunday 20th March 2016 and delivered a very successful mile.

All those who entered could walk, run, skip or even dance round 1, 3 or 6 miles, whilst taking in the features of our beautiful Strathaven Park. They joined others across the country during the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile to raise life-changing money for Sport Relief 2016.

The Strathaven mile saw over 120 people challenge themselves to walk or run and we raised over £330 on the day from donations and our Tombola stall. The full total of what has been raised through sponsors will be given to us at the end of May.

"It was a fantastic day and it was a privilege to organise such a fantastic family event. We look forward to the next one!"

For further information, please contact Sweetie Brae Nursery on 01357 529200 or mac@sweetiebrae.co.uk



Hopscotch Nursery

Hopscotch Nursery have recently been reviewing the extra-curricular experiences we provide for all children and now have a new programme in place to offer an even wider variety of experiences for the children to take part in. Our programme for 3-5 year old children now includes French lessons, cookery classes, drama classes, Fun Factor exercise sessions and swimming lessons in partnership with Hamilton Water Palace. We have also implemented the exercise sessions, cookery and drama classes with our two year old children, and have yoga classes for babies and toddlers due to start in mid April '16.

To extend the variety of experiences offered in our Afterschool club we will be implementing computer coding classes after Easter as well as Science and Engineering lessons.

We have also set up a 'science lab' within the nursery for all children to use. Within this lab we will be focusing on 'living science'; we plan to grow and look after live butterflies and stick insects as well as having an ant hill with live ants and hatching 'Triop' eggs. Through these experiences we will encourage the children to observe the life cycle of these creatures, learn how all living creatures are different from each other and also learn how to care for a variety of creatures.

The experiences which have been implemented so far have proved extremely successful and we are very proud of the staff who have helped to make these new experiences a success. The children and their parents/carers are responding very well to them, so much so we are making plans to involve our parents more by asking them to assist us in the implementation of some of these experiences.

For further information, please contact Hopscotch Nursery on 01698 426800 or hopscotchmanagement@gmail.com



Well done Stephanie!

Stephanie, a member of Staff at Hopscotch Nursery was delighted to have been anonymously nominated to attend The Queen's Garden Party. She was nominated by someone who recognised the quality of care she provides to the children in afterschool, how well she interacts with children and their parents/carers and her dedication to giving the children a great experience. Stephanie will attend the garden party on 5th July '16 at Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh. Everyone at Hopscotch is delighted for Stephanie and we are all very proud of her achievements.



Embracing Outdoor Play in a Childminding Setting

Childminders recently undertook a 2.5 hours theory based training relating to Outdoor Play. Play Scotland, Building the Ambition, Play strategy and Care Inspectorate focuses on the use of outdoors within a care setting. As with any environment there are risk factors, but childminders were keen to embrace Outdoor opportunities and share their experiences as a youngster with their minded children. The training also highlighted the importance of not only the physical benefits but also mental health and well-being.

So with that in mind we headed off to Chatelherault Park on a cold and bit damp day. During the adventure we built a den to have snack in and a sing song, built a rope swing, climbed trees, bark rubbings and many other activities. Interestingly we had to walk by a park to get to the safe area but not one child asked to go in and play. The childminders had created an energy that they passed to the children about the adventure they were going on.

For further information, please contact Lorna Carlyle, SCMA Development Officer on 01698 832076 or lorna.carlyle@childminding.org



Summer Reading Challenge

During the summer months, libraries throughout South Lanarkshire are taking part in the 'Summer Reading Challenge'. The challenge is split into 2 age groups – Bookbug Library Challenge for pre-5s, and Summer Reading Challenge for Primary aged children.

The event encourages children, with or without help from a parent, to read 6 books. For each book they read, they receive a stamp on their reading card, and after achieving all 6 stamps they are presented with a certificate!

This year's event is focusing on 'Roald Dahl – The Big Friendly Read' to celebrate his 100th birthday and there are lots of events planned around this theme.

To launch this challenge, a number of special events are planned including the following:

Eastfield Leisure Centre 18th June

Lots of fun activities including Bookbug in the pool!

Chatelherault Country Park 18th June

The mobile Library will be there along with face painting, crafts, stories, bouncy castle and much more!

Calderglen Country Park 25th June

A fun day including, face painting, bouncy castle, music, storytelling, crafts and much more!

For more details about these, please contact your local library or visit the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture website – www.slleisureandculture.co.uk

As well as the reading challenge, the libraries team also have a number of other special events planned during the summer months to keep the children entertained. These include:

Calderglen Country Park 27th July 11-12noon and 2-3pm - Monkey Puzzle Big Story

A chance to hear the story and meet Monkey, butterfly and all the well loved characters from the book.

Castlebank Park Lanark 22nd July 11.30-12.30 - Gruffalo Walk

Come along a meet the Gruffalo and other characters from the story.

For further information about these and other children's activities being organised by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture over the summer months, visit their website, enquire in any of their facilities, or check out the 'Children's activities in South Lanarkshire' Facebook page.



World Book Day

The children of law primary school and nursery class celebrated world book day on the 3rd March 2016. The children enjoyed celebrating World Book Day by taking part in various activities throughout the day. The children dressed up as their favourite characters from a book. They designed book-themed national book tokens and book covers, took part in a Book Treasure Hunt and raised money at the 'Bring and Buy' book sale. We also had great fun listening and responding to a story told by a professional storyteller.

