Welcome to the September edition of Chat about Childcare

I hope that you’ve all had a lovely summer, and enjoyed a wide variety of activities over the holidays.

In this edition some of you have shared events, activities and experiences that you have been involved in. We are always interested in hearing from you and sharing your practice, so please get in touch and tell us your story.

In addition there is information on new guidance on Inspections from the Care Inspectorate, the Scottish Learning Festival, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture, an update on the Early Years Collaborative.

I hope you enjoy this edition and share it with colleagues, parents and friends.

Councillor Jean McKeown
Chair, South Lanarkshire Early Years and Childcare Partnership

Lilybank Nursery

Lilybank Nursery were recently inspected under the new Care Inspectorate inspection process, and were delighted to receive four Excellent grades across the focus areas.

The nursery were inspected under the same four areas as before:
- Quality of care and support
- Quality of environment
- Quality of staffing
- Quality of management and leadership

However the inspectors focused on one element and used GIRFEC and the Wellbeing Indicators as the benchmark for their findings.

The staff, parents and children were really pleased with the outcome with manager Margaret Gilmour saying ‘I am delighted that the commitment and hard work of all the staff, parents and children at Lilybank Nursery has been recognised through our most recent Care Inspection. We strive to provide the best possible experience for our children.’

For further information, contact Margaret Gilmour, Nursery Manager at lilybanknursery@yahoo.com or 01698 428699

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
New

Early Years Ace Baby Hub

at Cambuslang Institute

At South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) we understand the importance of physical activity and that it should be encouraged from birth, particularly through floor-based play.

Children of pre-school age who are capable of walking unaided should be physically active daily for at least 180 minutes (3 hours), spread throughout the day.

So taking that into consideration, SLLC have developed the first SLLC Early Years hub for children 0-5 years where you can have it all in a one stop shop!

Starting in August 2016.

Sessions will include:

- **Baby Massage** – a great way to bond with your baby. It has many health benefits and also helps to soothe them and help with sleeping.

- **Baby Yoga** (12 weeks - crawling) – a lovely inclusive set of movements to enhance interaction, communication and relaxation between you and baby promoting healthy development.

- **Toddler Yoga** (walking-pre school) – using songs and rhymes alongside plenty of movement and stretching, this type of yoga is designed to support exercise, develop confidence.

- **Go Play!** – These sessions are designed to encourage all areas of the child’s development (physical, social, emotional, intellectual, communications through a variety of preschool play methods in a fun and active environment. (NB 18mths-3yrs parents have to stay, 3yrs-5yrs parents do not have to stay)

- **Boogie Beats** – Enjoy clapping, singing, wiggling and shaking in these fun and interactive dance sessions.

- **Healthy families** – a free 1 hour class for parents and children (aged 2-5yrs) to learn about healthy eating and physical activity together.

All classes are available via the ACE membership or on a pay as you go basis however all sessions must be booked in advance, please call Eastfield lifestyles to book on 0141 642 9500 or Leisure and Culture HQ on 01698 476101.

For more information on our Early Years Hub or our other Early Years provision, please contact Kim Kilgannon by emailing kim.kilgannon@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk
Goodbye

We would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and very best wishes to our friend and colleague Allan McRitchie, Early Years Curriculum Manager, who retired on 12th August.

Allan has had a long career working in Early Years and he will be very much missed by all who worked with him.

We wish Allan a long and happy retirement!

It is also farewell to the Early Years Development Team, who are moving on to new posts. The team have worked with many of you over a number of years, and were greatly appreciated for the contribution they made to the Early Years agenda. We wish them all the best in their new roles.

If you have any enquiries regarding early years, please email earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or phone 01698 454470

Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

Supporting Children and Young People – Practitioners Information Pack

The Scottish Government has developed an information pack for practitioners to help you to answer any questions parents, children or young people or the general public may have. We have a limited number of packs available which will be disseminated to services, establishments and agencies, however you can also access the full pack at www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright/what-is-girfec/children-adult-services/practitioners-info-pack
Eight South Lanarkshire childminders attended Moira Anderson Safe Hands Training in June 2016. The childminders had previously had a Network Evening with Sandra Brown, founder of the Moira Anderson Foundation earlier in the year and were very keen to attend further training.

