



Head Teacher's Message

Hello everyone! I trust you all had a lovely summer - whether you were term-time on 'Summer Holidays' or still attending the Family Centre at this time.

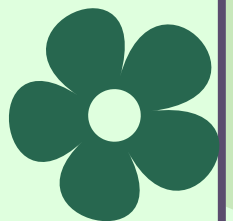
To all of our new families - welcome to Hazeldene Family Centre. My name is Justin Hardie and I am the Head Teacher of this wonderful establishment. We hope that you, and your family, feel welcome and part of our amazing Hazeldene Family community.

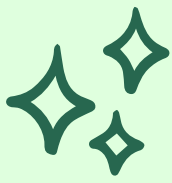
We're thrilled to have the pitter-patter of little feet filling our playrooms once again as we kick off a brand new season of fun and learning. The laughter, the curiosity and the boundless energy of our children brings life and joy to every corner of our Family Centre. As we embark on this journey together, we're excited to create unforgettable moments, foster new friendships, and ignite the spark of imagination in each and every one of our young learners. Here's to a fantastic year ahead, filled with exploration, growth and endless smiles!

Thank you so much and we can't wait to continue working with you all.

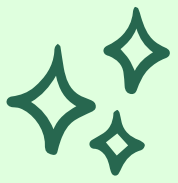


Justin





Staff News



Please see below our Leadership Team for session 2025-26.

Hazeldene Family Centre Staffing 2025/26

Senior Leadership Team



Justin Hardie
Head Teacher



Louisa Quick
Depute Head
of Centre



Karen McIlroy
Nursery Teacher



Pauline Whyte
Senior Child
Development
Officer

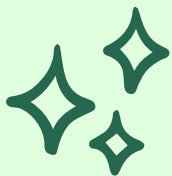


Deborah Cairns
Senior Child
Development
Officer (0.5)

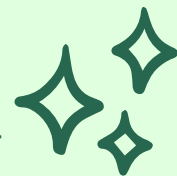


Robert Aitken
Acting Senior Child
Development
Officer





Staff News



Please see below our Keyworker Group Allocation for session 2025-26.



Kerry



Emily



Lynne



Gillian



Janette



Robin



Donna
Ann



Alice



Charlotte



Anna



≡ Welcome ≡



Welcome to Vicky who is joining the Hazeldene Team as our Pupil Support Assistant. Vicky will be in the Family Centre Monday-Friday 1:00 - 4:00.



Welcome to Brogan who is joining the Hazeldene Team as our Business Support Assistant in the Office with Linda. Brogan will be in the Family Centre Monday-Friday 3:00 - 6:00



Observations of Play and Learning (OPAL)



Introducing OPAL

This year we are excited to begin using OPAL, which stands for Observations of Play and Learning. OPAL is a simple way for us to notice and record the wonderful things your child does during play, and to share these moments with you. It helps us celebrate your child's developmental strengths, interests, and progress, and ensures we can plan activities that build on what they enjoy most. Most importantly, OPAL is about celebrating your child's unique learning journey and working together with you to support them as they grow.

Depending on your child's start date at Hazeldene, your child's keyworker will 'touch base' with you as your child turns the following chronological age markers:

- 36 months
- 42 months
- 48 months
- 54 months
- 60 months
- 66 months

Upon completion, you will receive a copy of your child's 'Spotlight' with mutually-agreed, developmentally-appropriate targets for the next six months that we will continue to work on together.

As OPAL is a new approach for all of us—children, parents, and staff alike—we are very much on this journey together. There may be times when we are finding our way and learning as we go, but please know that our aim is always to celebrate and support your child's learning in the best possible way.

We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as we grow in confidence with OPAL, and we look forward to sharing this exciting new chapter with you and your family.



Hazeldene Family Group

We are keen to involve families in the work and life of the Centre and would love to hear from you about the sorts of events you'd be interested in having.

Please speak to Pauline if you are interested in being involved in our Family Group.



Flu Immunisation

NHS Scotland recommends all eligible children should get the flu vaccine to help protect them from influenza (flu).

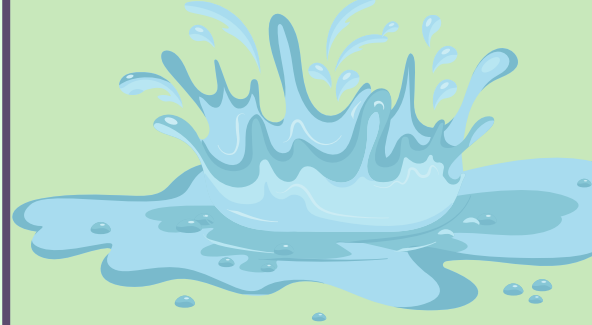
The flu vaccine is currently offered to all:

- children aged 2 to 5 years and not yet at school



Pegs, Bags, Shirts, Wellies - Oh My!

- When your child starts (or returns) to Hazeldene they will be assigned a peg and a corresponding drawstring bag. This is the bag that they will use to transport items between home and nursery. A spare set of clothes and some underwear (*for those little accidents*) is all the children really require.
- A pair of named wellingtons for outdoor play as the children access the gardens every day. Children no longer require to transport their own waterproof jackets or trousers as we have multiple nursery sets that are frequently laundered. To minimise clutter, can we kindly ask the wellingtons are collected each day.
- All children will be provided with a Lending Library bag that they can use to borrow books from the bookcases in the foyer. At collection time parents/carers can bring the Book Bag with them and access our Lending Library with their child.