For further information, please contact Law Primary Nursery Class on 01698 350816 or gw14brittonalethea@glow.sch.uk.



Crossbasket Nursery School

Crossbasket Nursery School works in Partnership with Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity (formerly known as Yorkhill). Each year we (Crossbasket Nursery School) the parents, staff and children participate in a number of fundraising events and donate all proceedings to the charity.

This year staff, parents and children at Crossbasket Nursery School collected approximately 150 Easter Eggs and gifts including Arts and Crafts materials and books for the children within the hospital. Local companies such as Tesco and the Blantyre Telegraph also donated Easter Eggs.

On March 23rd 2016, 3 Staff, 3 Parents and 8 children went along to the new Glasgow Children's Hospital on the minibus to donate our gifts. We met with Maralyn who is the Events Manager within the hospital.

At the hospital the children donated their gifts at the Glasgow Children's Hospital Shop before visiting the 'Teddy Bear Hospital' which is a role play room within the hospital where the children who are anxious or worried about surgery can spend time with the Play Therapists who will reassure them through play.

The children of Crossbasket Nursery School had opportunities for pretend play to be doctors and nurses. They dressed up and provided medical attention to 'Teddy Bears' and dolls. Afterwards we were given an excellent opportunity to visit the Medi-Cinema which is bright, colourful and can accommodate children who are confined to wheelchairs or beds. At the cinema the children of Crossbasket were given a sneak peak at Disney's new Zootropolis movie and Star Wars....whilst wearing 3D Glasses.

Crossbasket Nursery School are very proud to work in partnership and have a number of Fundraising events coming up over the next few months which include an Arctic Snowball and Arctic Trek.

"Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity (formerly Yorkhill Children's Charity) was delighted to welcome the children of Crossbasket Nursery who very kindly delivered Easter gifts for the young patients at the Royal Hospital for Children in Glasgow. Although our

name changed recently, Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity is still dedicated to improving the lives of the 160,000 children from across Scotland who are treated at the Royal Hospital for Children in Glasgow every year. The wonderful generosity of supporters like Crossbasket Nursery will help to ensure that the babies, children and young people treated at the hospital receive the best care and experience possible." Maralyn Boyle, Partnership Development Manager.

For further information please contact Nicola Wilson, Nursery School Manager on 01698 720039 or nicola@crossbasketnursery.com





Summer Days Away

Now that summer is upon us why not take advantage of Scotrail's fantastic offer of free rail travel for children aged 5 to 15 years. The "Kids Go Free Ticket" not only gives free train travel for up to two children per adult, it also gets you one free child entry to any of the attractions listed below:

- Clone of Tweed Guide – Half Day Fly Fishing Package, River Tweed, Galashiels
- Floors Castle – Scotland's Largest Inhabited Castle, Kelso
- Abbotsford House – Galashiels
- Cruise Loch Lomond – The Boatyard, Tarbet
- Traquair House – Innerleithan, Peebleshire
- The Royal Yacht Britannia – Leith, Edinburgh
- Oban Seal Sanctuary – Oban
- Highland Wildlife Park – Cairngorm National Park
- Deep Sea World – North Queensferry
- Edinburgh Zoo
- Satrosphere – Scotland's First Science and Discovery Centre, Aberdeen
- Scottish Seabird Centre – The Harbour, North Berwick
- Sea Life Loch Lomond Aquarium - Balloch
- National Wallace Monument – Stirling
- Discovery Point – Dundee
- Scotland's Jute Museum at Verdant Works – Dundee
- Dundee Science Centre
- Edinburgh Dungeon
- Camera Obscura and World of Illusions – Edinburgh
- Snow Factor Xscape – Braehead, Glasgow
- The Hampden Experience and Scottish Football Museum – Hampden Park, Glasgow
- Summerlee, Museum of Scottish Industrial Life, Coatbridge

Free attractions

- Kelvingrove Art Gallery – Glasgow
- Riverside Museum – Glasgow
- National Museum of Scotland – Edinburgh
- People's Palace

Parks

- Glasgow Botanic Gardens
- Rouken Glen Park, Glasgow
- Calderglen Country Park, East Kilbride
- Chatelherault Country Park, near Hamilton
- Tollcross Park (children's farm) Glasgow





Kids Play

Go along on Saturdays to Barras Art and Design Centre just next to Barras Market for some free family fun.

What is it?

Each week over 1 hour we use a combination of storytelling, imaginative play with props, sensory materials, movement, rhyme, basic drama games, crafts and more to have fun and relax with other families while entertaining the kids. This is a family activity where parents/carers take part in the fun.

How much?

FREE including healthy snacks for kids

PLUS free tea/ coffee and food discount for parents/carers at the in-house cafe after the session!

When?

Saturdays 11am-12pm

What age?

Best Suited for parents and toddlers approx age 2-4 (younger siblings welcome)

Who are we?

