

ELC Expansion Programme Update (July 2018)

1. GENERAL

Knowledge Hub

There are two dedicated ELC expansion groups on Knowledge Hub. The groups are easy-to-use online spaces to discuss the delivery of the expansion, to share good practice, advice, materials and event information and to collaborate with colleagues and partners delivering the expansion.

To sign up to Knowledge Hub, follow the quick and easy registration process by following the link at: <https://www.khub.net/>. Once you've signed up, to join discussions and share materials with stakeholders and partners working towards delivering the expansion, search "All groups" for "Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland" and request to join. If you're a local authority colleague and want to join discussions with other local authority colleagues, search "All groups" for "Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion Scotland: Local Authorities" and request to join.

Recent documents that have been uploaded include the trials evaluation report, case studies submitted by local authorities following the initial review of expansion plans, the reference design guide and presentations from the National Learning Event.

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2. SERVICE MODELS – Supported by Service Models Working Group and Living Wage Working Group

Additional Graduate Commitment

By August 2018, nurseries in the most deprived areas will benefit from an additional graduate – either a graduate practitioner with a relevant degree award or a teacher with Early Years expertise. 435 additional teachers or graduates will be required to deliver the commitment.

We wrote to local authorities on 15 June to: (1) request an update on progress in recruiting the Additional Graduates; (2) ask for confirmation of any additional revenue funding required in 2018-19 in order to support delivery of the commitment; and (3) set out more details as to how we propose to work with authorities to monitor and evaluate the commitment. Authorities were asked to respond by 29 June.

There is up to £6 million of revenue funding which is still to be allocated to support delivery of this commitment in 2018-19. Any of the remaining balance that is not required for delivery of the Additional Graduate commitment in 2018-19 will be allocated across authorities using the formula-based methodology agreed for ELC expansion funding this financial year.

Contact: **Euan Carmichael** 0131 244 9923 / ELCAdditionalGraduateMailbox@gov.scot.

Early learning and childcare service model for 2020: Consultation paper

On 29 March the Scottish Government and COSLA published a joint consultation, [Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper](#), which sets out the Funding Follows the Child approach, and seeks views on the National Standard. The consultation closed

on Friday 29 June, and we received over 200 responses. Thank you to everybody who responded to the consultation in writing, or by attending one of our engagement events.

An independent analysis of all the responses, including the outputs of the various consultation engagement events held across the country, is now being undertaken. The analysis report will be published in the Autumn alongside the final version of the National Standard.

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3. UPTAKE, ELIGIBILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

Early Learning and Childcare Two Year Old Uptake Improvement Practicum (2YOU-IP)

The 2 Year Old Uptake Improvement Practicum is now open for applications.

- The Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative (CYPIC) will take ten teams through a nine month practicum commencing in September 2018. The teams will be led by local authorities but may include wider interests depending on the focus of the improvement work chosen.
- Applications must be returned by 12 noon on Monday 6 August to cypic@gov.scot
- Teams will be notified by mid-August if they have been successful in this first cohort.
- We are building in ways that we can support the sharing of this learning and engage more areas as the practicum progresses.
- The practicum will be supported by a faculty including Improvement Advisors from CYPIC, SG policy colleagues, subject matter experts and local improvers who have been working with improvement methodology already to address this particular issue.

For further information on the practicum and an application pack please speak to **Kieran McQuaid** the practicum lead on 07920 549713 or **Julie Wild** on 07827 826842

Seatbelt Legislation – Guidance Published

The Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 9 November 2017. This Members Bill was introduced to create a legal duty on local authority and grant-aided and independent school providers to ensure seat belts are provided on dedicated home-to-school transport (vehicles generally booked under contract with private bus companies), including local authority nurseries. Guidance has now been published and can be accessed at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/seat-belts-on-school-transport-scotland-act-2017-guidance/>.

Some key sections which might be of particular interest are copied below:

- The Act does not affect the law on the *wearing* of seat belts on dedicated school transport which remains a matter of law reserved to the UK Government. Children under the age of 14 are currently not legally responsible for the wearing of a seat belt where one is provided. However, the Act represents an opportunity to promote successful approaches in making pupils wear a seat belt where one is available.

- Road Safety Scotland's approach to road safety is one of lifelong learning and a suite of free online resources have been developed for specific age groups from 3-18 years, with a view to developing responsible road use among young people.
- The Scottish Government recognises that pupils under 135 cm may not be able to position a three-point seat belt correctly, particularly if the seat belt is a non-height adjustable seatbelt, to provide maximum and safe restraint in an accident. Whilst in cars a booster seat would be used to position a pupil to allow a three-point belt to sit correctly across their body, the use of booster seats on school buses may not be a practicable option or may result in other safety risks. Given this it may be safer for a small child **not** to wear a three-point seat belt at all, rather than to try and use one incorrectly.
- The Act imposes a self-reporting duty on school authorities, who must prepare an annual statement relating both to the steps they have taken to comply with the duty relating to ensuring that seat belts are fitted and also to the actions which they have been taking to promote and assess the wearing of seat belts by pupils travelling on their dedicated school transport services. This could include the particular policies and procedures which authorities have in place to educate pupils about the wearing of belts and to measure their use.