Nursery Uniform

At Hazeldene Family Centre we offer a uniform to allow families to protect their children's clothes from being lost or ruined. We experienced a significant amount of unclaimed Lost Property last year and wish to prevent this from reoccurring. The uniform consists of a yellow polo shirt with the Hazeldene logo. Please note jogging bottoms with elasticated waists are much easier for children than zips or buttons. Families can purchase the polo shirt from:

www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com

Parking

The parking bay at the front of Hazeldene is used for limited waiting while dropping off/picking up children. This helps to greatly reduce the number of children having to cross the road. To ensure as many families as possible can benefit, parents and carers are respectfully reminded to restrict parking in the lay-by to around 10 minutes.

Please turn at the roundabout instead of making a 3 point turn in the layby.

Please **do not park** in the Disabled Bay unless you are a blue badge holder. We have some families who depend on this space to access our building safely.

Please consider other road users and do not block driveways/park next to the roundabout/obstruct crossings.

Thank you to everyone for your co-operation.



Nursery Fund

At Hazeldene Family Centre, we ask parents to contribute to our nursery fund. The money raised from these contributions is used to buy items for special celebrations; resources to support child-responsive planning and activities like baking, cooking and gardening. It also pays for any guests and specialists who we may invite in to work with the children.

Our preferred method of payment is online via ParentPay. Our Business Support staff will issue log in details if you do not already have an account.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to date.



Hamish!

At Hazeldene Family Centre we are so lucky to have Hamish as part of our family. Hamish is a hypo-allergenic Shihpoo (Shih Tzu/ Poodle Mix) and has been visiting schools and nurseries since he was a tiny puppy working in various Nurture Classrooms and Inclusion Bases. He currently works as a 'Wellbeing Pet' on Thursdays at Wellshot Primary School in Glasgow City Council and attends Hazeldene Family Centre on Fridays. Now that Hamish is older he can officially sit his exams to become a Therapet.

Children (and adults!) benefit so much from having contact with animals. Caring for animals is an enriching experience for children which offers opportunities to experience nurture, relationships and nature. Animals need to be treated with love, empathy and respect, just like humans. And whilst they may enjoy a cuddle sometimes, at others, they may need space, feeding, grooming or walking. Children can learn to be empathetic to the needs of the animal and to recognise these needs without using words. Hamish has Public Liability Insurance and a full Risk Assessment should anyone wish to see this.

Should any family wish to opt-out of this opportunity, this is absolutely not a problem, and can speak to the Head Teacher, Justin Hardie, about this.

Holiday Cheat Sheet For The Fridge

2025-2026

Please see below the most up-to-date information regarding holidays, in-service days and times when Hazeldene Family Centre will be closed. Please bear in mind that – depending on your child’s attendance pattern – you will either follow school term-time holidays or the 48 week model. Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2025/2026

TERM	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	
First	Teachers return	Monday 11 August 2025
	<i>In-Service</i>	<i>Monday 11 August 2025</i>
	<i>In-Service</i>	<i>Tuesday 12 August 2025</i>
	Pupils return	Wednesday 13 August 2025
	Last day of school	Thursday 25 September 2025
	<i>September Weekend</i>	<i>Friday 26 September 2025</i>
	<i>September Weekend</i>	<i>Monday 29 September 2025</i>
	Re-open	Tuesday 30 September 2025
	Last day of school	Thursday 9 October 2025
	<i>In-Service</i>	<i>Friday 10 October 2025</i>
	Re-open	Monday 20 October 2025
	Last day of school	Friday 19 December 2025
Second	Re-open	Wednesday 7 January 2026
	Last day of school	Thursday 12 February 2026
	<i>In-Service</i>	<i>Friday 13 February 2026</i>
	<i>Mid Term</i>	<i>Monday 16 February 2026</i>
	<i>Mid Term</i>	<i>Tuesday 17 February 2026</i>
	Re-open	Wednesday 18 February 2026
	Last day of school	Thursday 2 April 2026
Third	Re-open	Monday 20 April 2026
	Last day of school	Friday 1 May 2026
	<i>May Day Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 4 May 2026</i>
	Re-open	Tuesday 5 May 2026
	<i>In-Service</i>	<i>Thursday 7 May 2026</i>
	Last day of school	Thursday 21 May 2026
	<i>May Weekend</i>	<i>Friday 22 May 2026</i>
	<i>May Weekend</i>	<i>Monday 25 May 2026</i>
	Re-open	Tuesday 26 May 2026
	Last day of school	Friday 26 June 2026

Good Friday 3 April 2026
Easter Monday 6 April 2026
Election Day 7 May 2026 (likely)

Holiday Cheat Sheet For The Fridge

2025-2026

Hazeldene Family Centre Holiday Dates 2025-26 (48 Week Model)

In-Service	Monday 11 th August 2025
In-Service	Tuesday 12 th August 2025
September Weekend	Friday 26 th September 2025
September Weekend	Monday 29 th September 2025
In-Service	Friday 10 th October 2025
Last Day of Nursery - Christmas	Wednesday 24 th December 2025 (Early closure)
Children Return	Monday 5 th January 2026
In-Service	Friday 13 th February 2026
Good Friday	Friday 3 rd April 2026
Easter Monday	Monday 6 th April 2026
May Day	Monday 4 th May 2026
In-Service	Thursday 7 th May 2026
May Weekend	Friday 22 nd May 2026
May Weekend	Monday 25 th May 2026
Glasgow Fair	Monday 20 th July 2026