KIDSPLAY is led by experienced community arts workers. This project is funded by the Lottery Families Fund and run by Be Enriched, a small charitable organisation helping young people and communities activities, for more info on the organisation call 07592 845221

Glasgow Mela

17 July 2016

Scotland's biggest free multicultural festival - date! We are keeping our fabulous home in the west end's beautiful Kelvingrove Park.

On Sunday 17 July 2016 Glasgow Mela will be bursting with live music and theatre performances, exotic and mouth-watering foods from around the globe and fun for all ages. Shop for unique gifts and dazzling clothes in the marketplace before chilling out in the summer sun to the sounds of the world.

The Merchant City Festival

The Merchant City Festival is a major cultural event which takes place in and around the Merchant City area of Glasgow's city centre every summer. It offers live music, street theatre, fashion, art, family activities and more as well as a host of stalls selling food, gifts and crafts. www.merchantcityfestival.com

The Merchant City Festival 2016 will take place from 30th July – 7th August, a nine day event that is now the centrepiece of the city's summer calendar.



For more information about any of the above attraction and the "Kids Go Free" offer please refer to the following website: www.scotrail.co.uk/offers/kids-go-free



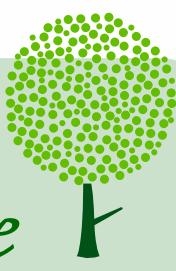


St Mary's Nursery Centre's parents and children take part in "Splash"

This year parents and children of St Mary's Nursery Centre in Lanark have been taking part in a swimming program called Splash. Alongside Lanark lifestyles and funding from Integrated Children's Services we have offered two 6 week blocks to our 2-3 year olds with their parent and carers.

By using swimming as an activity and involving parents this program encourages positive relationships without the household distractions such as TV and phone calls and it builds trust between child and parent, in turn this develops verbal and non verbal communication. It has also built the water confidence of both the parents and the children some have even taken up swimming lessons at the local pool.

For further information please contact St Mary's Nursery Centre on 01555 678013 or nursery1@st-marys-lanark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Woodlands Nursery Centre

Love Learning, Love Language Project.

In August 2015 Woodlands Nursery Centre received a lottery Grant for a Love Learning, Love Language Programme. Sophie McCabe, Creative Story Teller and Drama Specialist has been working in partnership with nursery staff and our Speech and Language Therapist to develop a variety of activities that will enhance speech and language skills and promote parent participation. Sophie is based in the nursery one day per week for a year. The main aims of this project was to develop Drama based activities, focussing on the importance of reading and communication. We plan to build the confidence of parents / carers to "turn off" Technology and engage in story telling and books at home. All staff have been able to deliver a variety of outstanding activities both indoors and out.

On Wednesday 30th March we had an interactive story session in the Forest with the children. An experience that incorporated den building, the use of puppets and a visit from 'The Gruffalo'. As a result of this project our children have gained skills in listening, communication, socialisation and has helped them to become confident and successful learners with a desire to look at books as a source of enjoyment.

For further information please contact Sylvia D Ross – Head of Woodlands Nursery Centre on 01698 420421 or gw12rosssylvia@glowmail.org.uk





Ministerial Visit – Aileen Campbell MSP Risgide Nursery and Primary School

Risgide Nursery and Primary School gave a warm welcome to Minister Aileen Campbell MSP, Minister for Children and Young People on Friday 4th March 2016.

The Minister was invited to present the Nursery and Primary School with a certificate of Thanks and Recognition for their involvement in the go2play Active Play Project which started in September 2015.

Healthy Valleys deliver the go2play project with the aims to tackle some of Scotland's most important challenges- physical inactivity, increasing sedentary behaviour and rising childhood obesity.

The go2play project is funded by Inspiring Scotland working in close partnership with The Scottish Government. Healthy Valleys have recently managed to secure further funding to continue with the project until June 2016. The sessions are based around active outdoor play with the aim to achieve the following outcomes:

- Children develop physical literacy/fundamental movement skills
- Children increase levels of physical activity
- Children progress into more active forms of play and into sports
- Awareness of play as a means to improved physical literacy is increased

The project is part of a research study that is being carried out by Strathclyde University where fundamental movement skills (FMS) and physical activity levels of the children are measured throughout the project. The data collected from the tests will be collated into a report, highlighting the impact the benefits the active play sessions have had on the children.

Each active play session is based around a variety of games aiming to develop children's physical literacy and FMS. Children also get an element of free play so they are able to build their confidence and imagination through active play.

The project to date has been enjoyable for the children and educating for staff. We are delighted to be involved in the go2play project here at Risgide and Rural Communities Nursery and Risgide Primary School.

For further information, please contact Risgide and Rural Communities Nursery on 01555 880689 or rigsidenursery@ea.s-lanark.sch.uk



How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare

Education Scotland have recently launched the new Self-evaluation framework for Early Learning and Childcare providers. Here's what they had to say...

Effective self-evaluation is the starting point for improvement and is a key aspect of the Scottish approach.

The most effective approach to self-evaluation is when staff look inwards, to scrutinise their work and evaluate what is working well for children and what could be better.

How good is our early learning and childcare?

We have revised the framework for self-evaluation for the early learning and childcare sector. The new framework is called 'How good is our early learning and childcare?'. The revisions have been made in consultation with groups of early learning and childcare practitioners, managers and wider stakeholders.

How good is our early learning and childcare?

