

# All About the Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare

Our Journey  
towards 1140 hours



Argyll and Bute Council  
[www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years)



## Introduction

It is an exciting time of transitional change in ELC. Children will have access to more funded hours than ever before. There will also be more choice of providers and flexible models of provision.

Argyll and Bute is able to offer an exciting range of experiences for children accessing ELC. Our remote and rural setting means that some of our nurseries are in the most beautiful locations, offering beaches and forests on our doorsteps. In addition to this, our culture is rich with traditional music, Gaelic and storytelling.

Within our ELC settings, we will be supporting managers and practitioners to offer our children lots of opportunities in the outdoors. This work is supported by National Policy Guidance and it recognises how important it is for children to be outdoors.

Communities are skilled in problem solving and working together to overcome the challenges of living within a remote location. In order to achieve transformational change, it is vital that our children do not experience 'more of the same' in the expansion of ELC - delivery should be innovative and reflect the opportunities and needs within each community and family.

*Throughout this document the term 'parent' refers to both parents and carers.*

*The term 'Early Learning and Childcare' is used in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The abbreviation 'ELC' (Early Learning and Childcare) will be used throughout this document.*



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## 1. What is the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare?

Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in Scotland is undergoing transformative change. Currently the annual entitlement to funded ELC provision is 600 hours per year (under 16 hours a week over 38 weeks) for all three and four year olds, and for eligible two year olds. This will almost double to an entitlement of 1140 hours per year by 2020.

## 2. Why is this happening?

Investment in the earliest years of life is crucial to a child's development and has a lasting impact on outcomes in health, education and employment opportunities later in life. It is widely acknowledged that the provision of universally accessible and high quality early learning and childcare can play a vital role in helping to close the poverty-related attainment gap and improve outcomes for children.

## 3. What does this mean for my child?

All 3 and 4 year olds and Eligible 2 year olds will be entitled to access up to 1140 funded hours of ELC per year (please see page 13 for eligible start dates).

## 4. When will this happen?

ELC 1140 funded hours will be phased in across Argyll and Bute by August 2020.

Please see below: Argyll and Bute 1140 Phasing Plan.

- Phase 1: From January 2018
- Phase 2: From January 2019
- Phase 3: From August 2019
- Phase 4: From August 2020

Phase 1 and 2 have already been completed and Phase 3 and 4 will be phased as per the tables below.

<b>Trials: August 2017 - Funded Providers</b>		
Oban, Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Tiree Pre 5
Oban, Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Tobermory Pre 5

<b>Phase 1: January 2018 - Funded Providers</b>		
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	AppleTree Nursery
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	Cairndow Community Childcare
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Inveraray Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	Rothesay Playgroup
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Rothesay Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Strachur Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Rhunahaorine Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Lismore Pre 5

<b>Phase 1: October 2018 - Funded Providers</b>		
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Kilmodan Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Lochgoilhead Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	Sunbeams (Innellan and Toward FC)
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	Kilcreggan Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Bowmore English Pre 5

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Bowmore Gaelic Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Craignish Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Port Charlotte Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Port Ellen Pre 5
<b>Phase 1: November 2018 - Funded Providers</b>		
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Gigha Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Keills Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Small Isles Pre 5

<b>Phase 2: January 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Tayvallich Pre 5
Oban, Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Iona Pre 5
<b>Phase 2: March 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Oban, Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Easdale Pre 5
<b>Phase 2: April 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	Arrochar Pre 5

<b>Phase 3: August 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Tighnabruaich Pre 5
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	B.A.S.I.C. and Corner House Nursery
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	*Cardross Early Learning and Childcare
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Clyde Nursery

Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	Colgrain pre 5
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Drumfork
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Garelochhead Playgroup
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	John Logie Baird Pre 5
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	KangaRhu
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Kidlywinks
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Lomond School Nursery
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Mulberry Bush
Helensburgh and Lomond	Partner Provider	Nursery Rhymes
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	St Joseph's Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Ardrishaig Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Partner Provider	Badden Farm Nursery
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	*Campbeltown Aqualibrium ELC
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Campbeltown Nursery Centre
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Carradale Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Dalintober Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Drumlemble Pre 5