Here’s what they had to say:

“I found all the information helpful and I will use the various strategies in my setting”

“I will use this training not only in my childminding service but with my own children at home”

“As a childminder I will use it daily in my care of children”

“Has made me feel more confident discussing problems with children if I feel there is an issue”

“Sandra and Colin were excellent. The ice breakers were great and really set the tone for the day”

“I will use this training not only in my childminding service but with my own children at home”

The childminders really enjoyed the course and have been sharing the experience on the SCMA Childminders facebook page and in their local groups.

For further information, please contact Lorna Carlyle, Childminding Development Officer at lorna.carlyle@childminding.org or phone 01698 832076
Connections supporting the delivery of quality physical education

The resource is designed to support staff across different levels of knowledge and confidence to ensure that children receive high quality experiences in physical education that will help them develop the skills, knowledge, confidence and motivation for lifelong physical activity.

The resource comprises colourful lesson cards, a music CD and the manual. The lesson cards are categorised into three sections – Learning through Exploration, Learning Through Stories and Rhymes and Learning Through Activities. The cards are written in a style which allows the least confident member of staff to use them as a script if desired. The main learning approach used throughout the cards is one of active learning through exploratory, imaginative and enquiry-led play.

The resource was initially developed for use at the early level and can be used in school and throughout the range of early learning and childcare establishments. It is important to remember that the opportunities can not only be provided in a gym hall but can be developed outdoors and in the playroom.

The resource provides numerous exciting child friendly opportunities and the key message from the resource is to develops staff confidence to deliver of high quality physical education.

For further information, please contact Fiona Leggate, Quality Improvement Officer at fiona.leggate@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
or phone 01698 454722

Scottish Childminding Association
Annual Conference

Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline hosts the SCMA annual conference and is being held on Saturday 1 October 2016 with the AGM taking place on Sunday 2 October 2016.

This is an ideal opportunity for childminders across the country to come along to access training, hear Key Note Speaker Suzanne Zeedyk and welcome address form Mark McDonald MSP. It is also a great way to meet like minded people and find out what’s happening across the country in the world of childminding.

If you would be interested in attending this event please contact Head Office on 01786 445 377 or email sarah.sharp@childminding.org

Where next? Shaping the future of childminding
The M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project is upgrading the core of Scotland’s motorway network and will boost Scotland’s economy by improving connections between the commercial centres of Glasgow and Edinburgh and beyond. The project marks significant investment in Scotland’s trunk road network and aims to tackle congestion problems on the A8/M8, M73, M74 and at key junctions including Raith (M74/A725) and Shawhead (A725/A8).

The benefits of the investment will improve journey times during peak periods, improve connectivity, journey time reliability and road safety across the Central Scotland motorway network. The project will also help promote sustainable economic growth by improving access to facilities and employment areas.

Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP) is the consortium that will design, build, finance and operate the M8 M73 and M74 for the next 30 years. It consists of Meridiam Infrastructure, Aberdeen Asset Management, Amey and Cintra.

SRP’s construction contractor is a joint venture of Ferrovial Agroman and Lagan Construction.

**Good Neighbour Project Funding**

Ferrovial Lagan, on behalf of Scottish Roads Partnership, runs a ‘Good Neighbour’ funding scheme which can provide up to £500 for local groups / organisations who meet the funding criteria. Applications for funding are assessed on a monthly basis against the funding criteria by a panel of Ferrovial Lagan staff. Applicants will be advised when the panel has made their decision, usually within 6 weeks of receipt. Please note that a maximum of £500 per month can be awarded from the fund therefore, should an application meet the funding criteria this does not guarantee funding will be allocated. In the event of a number of equally eligible applications being received, funding will be awarded through a random draw.

For further information or to make an application, contact info@scotroadspartnership.co.uk

**Funding criteria**

To be eligible for funding, applications must be:

- Community, voluntary or charity groups / organisations within close proximity to the Motorway Improvements project* or
- State funded education provider or pre-school group within close proximity to the Motorway Improvements Project*

Any request for funding should include details of the project your group is seeking to fund. Your project will be assessed for this and must also meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Education/skills development
- Community support
- Environmental benefits

Each funding application is carefully considered on its own merit against the funding criteria.

