Community Learning and Home School Partnership Service

Locality Review 2015-16

Cambuslang and Rutherglen
Welcome to the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Community Learning and Home School Partnership Review 2015/16.

This year has seen some interesting developments across the Cambuslang and Rutherglen locality coupled with an increase in participation in Adult Learning and Family Learning and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programmes. The team continue to reflect on programmes offered, taking account of national policy and local priorities.

While we continue to offer a wide range of opportunities to assist people to meet their learning and development goals, there has been a strong focus on self-directed learning, where groups of people come together to develop their own learning programmes. The 21st Century Families Group in Cambuslang and Rutherglen continue to set their own agenda while taking account of the Detoxing Childhood message; bringing together local mums, dads and other carers with local practitioners to share information and ideas on how to combat some of the negative effects of 21st Century living for families. The political literacy group, ‘Peoples Past, Peoples Future’, continue to thrive and grow, bringing people of various backgrounds together to discuss and promote action around local/national issues. International Literacy Day on 8 September was celebrated by ‘Walk a Mile for Literacy’, an event that raised awareness of the functional literacy difficulties that are faced by a fifth of the population. The success of this event means that it is likely to be a fixture in the CLHSP calendar.

The coming year will no doubt present new challenges and opportunities for the CLHSP team but with the continuing support of local Partnerships and our 102 volunteers, we will continue to strive to offer interesting and engaging opportunities that meet the needs and aspirations of our local community.

Area statistics

**Adult Learning**
- 2621 adults participated in learning programmes
- 106 adults received nationally recognised awards

**Family Learning**
- 62 Family Learning programmes were delivered
- 3050 young people participated in learning programmes

**ESOL**
- 69 adults improved their English as Speakers of Other Languages

**Adult Literacy**
- 102 adults improved their literacy and numeracy skills (specific literacy programmes)
- 34% of participants were male

**Volunteering and Strengthening Communities**
- 102 volunteers accessed training and support to directly impact on CLHSP provision
- 4826 volunteer hours were contributed back into the local community
- 214 people influenced decision making within their community
- 12 community groups were supported to achieve their planned outcomes
Local Learner story

Darren

For so many years my life was all about my children and if it wasn’t for some behaviour issues with my little boy I think my life would still be the same. It all started a couple of years ago when my son started nursery and my partner and I realised we needed some help.

That’s when I met Karen and Debbie from the Home School Partnership, they were running an Understanding Child Behaviour course and I was really surprised at how much little changes could make to my children’s lives. It was a fantastic course and the other people there were great but it made me realise that I had put my own life on hold and was scared on how I could move forward. Karen and Debbie suggested I try the Steps to Excellence course and it was one of the best things I have done in years.

I began to see things differently and felt more positive about my future and I know that because of the Steps course I have more control in my life and I’m more confident. I joined up with Karen and Debbie again for the You and Your Child programme and yet again it was better than I could have expected.

I feel my life has completely turned around, since my classes have finished I have been volunteering at a computer drop in class and I’m also doing a basic youth worker course and I’m hoping to use all my new skills to help me get back into work.

If it wasn’t for Karen, Debbie and the Home School Partnership my life would still be the same and I know if I need help or someone just to talk to there are so many fantastic people out there willing to help.
Peoples Past Peoples Future - Political Literacy

‘Political literacy is all about understanding how politics shape our lives and how we can influence and affect policies’

The political literacy programme was developed in order to introduce participants to political influences and processes. The programme was influenced by Scotland’s history of campaigning, political activism and strong belief in social justice. The group explored how our political history has shaped our future and how we can be encouraged to engage in the political process allowing them to make informed choices about exercising their right to vote and that by doing so individuals can make a difference. The workshops are delivered in a fun and engaging manner with the use of song, video resources and lively discussions.

The group have been very active this year and actively contribute to the development and selection of topics for the workshops. To develop their skills further the group have engaged in a range of activities these have included the development of a political drama and song presentation which has been well received at Rutherglen and Cambuslang International Women’s Day; Adult Learners Week; Castlemilk Austerity Group; GalGael Trust a community heritage association in Govan and the Fire Station Hamilton at the launch of the CLD Strategic Plan for South Lanarkshire.