\*Completion of Care Inspectorate registration

<b>Phase 3: August 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Lochgilphead Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Partner Provider	Meadows - Eligible 2 year olds only
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Partner Provider	Riverside Rascals Day Nursery
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Southend Pre 5
<b>Phase 3: October 2019 - Funded Providers</b>		
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Tarbert ELC
Oban, Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Dalmally Pre 5
<b>Phase 3: January 2020 - Funded Providers</b>		
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Clyde Cottage
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	Clyde Cottage Voluntary Nursery
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Dunoon Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Kirn Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Partner Provider	Patchwork 2 to 5 Nursery
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Sandbank English Pre 5
Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Sandbank Gaelic Pre 5
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Kilmartin Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Kilninver Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Strath of Appin Pre 5
<b>Phase 3: April 2020 - Funded Providers</b>		
Helensburgh and Lomond	Local Authority	*Rosneath Early Learning and Childcare
Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay	Local Authority	Outdoor Nursery Provision

\*Completion of Care Inspectorate registration



## Phase 4: August 2020 - Funded Providers

Cowal and Bute	Local Authority	Outdoor Nursery Provision
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Arinagour Pre 5 - inactive 19/20
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Bunessan Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Dunbeg Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Kilchattan Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Partner Provider	Little Learners'
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Lochnell Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Luing Pre 5 - inactive
Oban Lorn and Isles	New Setting - tbc	New Settings - tbc
Oban Lorn and Isles	Partner Provider	Oban 1st Steps Day Nursery
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Park Pre 5
Oban Lorn and Isles	Partner Provider	Rainbow Childcare
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Rockfield English
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Rockfield Gaelic
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Salen English
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Salen Gaelic
Oban Lorn and Isles	Partner Provider	Soroba Young Family Group
Oban Lorn and Isles	Partner Provider	Stramash
Oban Lorn and Isles	Local Authority	Taynuilt Pre 5

## 5. How can my child access the funded hours?

The Early Years Team carry out a consultation every two years with parents and carers to find out their views on the existing ELC provision and what their aspirations are for the future of ELC provision in Argyll and Bute, in addition, the Early Years Team consulted parents and carers on how they wished to access their increased funded 1140 hours of ELC.

Funded ELC must be provided across a minimum of 38 weeks.

The current two operating models in the local authority settings are detailed below;

***Model One - ELC provision which matches the school day, offering term time provision and totalling 30 hours per week*** – this model will be used in smaller settings where it would not be financially viable to open for extended hours. This model will also be provided if there are partner providers within the local area which already offer wraparound ELC provision and there is sufficient capacity to meet local need.

***Model Two - ELC provision which provides up to 48 weeks across the year, offering flexibility of uptake*** – this model will be used in local authority settings where there are no partner providers offering wraparound ELC within the local area and there is a demand for such provision.

### **Funded Partner Providers (Private, 3rd Sector including childminders)**

Funded Partner Providers will offer flexibility that suits the needs of their stakeholders and business.

Local authority service models will make best use of existing resources, whilst working in partnership with funded providers of ELC within each locality to offer parents a range of flexible ELC options.

A list of all funded providers is available on the Argyll and Bute Council website. Further information is available from individual funded providers.



## 6. Can my child access their funded 1140 hours with different providers?

Yes, this is called a 'Blended Placement'. Your child's funded entitlement may be accessed all in one ELC setting or between ELC setting and/or with a registered childminder, this is referred to as a 'blended model'.

From 2020, the Scottish Government will be introducing a policy called 'funding follows the child'. This means parents will have greater choice and flexibility to decide how they use their funded ELC hours.

### For example you might choose:

- One day with a childminder/approved funded provider
- Full (6 hours) or half days with a Local Authority Setting

## 6. Can my child access their funded 1140 hours with different providers? (contd)

### Blended Placements between Phased areas

If you live in an area which is offering 1140 hours you will be entitled to 1140 hours. If you choose a provider that is outwith the area, you will only be entitled to 600 hours with that provider. You could access the balance of the hours up to 1140 with a provider who has phased in.

## 7. What if my child lives in another local authority area?

Children who attend an ELC provider in the Argyll and Bute local authority area but live in another local authority area are termed “cross boundary”. As mentioned in question 7, from 2020, “funding follows the child” policy will be introduced. This will mean that you will be able to access your entitlement to ELC funding in a local authority other than the one you live in.