(HGIOELC) is made up of 15 quality indicators (QIs), which are organised into three key areas: Leadership and Management; Learning Provision; and Successes and Achievements. Each QI is described further in a number of themes, each of which has illustrations of what 'very good' looks like. In this new framework, we added for each QI 'features of highly effective practice' and 'challenge questions'. Feedback about these improvements from the sector have been very positive.

Using the new self-evaluation framework for self-improvement

The new framework is now ready to be shared with the sector. We are encouraging staff at all levels to become familiar with the new framework and to begin to use the illustrations, key features and challenge questions to inform their improvement journey.

You can download 'How good is our early learning and childcare?' from the new National Improvement Hub. The Hub is currently in development and accessible as an 'alpha' site.



Over the coming months, we will be holding stakeholder engagement events to consult with staff across all sectors about how best to develop our frameworks into fully digitised resources that will offer exemplification and other useful improvement tools.

By August 2016, How good is our early learning and childcare? will fully replace Child at the Centre.

Using the new framework for inspection

From August 2016, we will be using new QIs from How good is our early learning and childcare? for inspection purposes.

If you are inspected prior to this date, unless you are informed that your inspection is a 'try-out', we will continue to use the QIs from The Child at the Centre to make our evaluations.

Keep up to date about further developments

If you have any questions about the resource and its development, please email us at cafengagementrequests@gov.scot.

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Getting it Right for Every Child

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The publication of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, brought with it a number of new legislative requirements including the implementation of Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC).

Partners across South Lanarkshire have been implementing GIRFEC since 2006, however from August 2016, there are a number of components that will become law.

Statutory guidance has been produced to explain the legal duties in Parts 4, 5 and 18 (section 96) of the Act. These parts are about the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) national approach to improving outcomes through public services that support the wellbeing of children and young people. The guidance is in draft form but will be finalised and published before these parts of the Act come into force in August 2016.

www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00490013.pdf

There are three specific parts of the Act that directly relate to the implementation of the Getting it Right for Every Child national approach to improving outcomes through public services that support the wellbeing of children and young people.

These are:

- Part 4 – Named Person Service, the provision of a Named Person and Information Sharing Duties
- Part 5 – Child's Plan
- Part 18 – Assessment of wellbeing

All services working with children and young people will have a responsibility to ensure they are aware of the changes and what will be expected of them to support children and young people.

What does this mean?

Named Person and Named Person Service

All children and young people will have an entitlement to a Named Person from birth until their 18th birthday. The Named Person will change as the child grows and is responsible for promoting, supporting and safeguarding the wellbeing of the child or young person. The Health Visitor will be the Named Person from when the child is born, until they start primary school. The Head Teacher of the Primary School will then take on this role, and when the young person moves on to Secondary School, the Pupil Support Teacher will become the Named Person.

Some children do not regularly attend school or have other arrangements in place for their Education, e.g. children educated at home, gypsy travellers, 16-18year olds who have left school etc, Education Resources will put into place the Named Person Service. This will consist of a single point of contact to ensure the function of the Named Person Service is carried out when appropriate. In addition, the Named Person Service will also be the point of contact for holiday periods when School's are closed.

It is important to note that The Named Person and Named Person Service is not about crisis management of situations surrounding a child or their family, but rather about supporting Wellbeing concerns that have been identified and ensuring assessment and appropriate actions/supports are put in place. If there are any Child Protection concerns these should be dealt with through existing procedures

Both NHS Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire Council are currently reviewing how they deliver their services and the processes that support these to make sure they can effectively provide a Named Person and Named Person Service for all children and Young People. This will include a single point of contact within both services to make it much easier for parents, children and young people, the wider community and other services to find out the information and support they may need.



Information Sharing

Part 4 of the Act also creates duties to share information within the established framework of Scottish, United Kingdom and European law including the Data Protection Act 1998.

This means that the handling, storage, processing, sharing, and retention of information by all service providers, relevant authorities and those providing services on their behalf must be legal, and must consider the principles and boundaries not only of data protection and human rights but of children's rights as well.

A lot of the information the Act says must be shared and recorded is in existing, routine records like health visiting records and education pastoral notes. Information sharing requirements introduced by the Act should become a part of the regular procedures and protocols for storing, processing and transferring such routine records.

At a national level all agencies are considering what changes need to be made to establish secure information sharing. The Lanarkshire Data Sharing Partnership Board is involved in these development and a procedure should be in place by August 2016.)

New guidance will be developed for all staff across the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to make them aware of the new data sharing requirements.



Child's Plan

The GIRFEC approach ensures that any child who requires additional help which is not generally available should have a plan to address their needs and improve their wellbeing.

Not every child or young person will require a Child's Plan. Where additional help is needed (referred to as a 'targeted intervention') the plan will be drawn up in consultation with the child, their parents and the other services involved. This will record all actions required to support the child's wellbeing including who will do the action and by when. It will also set out what is to be achieved by the actions set out in the plan.

The aim of the Child's Plan is to simplify the statutory planning process so that all services follow the same approach and children, and families are key partners in that process. Every plan should include and record:

- Information about the child's wellbeing need.
- The details of the action to be taken, known as the targeted intervention(s).
- The service which is to provide the targeted intervention(s).
- The way in which the targeted intervention is to be provided.
- The wellbeing outcome(s) which the plan aims to improve.