The participants have also undertaken training in Presentation Skills, Research Skills, and Oral History training. Their political memories and experiences have also been filmed and recorded by Glasgow University for the Banner Tales of Glasgow Project which centres upon selected labour and community organisation protest banners held by Glasgow Museums. The group have also participated in song writing workshops developing three mining songs as the group’s contribution to the Pits and Ponies Project which they have participated in and accessed training from. The lead up to the European Referendum on the 23rd June 2016 will be sure to generate lively and interesting discussions among the group who are looking forward to the year ahead.

New Discovery Award Programme

The Discovery Award programme is a programme of structured activity for those aged 50 and over. It provides an excellent opportunity for members to come together and engage in a number of challenging and thoroughly rewarding activities that have a tremendous and lasting effect on those taking part. It is designed to enable its members to discover new strengths and hidden talents, new interests or reawaken old ones and meet new people whilst gaining the satisfaction of unforeseen achievements.

Impacts

Members have reported feeling more supported and less isolated.
Some members are now involved or considering being involved in volunteering within the service.
Some members are planning more active and healthier lifestyles as a result of participating in the group.

Feedback

‘I enjoy being a part of the Discovery Award group as it encourages me to take part in activities I wouldn’t normally do. It also allows me to discuss my progress with other members’
Within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area we have developed a range of Adult Literacy and Numeracy provision aimed at supporting the wide range of needs of our community.

In addition to our generic classes, where individuals have the opportunity to identify their own focus of learning, we also offer Drop In support for those looking for help with writing job applications and CV's and project based work with partner organisations.

Classes take place in a range of venues and at a variety of times in order to best meet the needs of the learners within communities.

Literacy learners come from a wide range of backgrounds and have their own reasons for wanting to improve their skills at this point in their lives. For some it is about increasing their employability; getting support with written job tests or applications, for others it is that their child has recently started school and they wish to be able to support their child better with homework.

Walk a Mile for Literacy
To celebrate International Literacy Day on 8th September, Walk a Mile for Literacy walks were organised in Cambuslang and Rutherglen. Participants started off in each of the local libraries and were then taken through a guided walk that looked at signage that might be a worry for the 1 in 5 members of the population who struggle with reading, writing and/or numbers.

The walks highlighted some common place signs and adverts that may present a challenge to people, including working out the best deals in shops. Both walks were successful and encouraged practitioners to consider how they present information and also allowed learners to identify areas that may problematic for them to interpret in their local communities.

**Adult Literacy Numeracy Team Highlights**

- **34%** of participants were male
- **102** adults reported increased competence/confidence in using literacy and numeracy skills to enhance their daily lives
ESOL Team Highlights

Cambuslang and Rutherglen offer a range of supports to ESOL learners. In addition to our Basic and Elementary language classes for learners, we support individuals and their families to engage in wider community activity.

The Core community project provides an opportunity for ESOL learners to get to know other members of their local community and participate in informal learning opportunities. The Core is also an opportunity for ESOL learners to volunteer to share skills with other learners by offering workshops on topics that they are skilled in. A group of CLHSP learners also organised a St Andrews Day celebration that brought together learners from across Cambuslang and Rutherglen for a social event where different nationalities showcased their countries ‘square dancing’ before participating in traditional Scottish Ceilidh dancing.

Strong partnerships with the Workers Educational Association (WEA) and our local Colleges also allows learners to make the transition from CLHSP programmes to workplace and FE learning opportunities. In 2015-16, 69 learners were supported to improve their English language skills.

ESOL Family Learning Programme

The ESOL Family Project is delivered in St Anthony’s Primary School and supports families whose first language is not English; who have a child starting primary school. Participants in the programme can self refer or are identified through school EAL teachers or any Education, Health, Social Work or third sector partners.

The sessions are split with the children and parents separated for the first half then brought together for joint learning in the second half. This helps both adults and children develop their language skills in preparation for engaging with school.

Impact

All parents said that they now know how and are more confident in supporting their children starting school. Some families have developed friendships that have continued out with the programme.