Presently, we have in place reciprocal arrangements with some neighbouring local authorities to allow cross boundary funding for the current ELC entitlement of 600 hours. This means children who live outwith Argyll and Bute local authority can access their current ELC entitlement of 600 hours with an Argyll and Bute local authority provider.

Please contact the Early Years Helpline for further information regarding the above Tel: 01369 708503 or Email: [earlyyears@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

## 8. Will my child have to attend for the full 1140 hours?

No, parents and carers may choose to only take some of their child’s funded hours. There is no requirement for children to take any or all of their funded entitlement and we would encourage parents and carers to explore the options available to their child.

## 9. When will my child be able to access their funded hours?

3 year old children are eligible to start the Monday after their 3rd birthday, unless their birthday falls between March and June, when they will start in August.

Eligible Two year olds become eligible for funded ELC dependent on their month of birth as outlined below:

1st March - 31st August	August term
1st September - 31st December	January term
1st January - 28/29 February	April term

## 10. Can my child attend more than just the funded hours?

You can only purchase additional unfunded hours in our funded partner providers, this does not apply to our local authority settings. Your Nursery or Childminder funded provider can advise you further on this.



## 11. What about meals and snacks?

In local authority nurseries meals and snacks will be provided as follows;

### Snacks

All funded providers will provide a nutritional balanced morning and/or afternoon snack.

### Lunch

From August 2020, all three and four year olds and eligible two year olds will be entitled to a free school meal.

ELC experiences provide children with an important opportunity for maximising healthy eating and establishing healthy eating habits in the earliest years. The early years is identified as a crucial time to reduce health inequalities. Providing healthy and nutritionally balanced meals and snacks in ELC settings is important.

Presently, if your child is attending a funded session (over 4 hours and over a lunch period) and they are eligible for a free school meal, this will be provided. The nursery can advise you about the menu choices. However, you may still choose to provide a packed lunch if you prefer.

Please contact your setting/Early Years for further information on eligibility.

## 12. Is my 2 year old eligible for a funded place?

Please see following link for Eligible criteria.

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/funded-early-learning-and-childcare-2-year-olds>

If you are unsure of which benefit you are in receipt of, please contact your local Job Centre Plus for advice.

If you need any further information about a funded place for your two year old, please contact the funded provider of your choice or the Early Years team directly. More information is available on the [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years)



## 13. Useful Links

A Blueprint for 2020

- Expansion of ELC in Scotland Action Plan
- Funding Follows the Child Principles and Practice
- Funding Follows the Child Operating Guidance
- Funding Follows the Child Frequently Asked Questions

Shared Argyll Learning Ideas <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ab/sali/2019/03/01/1140-hours-expansion-of-elc-in-scotland-2020/>

Argyll and Bute Council Early Years ELC <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/childcare-and-pre-school-education>

Argyll and Bute 1140 hours Expansion in ELC <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/1140-hours-expansion-elc-2020>

The Scottish Government <https://www.gov.scot/>

The Care Inspectorate <http://www.careinspectorate.com>

Education Scotland <https://education.gov.scot/>

Early Years Scotland <https://earlyyearsscotland.org/>

Scottish Childminding Association <https://www.childminding.org/>

Scottish Government Parent Club <https://www.parentclub.scot/>

Scottish Government Play Talk Read <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/play-talk-read>

play@home [http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/23142-Play@homeLeaflet\\_ForWeb.pdf](http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/23142-Play@homeLeaflet_ForWeb.pdf)

The Scottish Book Trust <http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/>



*“We recognise that the earliest years of life are crucial to a child’s development and have a lasting impact on outcomes in health, education and employment opportunities later in life. It is widely acknowledged that the provision of universally accessible and high quality early learning and childcare (ELC) can play a vital role in helping to close the poverty-related attainment gap.*

*This is why the Scottish Government and local authorities have committed to making an unprecedented level of investment in early learning and childcare through the near doubling of the funded ELC entitlement from 600 to 1140 hours per year from August 2020 for all 3 and 4 year olds, and eligible 2 year olds.*

*This will be high quality, flexible early learning and childcare that is accessible and affordable for families.”*

**A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland** *Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare Providers: Operating Guidance*

The Scottish Government  
March 2018  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

## NOTES

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## Our Journey towards 1140 hours

Date		By Whom?
Produced	May 2019	Early Years Team
Review		



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