Most plans will also include other information about the child's circumstances, the timescales for reviewing the plan and achieving the outcomes and who will coordinate the support described in the plan and keep children and parents informed. In some situations the plan will contain information about statutory measures which have been decided by a Children's Hearing, or agreed as a result of child protection procedures, or because the child has become looked after by the local authority.

Clear guidance, processes and training require to be developed to support the implementation of the Child's Plan. The GIRFEC transformation group is working on this task.



Assessment of Wellbeing

Part 18 – Assessment of Wellbeing

The purpose of this part of the statutory guidance is to explain what ‘wellbeing’ is in the context of the Act and its associated secondary legislation (known as ‘Orders’).

Part 18 of the Act sets out the Government’s vision for ensuring a holistic view of the child or young person is taken when carrying out an assessment of their wellbeing. The Act gives guidance on how the 8 Wellbeing indicators Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included are to be used during the assessment.

Within South Lanarkshire we already have processes in place that supports these assessments and the Act helps to strengthen this approach. Further guidance and training to update current guidance and ensure a shared understanding across all partners will require to be developed.

Where are we now?

South Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire are currently working to ensure that the systems that will be required to implement the GIRFEC element of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, will be in place by August 2016. The Scottish Government has issued some draft guidance to help us to start the planning which can be found at

www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00490013.pdf

Structures to Support Implementation

The GIRFEC Transformation Group was set up in July 2015 to ensure we were on target to meet the requirements set out in the legislation. The group currently meets on a 6-8 weekly basis to drive forward the actions that need to be done. Representatives from all of the relevant agencies contribute to this

Training and Development

In addition to guidance on how to implement the GIRFEC element of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, the Scottish Government are also developing training materials that will provide us with a framework to support staff across all relevant services. We are currently looking at a variety of ways to share this information, and this will be communicated over the coming months. This will include a new webpage with information and links to other websites, a bi-monthly newsletter, leaflets for children and young people, parents and staff, guidance notes, and a single point of contact for enquiries and concerns.

Communication Strategy

A communication Strategy has been developed to support the implementation of parts 4, 5, and 18. This will include:

- A new webpage with regularly updated information and links to other sites
- An e-newsletter which will be disseminated widely across all partners in South Lanarkshire
- Leaflets and other publicity materials outlining our duty and how we are responding (For Children and Young people, their families, partner organisations and the wide community)

Guidance, Training and Support

A range of guidance, training and support materials will be developed to assist with the implementation of the Act. There will be a two tiered approach to this initially to ensure the most appropriate people have the correct support, and then rolled out to other relevant staff. It is anticipated much of this training will be delivered through guidance notes and on-line modules. Some staff will be involved in multi-agency sessions in their localities.

Updating of Existing Policies and Procedures

Existing policies and procedures within all resources will need to be reviewed and updated to ensure they are compliant with the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.



Family Man Fun Day – South Lanarkshire

So you find yourself telling people in the office that you have the monkey in the car and you are just off to pick up the Zebra and no-one bats an eyelid... This is normal life in the lead up to Family Man Fun Day!

Developed over an eight year period, Family Man Fun Day has become a Father's Day feature in the calendar for many families in South Lanarkshire and beyond. Billed as the 'free, fun way to celebrate Father's Day' the event offers families a fun day out; a chance to find out about activities they can do within their local communities and to relax knowing that the only activities that have a cost are a few £1 fund raising stalls for local groups and organisations. No commercial stalls are present at the event so all money raised goes back into the local community and most activities are completely free of charge.

One of the highlights of the day is the mascot race. Brave souls representing a range of organisations climb into an array of foam and fur and risk heat exhaustion as they run past the roaring crowd to claim the title of Mascot Marvel (which comes complete with a chocolate trophy). It is ever controversial – from debates over whether foam feet should be compulsory to ensure an even playing field to whether organisations have recruited undeclared athletes to run on their behalf! Regardless, the joy of the littlest family members as they cheer on Bookbug or Funkey The Monkey is indisputable.

With over 2000 family members attending in 2015, the success of the event is down to the extensive buy in from a wide range of partner organisations. Whilst the

Community Learning and Home School Partnership service co-ordinated the event, over 60 local organisations and businesses made it possible. Many took the opportunity to offer free taster/ trial sessions or demos and displays; other provided information or fundraising stalls; one local DJ provided the sound systems and staff for the marquees, all seeing the benefit not only to their own organisation but also to the families who may have been unaware about what was available to them locally.

2016 looks to be a particularly exciting and memorable year as the event will feature as part of the celebrations for Year of the Dad. The ethos behind Year of the Dad (celebrating the difference a great dad can make to children's wellbeing) lies at the heart of our Engaging Father Figures agenda within South Lanarkshire and indeed is what Family Man Fun Day is all about.

We are still at the organisational stages, so if your organisation or business would like to be involved then please get in touch, alternatively if you are looking for a 'free, fun way to celebrate Father's Day' then get yourself along to Hamiltonpark Racecourse on Sunday 19th June 12-4pm!