Please do not apply for funding if your group does not meet the criteria. Applications that do not meet the criteria will not be considered from the outset. We regret that we are unable to fund:

- Individuals
- Sponsorships
- Employment costs
- National charities
- Local branches of national charities
- Repair/refurbishment costs of community buildings, religious institutions and education establishments
- Prizes or prize draw print costs for fundraising events
- Project running costs e.g. utility bills, council tax, building/contents insurance
- Projects outside the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements area
- Profit making organisations
- Retrospective projects
- Third party fundraising activities
- Travel costs
- Continual funding
Healthy Start

Healthy Start was launched nationally in 2006, replacing the Welfare Food Scheme. The scheme is available to pregnant women and families with children under four years old who are on Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, or Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit) with an income below £16,190 (2014/15).

All pregnant women under 18 years old qualify for Healthy Start; regardless of whether they get any of the above benefits or tax credits.

Once registered with the scheme, pregnant women and families will receive a set of vouchers through the post every four weeks. Each voucher is worth £3.10 per week and can be exchanged for any combination of milk, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables and infant formula milk.

Are you pregnant?

You can now get your Healthy Start vitamins, free of charge, via your Midwife from first point of contact and then throughout your pregnancy until your child is 1 year old.

After your baby is born your Midwife will give you a pot of vitamins at your first postnatal visit and then you will be able to collect from your Health Centre.

Are you signed up to Healthy Start?

Remember to collect your children’s vitamins. Children’s Healthy Start vitamins are now available at a variety of venues including Health Centres, Community Centres and selected Community Pharmacies.

For more information contact Susan Short on 0781 712 2692.

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Learning is Fun

Childcare Training and Development Team

Do you know about us?
Who we are?

Our team is based in South Lanarkshire Council Headquarters and offer advice on meeting your SSSC requirements for registration, CPD opportunities, best routes to further training and where to access funding as well as an assessment centre offering SVQ’s in Social Services Children and Young People.

If you would like to find out more about any of these topics please contact us on the information below.

Ellen Ward
Staff Training and Development Officer
Email: ellen.ward@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01698 455660

Pauline Myers
SVQ Lead Assessor
Email: pauline.stanton@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01698 455675

Janice Hamilton
SVQ Assessor
Email: janice.hamilton2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01698 455678
Healthy Families

Healthy Families is a free class that will provide the whole family with nutritional information and fun family activities. The 1 hour class based in your local community is for children aged 2-5yrs and for any parent, guardian or grandparent to come along and join the fun. The classes run for 10 weeks and will be based around 30mins nutritional information and 30mins physical activity. There will be recommendations for healthy eating, physical activity, sleep and screen time will be covered throughout the 10 weeks.

The Healthy Families programme which takes place between August to December 2016 will run at a variety of venues throughout South Lanarkshire.

Should you have any enquiries relating to the programme please contact Lindsay Meighan, on 01698 476 157 or email lindsay.meighan@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk

Darci and her mum Jennifer attended the first course of Healthy Families and here is their story;

How did you hear about the Healthy Families programme?
I heard through the Health Visitor, when Darci was getting her 2 and half year visit from her.

Why do you attend the Healthy Families programme?
I attend it because Darci enjoys it and I think she has learned a few things by going there. She gets excited when you tell her she is going to it and calls it banana class.

Which sessions have you and Darcy enjoyed the most?
I think she has enjoyed all sessions – when talking about what foods you can eat, good and bad, as she talks about this out with the class. I think she also enjoyed the classes where we did the circuit routines especially the Burpees. When we were outside on running tracks they got to race, she has now been doing this lots recently getting everyone to race her.