As part of the wider ESOL Family Learning programme this project has reached the final of the Scottish Education Awards 2016 – Transforming Lives through Partnerships.

Feedback

‘The English classes have helped me and my family so much, I really would like to have a job and the classes are very good’.

69 adults improved their English through ESOL provision

Scottish Education Awards Finalist 2016
Transforming Lives Through Partnership
Hot Chocolate Homework Club

Hot Chocolate Homework Clubs continue to be rolled out across some schools in Cambuslang and Rutherglen, offering a stress-free environment for mums, dads and other carers to support their children to complete their homework. With the teacher and HSP worker on hand to help, the numbers of children and parents involved have grown steadily over the past months and will hopefully continue to grow.

Many families comment on how it helps to support them in supporting their child with their learning and helps to take the stress out of homework in a safe and friendly environment.

The homework club also provides an informal environment to foster and build relationships between children, parents and staff illustrating the importance and value of “working together”.

Impact

Mums, dads and carers are more aware of work going on in the classroom and have a better relationship with school staff.

Some children that never complete homework have started handing it in on a regular basis.

One mum shared some concerns with staff that she had about joining the Parent Council. These concerns were addressed and as a result, two new parents are planning to come along to the next parent council meeting. This only came about through good relationships and trust between staff and the families.

Feedback

“The Homework Club has been an excellent success, so much so that after our initial plan to just run it for a term, parents and children were requesting for it to be extended for the rest of the year.

It helps build relationships between staff, pupils and parents in a friendly, informal manner. Children get their homework completed in a calm environment that allows parents to ask for help if needed, and relieves them of the stress associated with homework when they get home.

It is having an impact on children that used to struggle to get homework completed, as they are now handing in completed homework that is of a good standard, giving them a feeling of pride.” – quote from Sarah Thomson, p4 class teacher

Family learning programmes were delivered
Family Learning Team Highlights

Parent Run Library
St Mark’s Nursery

Following the successful delivery of the Story Sacks Programme, St Mark’s Nursery staff identified that the families could expand the pupil’s reading skills by commencing a library run by parents. The Home School Partnership worker recruited and supported volunteers to establish and maintain the parent run library.

Family from both the nursery and the school donated good quality books and the Community Learning and Home School Partnership Service further assisted by providing funding for a mobile book case and books. The Nursery provided school bags for the children to use and keep the books clean.

Two sets of volunteers have set up and worked during the morning and afternoon nursery sessions. The sessions have been running every Thursday since the end of September 2015 and have been very successful.

Feedback

The parent run nursery lending library promotes early literacy skills. It allows all children and families to access a library without having to travel, as it is based within the nursery environment. It also gives children an opportunity to spend quality time with their parents at home reading.

Having parent helpers allows the library to run and function smoothly each week. Children and families have provided us with positive feedback.

Gemma Mitchell, Nursery Team Leader

Getting the Edge on Exam Success

The area of Study Skills and how to help young people develop these skills was the central focus of a workshop run for mums, dads and carers at Trinity High School. Through working closely with the Learning Support Depart and the Principal teacher Josephine Cox, a workshop was offered to families of pupils who benefited from additional support from the department.

The session, including the presentation of the pupil dvd and a general question and answer section, was facilitated by the Principal teacher in Modern Languages, Ian Gilroy. Ian Gilroy received funding to develop a study skills pack for families from the European Commission.

The feedback from the session was very positive with every mums, dads and carers being given a pupil dvd and pack and a parent pack to take home. Most of those who attended the session felt that the Study skills pack and dvd should be taught to all pupils in the school and that families should be offered the opportunity to attend a workshop.

Feedback

“I feel that students and parents would benefit from this info even from just understanding how to approach the subject of ‘how to study’. Also gave good insight into how to adapt studying strategies for each learner. It would be a massive benefit to everyone in the school if this was a taught subject – valuable skills for work.”

3050
young people participated in learning programmes
Volunteering and Strengthening Communities Team Highlights

The Wee Blether
The Wee Blether was an event aimed at practitioners; mums, dads and other carers from the CamGlen area to find out what services are on in the local area for themselves, their children and their families. The event brought together a diverse range of groups and interested parties who were involved in the delivery of services for families.