Contact: Fiona Robertson, Senior Community Learning and Home School Partnership Worker

Fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Video and photo footage from the event can be found - <https://www.facebook.com/FamilyManFunDay/>





Creativity at Calderside

At Calderside Nursery we promote and deliver an active learning environment which provides the curriculum for our early years children.

Literacy is embedded in our practice and is evident throughout the establishment. We promote language and literacy using national initiatives including Bookbug, Parents as Partners in Early Learning and Story sacks.

We have recently begun a weekly workshop alongside speech and language professionals to support and encourage children and their parents with strategies and techniques to enhance language skills.

By embedding these skills in our establishment, the hope is that children will acquire an eagerness for learning.

Calderside Nursery centre has been on a journey the past couple of years to promote creativity and staff are always looking for innovative ways of promoting and developing creative skills in our children.

Our latest initiative involves Samantha Rooney, an early years worker who is part of the team who has produced a new character in the form of 'Granny Story'.

Granny Story lives in Blantyre also and came along to join the children in the 2-3 room on World Book Day, 3rd March.

With her whirlwind entrance, the children were immediately drawn to her character and were attentive throughout her visit. Parents/carers came along

to celebrate World Book Day and were given the opportunity to see the valued importance of reading to their child/ren. After rummaging through her 'trolley of tricks' and having at last found her reading glasses, Granny Story proudly produced the world known favourite 'We're going on a bear hunt' by Michael Rosen.

She captivated the children's attention with her enthusiasm and animated account of the favourite read and she was a huge success. The children and parents bid her farewell as she had to go and catch her bus.

Avah aged 3 years recounted her visit "Granny Story was too funny, she ripped her tights and wore funny glasses, When is she coming again, I like her".

Sharon (Eimilie's mum) said "I thought it was brilliant. She made it fun for the kids and made the adults laugh also".

This is not the first time that Samantha has produced a captivating character to encourage our future generation to develop skills and grasp concepts.

Mrs Discovery is also a well known character who specialises in science and discovery and promotes this area of learning with fun filled experiences and experiments.

**For further information please contact
Calderside Nursery Centre on 01698 829188 or
caldersidenursery@ea.s-lanark.sch.uk**

St Mary's Nursery Centre

Forest School, otherwise known as 'The Tree Club', at St Mary's Nursery Centre have had a busy year so far; they have explored their new environment, scaled the dizzying heights of the logs and tried to remember that they can still be seen behind skinny trees when playing hide and seek. They have worked with their friends to build dens, have created rope trails and worked on developing their communication skills to ensure that their partner didn't fall over or bump into anything. The children soon became adept at building dens; meeting the criteria that it had to be big enough for all of them to fit in to have snack. They have tracked animals through the snow comparing tracks and suggesting possible animals and of course made snow angels. The older children developed a keen interest in sawing and practised at every opportunity, first with adult support then helping their peers and finally at

the end of the session on their own. Imaginative play has included the hedgehog, Princess Fiona who required a castle to be built, building imaginary fires and riding horses into adventures. We have invited our neighbouring nursery to visit and share making a fire and of course 's'mores' with us.

The children and staff look forward to continuing their experiences in the woods learning a variety of skills, becoming aware of the need to look after their environment, developing their ability to work cooperatively and to enjoy exploring it in all weathers.

**For further information please contact
St Mary's Nursery Centre on 01555 678013 or
nursery1@st-marys-lanark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk**





Get into the loop

Cuningar Loop is an exciting new woodland park to the east end of Glasgow. 15 hectares of derelict land - the size of 15 football pitches - has been transformed into a community greenspace for local people and visitors to get involved, get active and be inspired by the outdoors.

The site features:

- An extensive path network
- Adventure play facilities
- A bike skills area
- Scotland's first outdoor bouldering park
- A woodland workout
- Large meadow and picnic areas
- An outdoor classroom
- A riverside boardwalk

The Cuningar Loop map will help you find your way around.

Now open!

Cuningar Loop opened full-time in March 2016. It will take a little longer to finish installing the bridge linking Cuningar Loop to Dalmarnock, but the play, bouldering, bike track and boardwalk areas of the site are open for people to enjoy.

Please note - The Cuningar bouldering facility is currently undergoing routine maintenance and some areas are temporarily closed off to the public. We apologise for any inconvenience and hope to be fully open as soon as possible. Please follow signage as directed.

There will still be occasional construction traffic on the main access road, so please take care when moving around the site.

Grab a bite

The Wee Cabin Café offers a delicious selection of hot and cold food, tea, coffee and cold drinks. It's open 10am-5pm on weekdays and 9am-7pm on weekends, subject to weather conditions.

You'll find more places to eat, drink and shop in Dalmarnock.

Facilities

Temporary toilet facilities are available on site.

Adventure play

The adventure play area is suitable for everyone and is designed to challenge users to explore the freedom of play in an active way.

Bike

The bike track is designed to introduce cycling to people with a wide range of abilities and ages. There are three tracks: balance bike, pump and skill building.

Bouldering

The bouldering area - Scotland's first outdoor bouldering park - is designed to introduce new climbers to the sport whilst providing facilities for the more experienced climber. A couple of boulders also have features to allow for para-climbing. We recommend that climbers use fall protection mats, as some of the boulders are over 4m high.