Have you been able to implement Healthy Eating and Physical activity in your daily lives?
Yes, I would say we always had a healthy eating diet before but Darci will ask for more fruit now. Also with exercising I have put Darci into the Crèche at the Sports centre and managed to go and do some classes / gym / swimming while she has been there. I think with going to the Healthy eating classes it has made Darci mix with other children which made me feel more confident about putting her into the crèche at sports centre, knowing that she will feel okay to go in and mix with other children other than her cousins or other friends.
Scottish Learning Festival 2016: Promoting Excellence And Equality For All

There’s lots on offer at SLF 2016, whether you work in an early years centre, a school, community learning, health, social work, the voluntary sector or as a training provider, there is something of interest for everyone contributing to the learning and development of Scotland’s children and young people. SLF 2016 will support practitioners explore a wide range of practical approaches, resources and research aimed at promoting excellence and equity for all learners in Scotland through:

- A programme of inspirational keynotes delivered by Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, John Swinney MSP, Dr Yong Zhao, Prof Carol Campbell and Mark Beaumont;
- Conversation and debate in the professional discussion sessions focusing on Early Learning and Childcare, 3-18 Curriculum Pathways and the Scottish Attainment Challenge;
- A range of professional learning seminars where you can engage in activities and learn from practitioners and young people;
- The largest education exhibition in Scotland with access to more than 100 exhibitors;
- Opportunities for professional networking with peers and colleagues from across Scotland.

Putting the learning into action

The unique SLF experience also includes a range of other activities taking place in the exhibition, all giving visitors opportunities to discover innovative practice, new resources and proven strategies to enhance teaching and learning. Located in Hall 4, the exhibition will bring learning to life and showcase over 100 educational suppliers covering all levels of education.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet well-established companies supplying some of the most innovative classroom resources as well as a whole host of companies new to SLF.

Exhibition features

The exhibition is home to a fantastic range of features:

- Education Scotland stand – Come and talk to the Education Scotland staff to find out more about their work.
- Exhibitor Seminars – A theatre dedicated to exhibitors presenting the benefits of their products and services and how they can be help practitioners.
- Local Authority Village – Come and meet the authorities and see how they are taking forward closing the poverty-related attainment gap as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

The exhibition and all these features are completely free to attend. Browse the programme to see what’s happening then come along and discover all the innovations, ideas, talks and presentations.

Supporting professional learning

Attending SLF supports your career-long professional learning, by helping you keep your professional practice fresh, up-to-date and relevant. SLF is the largest professional learning event for Scottish education.

Visit www.scottishlearningfestival.org.uk for more information.
Services for Children and Families
- In South Lanarkshire more than 600 households with children become homeless each year.
- Families affected by homelessness experience stress, uncertainty and disrupted lives.
- Children’s wellbeing and development can be affected.
- Their involvement with your service may also be affected as a result of their homelessness.
- Working together, services can make a powerful change to the experience of homeless families.

Signs to look for
- Non attendance or lateness at school.
- Failure to keep appointments.
- Losing connection to mainstream services.
- Change in behaviour or achievement of children.
- Lack of concentration at school/tiredness.

What we do
- Housing and Technical Resources offer a range of services who work with families and children affected by homelessness.
- These services are provided either by Council officers or by contracted service providers.
- The aim of these services is to work with families, children and partner agencies to provide the most appropriate level of support in relation to the households circumstances.

Housing Support Officers
- There are a number of support officers based in the local housing offices across each of the four divisional areas.
- Part of their role is to work with homeless families with children who require some level of support.
- Officers will liaise with partner agencies including schools, public health services and Social Work.

They can assist families with the following:
- School transport
- School uniforms
- Food parcels
- Clothing and equipment for newborns
- HSO’s are based in each of the four divisions
- East Kilbride: Civic Centre, St Andrews Street.
- Clydesdale: South Vennel, Lanark.
- Hamilton/Larkhall: Brandon Gate, Hamilton.
- Cambuslang/Rutherglen/Blantyre, Cambuslang Gate.
- HSO’s can be contacted through the central telephone number: 0303 123 1012

Breaking the cycle
- Four Officers based in Cambuslang Gate covering the South Lanarkshire Area.
- Work with all members of the family and will liaise with partner agencies sharing information in line with GIRFEC guidelines.
- Provide intensive support service and work with homeless or potentially homeless families with anti-social behaviour and who have difficulty engaging with agencies.
- Can be contacted on: 0141 584 2736

Shelter
- Based in Victoria Street in Blantyre and service covers the whole of the South Lanarkshire area.
- They take referrals from housing offices for families who are homeless/potentially homeless.
- They provide outreach support and work with families who may require more intensive support to assist them with their current circumstances.
- Officers will liaise with partner agencies including schools, NHS, Social Work.
Lotto Care
• Based in Mill Road in Hamilton and receive referrals from Housing and Technical Resources and Social Work Resources.
• Officers work with parents under 25 years of age across South Lanarkshire.
• Provide intensive support for homeless and Throughcare clients.