The Camglen 21st Century Families group was promoted, encouraging people to sign up to the facebook group for regular updates and/or to attend local meetings that encourage local action, informed by the Detoxing Childhood message. The promotion of good diet, sleeping patterns, play, family life and the influence of marketing and technology on the lives of children continue to drive the agenda of the group. The Camglen 21st Century Families group has a wide reach from a core group of around 15-20 people who pop in and out of meetings, a growing Facebook group of 70 members and a mailing list with over 100 people.

Impact
The group has a varying impact on the individuals that are involved from improving local knowledge about community activities, being useful for professionals working in the community, finding out about activities to take children to (or recommended to other people) etc.

Feedback
"The Camglen 21st Century Families group has been an excellent resource for the Making it Work Programme, I only wish we had come across the group at the start of the programme. It has allowed us to get a real feel for what is going on, ideal for sharing best practice on what works, what doesn’t work and what is needed for parents and the diverse range of services that attend.”
Wendy Hampton Making it Work Co-ordinator

“I highlight meetings in newsletter and one parent usually gives feedback to Parent Council re any events. I read the minutes and note any particular points for dissemination to parents”
Kitty Moran, Head Teacher, St Columbkille’s Primary

“I find that Camglen 21st Century Families is a very useful group as it expands my knowledge of everything that is going on locally. There is such a diverse group of people feeding into the group that it is the first place that I go when I am looking for information on anything from local courses to children’s activities. It helps me to stay connected to the local community and I enjoy feeding back the information to our Parent Council and other groups of friends. As well as the many local activities I have enjoyed with my family, we managed to source some food hygiene training which means that we will be able to run a summer BBQ at the school! My husband and I and our 2 boys also went on a ‘Real Family Holiday’, an outdoor family holiday after a recommendation from one of the meetings – we’ve already booked again for next year!”
Geraldine Angus, local parent and chair of St Brides Parent Council

12 community groups were supported to achieve their planned outcomes
Volunteering

Cambuslang and Rutherglen have a number of areas where volunteers can assist, depending upon their area of interest, availability and future goals.

Our computing classes offer those with IT experience the opportunity to share their skills with others.

The Cambuslang and Rutherglen Learners Forum allows those with a passion for learning to support provision within our area and promote participation; whereas the work of the Political Literacy volunteers encourages and promotes active citizenship.

Our English Speaking for Other Language and Adult Literacy and Numeracy classes are greatly assisted by the volunteer’s valuable help. In addition, The Core, a skill sharing project, relies on the hard work of volunteers to assist facilitating the sessions.

Volunteers are also able to help out in their local school. Home School Partnership offers a variety of areas where extra support is greatly appreciated including paired reading programmes, assisting with lending libraries and helping out at various school events.

Throughout the year, our service hosts a number of one off activities and events to promote and celebrates various local, national and international celebrations. Volunteers are often on hand to help our where needed, giving what time they can.

Our volunteers have reported to have gained many benefits during their journey with our service.

In 2015/16 we supported 102 volunteers to carry out various activities in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area. 4,826 hours were contributed back into the local community.

Feedback

“The difference volunteering has made to my life is that it has helped me to improve my CV through experience. It has helped me deal with my anxiety and depression and helped me to learn how to interact with people. I have made new friends and have been more involved in my community. I am a much happier.”

“By volunteering I have gained confidence to look into furthering my own education and gaining skills for my future career.”

102 volunteers accessed support and training to directly impact on CLHSP

4826 volunteer hours were contributed back to the local community
Adult Learners’ Week 2014

Adult Learners Week (ALW) is a nationally recognised celebration that acknowledges adult learners achievements and progress in non formal learning and usually runs in May every year. This year the Scottish Learning Partnership decided to run the celebration later in the year therefore it ran from Saturday 21 November till Friday 27 November, was Scotland’s annual festival of learning and represented an opportunity for inspiring thousands of people to discover how learning can change their lives.

During ALW 2015 there were many opportunities for learners and potential learners to try different kinds of learning opportunities e.g. employability skills, new experiences, helping children with school work, or making new connections with communities.