Find out about climbing in Scotland - including how to get involved in a club or event - at [Climb Scotland](#).

Woodland workout

Come and try our new installations where you can exercise in the fresh air in a natural environment.

Walks

There are over 2.5 kilometres of paths on mixed surfaces which are accessible to everyone and have plenty of seating.



Commonwealth Legacy

Cuningar Loop is a £5.7 million Legacy 2014 project that has transformed 15 hectares of derelict land - the size of 15 football pitches - into a community greenspace. 15,000 trees have been planted including native trees such as oak, silver birch and blossom, along with some more exotic trees.

Expected to attract over 100,000 visitors by 2021, Cuningar Loop is an important legacy of the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow - and one of 14 Commonwealth Woods.

History

From 1810 to 1860 the site was the location of several reservoirs that provided water to the whole of Glasgow. It was also used as a quarrying and mining site before becoming a landfill site for the rubble from the Gorbals' demolition. The importing of soil and compost has given the site a new purpose, providing a rich growing environment for the new plants and trees.

Artist in residence

Cuningar Loop has two artists, Rob Mulholland and James Winnett. Rob and James have been running art workshops for community groups, using items found on site, such as sandstone and old glass bottles, to create new art. Working with local people they have researched the site's history, unearthing old objects.

There will be future art projects, keep an eye on the events tab for more information.

Contact: Scottish Lowlands Forest District

Address: Five Sisters House, Five Sisters Business Park, West Calder

Postcode: EH55 8PN

Telephone: 0300 067 6700

Email: scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

How to get here

Cuningar Loop is located in Rutherglen. There's no parking on site, so we'd encourage you to use public transport to get here. There's limited amount of car parking on Downiebrae Road, off Dalmarnock Road.

Downiebrae Road grid reference is NS 618 626

Using SatNav?

The nearest postcode is G73 1PW.

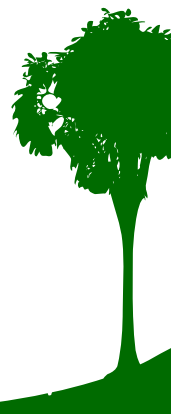
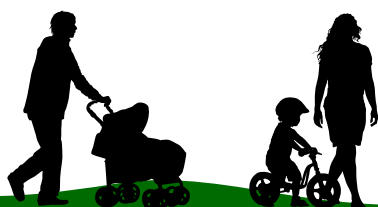
Public transport

There are regular buses between Glasgow and Rutherglen which run along Dalmarnock Road. There are also regular train services stopping at Dalmarnock and Rutherglen stations - Cuningar Loop is a 10 min walk from both stations. Find details at [Traveline Scotland](http://TravelineScotland.com).

Website

Visit our website to find out more.

www.scotland.forestry.gov.uk/visit/cuningar-loop



My World Outdoors

The Care Inspectorate have recently published a new resource called 'My World Outdoors' to support services in providing outdoor learning and play experiences. Here's what they had to say....

'Spending time outdoors and particularly in natural environments is good for all of us and especially for children. The Care Inspectorate recognises the benefits of accessing the great outdoors and this resource aims to make a positive contribution to the further development of outdoor play as part of early learning and childcare in Scotland. We have a specific role to play as the national regulator and improvement body, providing direction and advice to registered services, including childminders, playgroups, nurseries and out-of-school provision.

There is a long historical tradition of outdoor experiences for children in Scotland, marked by innovation stretching back over two hundred years. There is significant evidence that playing outdoors is more than just fun: it can contribute positively to child development, child health, and early learning. That is why, in this resource, we have grouped together examples of effective practice around the recognised wellbeing indicators, where children are safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included. With creativity and effective leadership, all types of care services in every part of Scotland can use outdoor play to support each of these wellbeing indicators for children.

This is a good practice resource which shares inspiring stories from services showing how much children are benefiting from outdoor play. Mainstream as well as outdoor-based services are featured and it aims to encourage all early learning and childcare services to make the most of the natural environment. This resource is as much for urban as rural services and is for all age ranges of children and different service types.



Many childcare services have access to their own gardens and outdoor play areas; many are also close to outdoor parks, woods, beaches and fields which can help stimulate a love of the outdoors and allow children and young people to explore nature. Some such services provide an outdoors experience one day a week. Others have designed their provision in an even more innovative direction.

This resource pack seeks to learn both from mainstream services which are providing innovative access to the outdoors, and care services provided entirely outside. We also hope it helps support a move away from a risk-averse approach to one where proportionate risk assessment support children to enjoy potentially hazardous activities safely.

For practitioners providing services, we hope that you find this resource helpful in promoting outdoor and natural play, whether the service is wholly or just partly delivered outdoors. The SHANARRI framework used in this resource also provides a good model for assessing and reporting your impact on children's outcomes. Looking through the SHANARRI lens also reflects changes to how we inspect services, moving from measuring inputs such as whether an outdoor play area is safe and adequately equipped, to assessing outcomes and how children actually experience outdoor and environmental play in all weathers. This resource is also intended to be helpful to specialist early-years practitioners within the Care Inspectorate and local authority managers planning and commissioning services, as well as people providing services.'