Women’s Aid
• They accept self referrals as well as referrals from agencies such as the Council and the Police.
• They provide accommodation in all areas of South Lanarkshire.
• Also provide outreach support and counselling service and have trained children’s workers.

Telephone numbers
• Central Homelessness Team: 0141 584 2712
• Council Housing Offices: 0303 123 1012
• Women’s Aid: 01698 891498
• Shelter Support Services: 0844 515 2500
• Loretto: 01698 284473
• Health and Homelessness Team: 01698 727534
• SLC Emergency Out of Hours: 0800 242024

Further information
• If you would like to discuss any of the points covered in this briefing or if you would like your team to meet with someone to discuss issues around homelessness in general please contact: Alf Ghiloni: 0141 584 2712
Email: alf.ghiloni@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk

Language, Learning and Literacy

Language, Learning and Literacy is a set of tools designed to support early years’ staff to support children who might be at risk of language delay, with all the means for mastering the skills required for early literacy. The work started as two separate pieces of work, one led by a senior educational psychologist working with Westburn Nursery in Cambuslang, the other led by a senior speech and language therapist working with Happy Feet Nursery in Larkhall. While they took slightly different approaches in the beginning, they soon came together to develop a tool that would support nursery staff to work in a focused way on language with the children in their groups. This would allow staff to focus their efforts so that all children in the nursery had the best possible chance of leaving nursery with age appropriate sounds and language – a critical foundation for future literacy and learning success.

During 2015 this work spread from the first two nurseries to another two who were actively testing the tool, and another three are ready to get involved in August 2016. Work has started on a long term plan to extend the approach across early years establishments in South Lanarkshire. This will take some time, and over the next 1-2 years we will continue to learn from the experiences of all establishments. This includes the sort of support they need from specialist services dealing with language, and how we work more closely together in partnership so that every child in South Lanarkshire has the opportunity to achieve developmental milestones around language before they go to primary school. We see this work as critical in providing firm foundations for children as they work towards Early Level literacy which will be recorded as part of the new National Improvement Framework.

We are now looking for nurseries who would be interested in getting involved in the next phases of this work. All establishments will receive training and support, and guidance which has been developed by staff in the nurseries who have been involved to date. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Jennifer McCormick by emailing jennifer.mccormick@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk
As part of our joint vision T for Teamwork, the Nursery and P7 Junior Road Safety Officers have been busy planning a learning focus on How to keep safe walking/cycling to school.

The Nursery used drama to demonstrate how to cross the road safely. Throughout the week children practised songs to teach all stages of the school, they took part in activities using real – life situations on how to cross roads safely, then they passed this information onto the school during a joint initiative with the JRSO’s during a school assembly.

Nursery children were given opportunities to engage with Road Safety Simone and Speeding Ted, learning about dangers when crossing the road and how to keep safe, they shared their learning with various stages of the school. The Nursery enjoyed participating in various games and competitions and supporting the JRSO’s in choosing winners from the various competitions. The children and staff joined the whole school in dressing up as a superhero for a Superhero day and together with the JRSO’s relayed the important message of learning the green cross code; Stop, Look, Listen, Look. The JRSO’s spent time with the nursery children building relationships and social skills to get across their very important message.

The aim of the joint initiative between the Nursery and JRSO’s was to ensure the safety of all children when crossing roads. All pupils and staff had fun whilst learning an important message, it is hoped that the Road Safety Week can become an annual event in the life of Kirktonholme Nursery class and P7 JRSO’s.