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4. QUALITY

National Induction Resource

One of the actions in the ELC Quality Action Plan is to develop a National Induction Resource for new staff entering the ELC sector. This resource will support the professional development of new staff, giving them a clear understanding of their contribution to high quality ELC provision and improving outcomes for children. We are currently working with stakeholders to develop this resource, and would be grateful if local authorities and individual settings would share any resources that they use for the induction of new staff to inform this process.

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Inclusion Fund

The Early Learning & Childcare Inclusion Fund will provide funding to early learning and childcare (ELC) settings to support children with additional support needs in Scotland to access their funded entitlement. It will fund staff working in ELC settings to receive appropriate training, and fund resources, equipment and adaptations. The first round of fund applications closed on 22 June, with 169 applications. We expect to make awards to successful applicants towards the end of August.

The next round of funding applications will open in October 2018. For more information, including guidance on applying, please see the [fund website](#).

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Settings of Innovation and Impact

One of the actions in the ELC Quality Action Plan was to identify ELC settings that have demonstrated innovation and impact in some aspect of their practice and establish ways to share this nationally and, where appropriate, support them to evidence and enhance their understanding of impact on children. [Expressions of interest](#) can be submitted at: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ELC_innovate. The closing date for expressions of interest is Friday 10 August.

Applications are open to settings (including childminders) providing funded ELC who are demonstrating innovation in some aspect of practice and can demonstrate that this is benefitting children's development. A team drawn from the Scottish Government, Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland will work with selected settings to develop the evidence of benefits and share this learning across Scotland. A small grant will also be awarded to fund development of evidence, information materials, presentations at events and development and learning time.

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5. WORKFORCE – Supported by Recruitment Campaign Delivery Group, SIP Advisory Working Group, Workforce Delivery Group and Workforce Project Board

Workforce Delivery Plan

The final draft *Workforce Delivery Plan*, produced with support from key delivery partners (including SSSC, SFC, SDS and Local Authorities) was presented to the ELC Workforce Delivery Group on 18 June and the Project Board on 26 June. Amendments from these key governance groups will be taken on board, and the Plan will be published in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICE) and available on the Knowledge Hub in July. We are now moving into a delivery phase, with a focus on refining our data from local partners about training needs, and driving activity to ensure there is capacity in the system to meet those needs.

Contact: **Kathryn Chisholm** 0131 244 0274 / kathryn.chisholm@gov.scot

Recruitment Marketing Campaign

Phase two of our national recruitment campaign, *A Job and A Joy*, focussing on an older audience of parents and career changers, ran in the last two weeks of May and first week of June. The campaign website was updated with new creative assets, and a new TV advert ran to support the campaign.

- We are working with partner organisations to ensure consistent messages are delivered to our target audiences, included social media activity, road show locations and attracting more males in to the sector.
- The resources section of our campaign [website](#) contains a stakeholder toolkit with social media messages and campaign assets. We would encourage delivery partners to utilise those as part of local recruitment efforts.

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6. EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS

The June ELC child data trial is in progress, as part of the multi-year project to transform our ELC statistics in-line with the expansion of the funded entitlement. This trial is testing the new process that has been developed to extract child level data from SEEMiS applications, alongside testing the method for data transfer which has been set up by ScotXed (a team within the Scottish Government).

A final report detailing the findings from an extensive survey and focus groups with parents of children under the age of six will be published during summer 2018.

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7. Infrastructure

ELC Reference Design

This expansion programme presents the opportunity for local authorities to collaborate and identify options for commonality in design and building layouts both for indoor and outdoor ELC environments. In support of this opportunity, SFT in partnership with East Ayrshire Council, has developed reference design material for future ELC settings across Scotland. This work has been informed by consultation and engagement with the Care Inspectorate, Early Years Practitioners and parents of children who currently take up their funded ELC entitlement.

The priority for this reference design initiative was to develop facilities that provide a high-quality environment specifically designed to address the needs of young children, practitioners and parents in a manner that promotes the innovative and efficient utilisation of space. The designs were also required to respond to the requirements and guidance of Space to Grow, showing how suitable outdoor space can be accommodated as part of the design. Another key aspect of this reference design initiative was to provide an evidence base to show how high-quality ELC environments can be delivered in a manner that is compliant with the new build area and cost metrics as set out in the SG's ELC Baseline Planning Assumptions.

The three reference designs can be accessed via the following web link.
<https://www.scottishfuturestrust.org.uk/page/early-learning-and-childcare>

In addition, 360 images of each reference design are also available via the following link.
<https://roundme.com/tour/260987/view/843676>

The reference designs have been prepared to support local delivery. The ideas and concepts incorporated in each of the designs have the potential to be taken on their own and used as part of a catalogue to inform options for refurbishment, extension or new build projects.

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Annex B – Publications:

[A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland: Quality Action Plan](#)

[A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland - 2017–18 Action Plan](#)

[A Blueprint for 2020: Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Planning Guidance for Local Authorities](#)

[A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Next Steps - Analysis Report](#)

[A Blueprint for 2020: Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare Consultation](#)

[The Skills Investment Plan Prospectus](#)

[Additional Graduate Commitment](#)

[Trials](#)

[Drivers and Barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds](#)

[Education Governance Review](#)

[Pupil Equity Fund](#)

[Space to Grow design guidance](#)

[Recommendations for Early Learning and Childcare Data report](#)

[Programme for Government](#)

[Report of the Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates](#)

[Daily Mile Guidance](#)

[Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper](#)

[Every Child, Every Chance: The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-22](#)