For further information or to access a copy of 'My World Outdoors' please go to <http://hub.careinspectorate.com/improvement/my-world-outdoors/> and click on the link



30 THINGS TO DO USING YOUR SENSES BEFORE YOU'RE 3



- 1) Splash around with your toys in a tray of water
- 2) Make some noisy maracas using a plastic bottle filled with rice or dried pasta
- 3) Make garden perfume with a bucket of water and your favourite smelling flower petals
- 4) Find all the old keys in your house and hang them from a branch to make a jingly jangly wind chime
- 5) Pretend you are a chef and make gooey mud pies with dandelions for decoration
- 6) Cut a hole in a cereal box, wrap rubber bands around and rock out to the sound of your homemade guitar
- 7) Draw around Mum or Dad's hand to make a bird shape
- 8) Make a drum out of a tin can and hit it to the beat of your favourite song
- 9) Get a bucket full of bubbles and give the car a bath
- 10) Take a trip to the beach and listen to the noise a shell makes
- 11) Taste a fruit or vegetable that you have never eaten before
- 12) Pretend to be a detective by turning the lights off in your house and use a torch to investigate
- 13) Have a tickle war with Mum or Dad
- 14) Make a pirate map by colouring in some paper using teabags dunked in cold water
- 15) Explore outside and gather things to make a nature garden in a bucket
- 16) Create your own jungle out of green play dough and broccoli
- 17) Help hang out the washing with colourful pegs
- 18) Listen to your favourite music and have a boogie
- 19) Find a soft feather and tickle Mum and Dad
- 20) Get your mum to paint you as a lion and "RAAAWR!"
- 21) Make some wings out of cardboard and imagine you can fly
- 22) Practice your best soldier marching and shout 'Left! Right! Attention!'
- 23) Make puppets with your hands and watch their shadow on the wall
- 24) Build a cosy fort out of bed sheets and make sure no enemies can see in!
- 25) Learn the actions to 'head, shoulders, knees and toes'
- 26) Play cotton wool football by blowing across the table
- 27) Practice your butterfly kisses
- 28) Make a set of noisy drums out of pots and pans
- 29) Build a big tower out of plastic cups and then knock them over
- 30) Play leapfrog and 'ribbit!'



Playing, talking and reading with your young children can make them happier and healthier, now and in the future. And it's good for you too.

Directory of contacts

Here is a list, of people, services and organisations that may be useful to your service. The list is by no means exhaustive!

Early Years Service

South Lanarkshire Council Early Years Service

01698 454470

earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

South Lanarkshire Childcare Information Service

01698 454470

earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Morag McDonald, Early Years Strategic Manager

01698 454474

morag.mcdonald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Allan McRitchie, Early Years Manager (Curriculum)

01698 454285

allan.mcritchie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Helen Hodge, OOSC Development Officer

01698 455675

helen.hodge@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Early Learning and Childcare Support Team

01698 455675 (Marion, Vivienne, Ruth, Liz, Elaine, Janice, Andrea, Helen)

Integrating Children's Services

Kathleen Colvan, Service Manager, ICS and CCLD

01698 454517

kathleen.colvan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Debra Lindsay, Hamilton ICS Area Manager

01698 452370

debra.lindsay@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Val McIntyre, East Kilbride ICS Area Manager

01355 235702

val.mcintyre@ics.s-lanark.org.uk

Kevin Mullarkey, Clydesdale ICS Area Manager

01555 895192

kevin.mullarkey@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Elaine Walker, Cambuslang/Rutherglen (ICS Area Manager)

0141 630 2520

elaine.walker@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Jennifer McCormick, Early Years Manager (Development)

01698 454973

jennifer.mccormick@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Ellen Ward, Training and Development Officer

01698 455660

ellen.ward@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Pauline Stanton, SVQ Lead Assessor

01698 455660

pauline.stanton@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Early Years and Childcare Training and Development Team

01698 455660 (Ellen, Pauline, Janice, Lesley)

Community Learning/Home School Partnership/ Cultural Co-ordinators/Mobile Crèche

Fiona Robertson, Senior CLHS Worker

01698 452214

fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Doreen Jenkins, Senior CLHS Worker

01698 452395

doreen.jenkins@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Susan Sandilands, Senior CLHS Worker

01357 528719

susan.sandilands@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Lianne Grieve, Senior CLHS Worker

0141 630 2520

lianne.grieve@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Cultural Co-ordinator Team

0141 630 2520 (Claire, Kimberly, Louise)

Anne Brodie, Creche Officer

South Lanarkshire Mobile Crèche

01698 452180

ann.brodie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Other Useful Contacts

Support for Play and Early Learning in Lanarkshire (SPELL)

01698 768933

spell.org@btopenworld.com

Lorna Carlyle, Childminding Development Officer

01698 832076

lorna.carlyle@childminding.org

Hazel Rankine, National Day Nurseries Association

(NDNA representative for South Lanarkshire)

01698 306090

office@bigbirdlarkhall.co.uk

Kim Kilgannon, Play Development Officer, Leisure

01698 476195

kim.kilgannon@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk

Care Inspectorate, Hamilton Office

01698 208150

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

www.scswis.com

Scottish Social Services Council

0845 603 0891

enquiries@sssc.uk.com

www.sssc.uk.com