For further information on our Road Safety Week please contact:
Kirktonholme Primary School
Phone: 01355 222050
gw12mccaigkim@glow.sch.uk
Making Fathers Figure –  
St Paul’s Nursery Dads Work

The overall aim of the Making Fathers Figure project was to systematically engage with fathers and male carers with services at all stages of their children’s development from ante natal to pre-school.

As part of this process, staff at St Paul’s Nursery recognised that they had limited success in engaging dads in the life of the nursery which was predominately a female environment and they sought to increase the number of dads/men volunteering and the number of hours volunteered.

By increasing the number of male volunteers, the nursery would become a more inclusive environment with children experiencing positive role models of both genders.

Dads were invited to two initial consultation sessions (one for the morning and one for the afternoon) (that they would frame a time in the week where all the dads would come in together and volunteer) were quickly discarded as not suiting the needs of the volunteers (caring and work commitments).

During the meeting dads offered a range of activities that they could support, including football sessions that one dad then quickly established with the nursery.

Without concrete arrangements for the dads to commence their volunteering (with the exception of the football) the project reached an impasse.

Staff then focussed on creating practical opportunities for the dads to engage with. This proved a successful means of engaging and attracting dads in.

Task focussed sessions (building a mud kitchen and prepping and building a tipi) were very successful in engaging the dads.

The project has successfully engaged 14 dads and father figures in a voluntary capacity within the nursery. To date 75 hours have been volunteered toward reaching their goals (not including the consultation sessions).

The dads have successfully built a mud kitchen and tipi area that are being used not only by the nursery but also classes from the co-located primary school.

Softer indicators are the enhanced relationships that have developed as a result of the project. Staff within the nursery were surprised by the engagement of one of the dads who previously had never spoken to staff within the establishment. On visits to the nursery the dad would rely on his partner to communicate with staff with anything regarding his child. The project has provided him the confidence to engage and contribute enthusiastically to the life of the school.
Another dad had grown up within Care and had limited experience of being fathered himself. He has established a very positive relationship with one of the older dads and is growing in confidence.

With the initial tasks now complete, staff plan to work with dads to further develop the use of the outdoor learning area that they have created. Taking the learning from the initial project they will identify new tasks on a rolling basis to build a more consistent engagement.

**Key Learning from the project:**

- Dads are willing to engage in volunteering activities within the nursery if provided a flexible approach. (i.e. don’t try to tie them down to a single weekly session that meets the needs of the establishment but not the volunteers)
- Provide, explicit tasks and ask for their help.

For further information on the project, please contact St Paul’s Nursery at gw14stpaulnuroffice@glow.sch.uk or phone 01698 284777 (Press Option 3)
The Care Inspectorate are changing how they inspect. Some changes came into effect from 1 April, some from 1 July.

The Care Inspectorate has a critical part to play to make sure that care services in Scotland are high quality and provide good experiences and outcomes for the people who use them and their carers. We expect providers to understand how their services impact on the people who use them. Providers must be able to demonstrate that they know the views and feelings of the people who are using their services and show how they use this knowledge and understanding to continually improve their services.

Quality themes

From 1 April we will change how we choose which quality themes and statements are inspected for better performing services, to be more proportionate and targeted in our work.

In highly performing services, inspections will consider Quality Theme: 1 Care and Support. The inspections will also look at one other quality theme, based on intelligence and knowledge of the service. Services will be eligible for this type of inspection if:

- They have grades as good or better for all quality themes
- There are no known concerns about the service
- There are no significant variations since the last inspection which could impact on outcomes for service users
- The last inspection was undertaken within the current inspection frequency arrangements, and

The inspector will be able to inspect all or other themes if they judge this is needed.

For services that do not meet these criteria, we will continue to inspect the four quality themes, which are:

- Care and support
- Environment (except in services not provided from a premises)
- Staffing
- Management and leadership.

Childminders

Inspections for childminders will not change and will continue to be inspected against three quality themes (or four if they employ staff). Each quality theme will focus on the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators of Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included.

We will conclude our formal evaluation of changes made to childminder inspection methodology during 2016/17.