Context

This year, the themes of Adult Learner’s Week in Scotland were Healthy Wealthy and Wise. The aim was to encourage adults to become more involved within their local community and to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Family Man Fun Day 2015

The Family Man Fun Day was seen as a means to promote the role and importance of male carers whilst also providing information in the types of activities that were available for them and their families in the local area. The initial event was held in October 2008 and attracted just fewer than 1000 registered participants, this year we had 2,129 participants engage in the event.

Overall the event was highly successful and met its objectives including:

Promoting the role of male carers in families – 47% of the adult carers in attendance were male;

Promoting community based activities that exist for families in SLC and raise the profile of the organisations who deliver them – 79% of survey respondents stated that someone in the family had learned or tried something new at the event.

Providing a fund raising opportunity for local community groups – 13 local community organisations raised over £1800 in funds through activities they provided on the day.

Promoting partnership working between agencies – Over 60 groups; organisations and businesses from across South Lanarkshire contributed to the success of the event.

438 people attended 31 CLHSP events during the celebration

2,129 engaged in Family Man Fun Day 2015
International Women’s Day – 2016

The service provided three events for International Women’s Day. The first event was held in St Columkille’s Church Hall in Rutherglen on the 8 March, 380 attended, the second event was held at South Lanarkshire College on the 11 March 2016, headed by the Community Learning and Home School Partnership Service and in South Lanarkshire College. Our third event was a debate held in South Lanarkshire’s Council Chambers attracting 52 women on the 17 March.

The South Lanarkshire college event was successfully opened with an address from Celia Tennant who is the CEO of Inspiring Scotland. She offered an inspirational talk to 617 women which acknowledged strong women throughout our communities and the celebration of their worth and contribution in society.

These events help us to focus our attention on promoting women in our communities. Some of the women’s community groups ran their own workshops and promoted their activities.

The events engaged a wide range of South Lanarkshire Partners, all of which contributed to the success of the each day. Partners recognised a wide range of benefits of their involvement, with almost all confirming that they would be interested in participating in future events.

Some partners also utilised the day as a networking opportunity to look at future joint projects within their own areas.

Feedback

The following comments are feedback from the partners that had a stall on the day letting us know how they experienced International Women’s Day event.

“It has been very useful for networking and making contacts with other organisations as well as with the public.”

In total 1049 attended the three events, with participants commenting:

“Lovely treatments helping me to relax and feel good about myself”

“I have found out that there is a dementia support group for people and their carers in St Columbkille’s. I am going to give the lady who runs it a call.”

“Knowledge on what is available at college, I may think about a course”

“The monies we raised are really useful for our groups”

“Meeting new people and having a fun day trying out new activities”

“Skills Development Scotland was really helpful”

1049 engaged in International Woman’s Day events
Volunteering with CLHSP

Community Learning and Home School Partnership service place a great emphasis on the role of our volunteers. We fully recognise the valuable contribution they provide in complementing and contributing to our areas of work, serving individuals, groups and communities. We also appreciate the importance their service has on their own area of growth and are committed to ensuring they are supported throughout their journey.

Our volunteers begin with us for a variety of reasons. For many it is with the clear intention of building skills and experience for their future careers. For others it is having extra time on their hands and wanting to use it to help others. Many of our volunteers however began as learners themselves and have paid forward the skills and confidence they have gained to help others.

In 2015/16 CLHSP has:

- Inducted 148 volunteers
- Supported 181 volunteers through role specific training
- Retained, supported and celebrated with 261 volunteers who offered 11,640 hours of their time to support their local communities

261 active volunteers contributed 11,640 hours back into their communities
Thank you to local partners...

As our name suggest the key to our success is in the wide range of partners that we work with from both individual learners and families through to local networks and working parties and key partner organisations in Health; Education; Social Work; Third Sector and South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners (including our own volunteers!) for their continued commitment to supporting individuals, families and communities in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Locality and we look forward to continued work in the coming year.

We have a strong presence on Social Media where you can keep updated on our most recent activities: www.clhsp.org.uk

Or find us on facebook by searching ‘Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area – Community Learning and Home School Partnership’