Follow-up inspections

We will continue to use follow-up inspections where a service is performing poorly and needs a second inspection in a year. The inspection will focus on the requirements and recommendations made at the first inspection. We tested follow-up inspections last year and we will be evaluating the changes, so may refine these further during the course of the year.
Validation inspections

Between April and the end of June we will continue to undertake these in a sample of better performing care services. The purpose of the validation inspection is to assure the public that previous high standards in the services we inspect are being maintained. We will evaluate these after June.

Quality statements

We will look more at the quality of practice and outcomes for people who use care services, so from summer onwards we will only report and grade on the quality themes: individual statements will no longer be assessed. This is the case for all inspection types.

Shorter inspection reports

From 1 July, the Care Inspectorate also plans to introduce a new shorter inspection report for inspections of better performing services. As people may use these reports to help them make decisions about care services, it is important to communicate as clearly as possible what the Care Inspectorate finds and the impact the service has on the lives of people receiving care and support. A lot of the feedback is that our current reports are too long. Services with grades of adequate, weak, and unsatisfactory will still receive a longer inspection report, but we hope the format and structure will be easier for people to read.

Why we are making these changes

We want to better evidence the specific improvement duty in Section 44(1)b of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 which places upon us “the general duty of furthering improvement in the quality of social services”. Scotland’s new National Care Standards will be based on a human rights approach, and the way we inspect will complement this, especially as the new overarching principles of the national care standards bed in and the general and specialist standards are developed.

There will be new joint working arrangements between health and social care and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 makes significant changes too. We need to develop a more tailored approach and we know that the expectations of people who use services are rising.

Effective regulation, robust inspection and clear evidence-based reporting are key to achieving positive outcomes for people. We want to make sure that our inspections help support improvement and lead to better outcomes for people so that everyone’s experience of care in Scotland is as good as it can be.

Find more information and regular updates at www.careinspectorate.com

National Care Standards

Scotland’s National Care Standards are changing, with new principles about people’s rights. After a consultation with people using care, their carers and organisations that represent their interests, as well as care providers and staff, the overarching principles of the new care standards have been agreed. They are dignity and respect, compassion, being included, responsive care and support, and wellbeing. These should inform how you design and deliver services. More detailed standards will be rolled out from April 2017, after which we will check that services are meeting these, when we inspect.

For more information visit www.newcarestandards.scot
Calderside Nursery Centre held their annual “Art in the Community Exhibition” recently.

This enterprise consists of every child, within the centre, contributing by designing and making a piece of art through a range of medium. The youngest participant Amelia Murray is 16 months old.

Staff at Calderside are always looking for ways to promote creativity and in 2009 Andrea Kelly and Samantha Rooney applied for funding through Awards for All scheme to start this venture.

The successful application enabled the nursery to purchase large frames to display children’s pictures and artwork. The artwork was then placed in various local businesses within the Blantyre community; the health centre, dentists and David Livingston memorial centre were on board to participating in this link with the nursery as well as Blantyre social work department.

The frames are changed several times each term where selected pieces of work are displayed for the community to admire.

The project provides children and their families a sense of worth and belonging when their art is viewed by the public.

Calderside Nursery Centre has just been extended to provide more places for 2-3 year olds. The extension has produced a brand new creative room within the centre and has been aptly named The Studio. Stacy McKillop took over the organisation and running of the event this year where she sourced display boards and provided staff with information and instructions.

Families and friends were welcomed along to witness the beauty of the new space whilst admiring and purchasing some of the unique pieces that their child had produced.

Refreshments were offered and visitors were able to admire our new modern playroom. Tinted windows provide a contemporary look and the ceiling with its wooden beams and state of the art lighting enhances the setting. The children used various forms of techniques to create beautiful and unique designs.

Computer technology, painting, drawing and collage were amongst some of the methods used.

A grand total of £186 was raised which will be put to our arts and resources to fund more materials to support creativity.

Parents/carers as well as local businesses including Victoria Park Care Home were welcomed by invitation to come along and view our lovely masterpieces.

For further information, please contact Calderside Nursery centre on caldersidenursery@ea.s-lanark.sch.uk or phone 01698 829188
Got Talent
the Community Exhibition

Picasso, Van Gogh who knows!
We may have our very own famous artist in the making!
Directory of contacts

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