**Families in Partnership Fund 2023 Project Rationale**

We all know that supporting positive transitions is a key element of working within Early Years Settings, and research also shows that involving parents/carers by recognising it as a ‘family event’ is the biggest factor in its success.

Covid – 19 presented massive challenges; children missed out on a significant portion of their time in nursery, and the effects are still being felt. The Families in Partnership Fund responded to some of these challenges by offering Glasgow City Council Nurseries a family centred learning programme with successfully tested ‘covid proof’ delivery methods to support nursery to primary transitions. Over the last two years we have built on positive nursery and family feeback by extending the programme into partnership nurseries and involving our primary schools so that every Glasgow family with a child starting school in August 2023 benefits. Last year we distributed 6850 Family Learning Packs to Glasgow’s families.

Below is a brief outline of the aims, intended outcomes and method.

**Aim:**

* To increase levels of meaningful family engagement with pre school families around transition to primary school.

**Intended Outcomes:**

* Almost all relationships between parents/carers, children and nursery staff are strengthened, thereby reinforcing family bonds and building on the home/nursery relationship.
* Almost all participants experience increased parental involvement in their child’s learning at home and in the community.
* Almost all children have opportunities to develop confidence and skills which enable them to make a positive transition into Primary One.
* Most parents/carers report a better understanding of nursery learning approaches and an increased confidence in their role in supporting their child’s learning and development in getting ready for school.
* A few parents/carers access further learning and support.

**Method:**

Dedicated members of nursery staff link with families over a four week programme providing weekly fun family activities. Ideally, the staff member will link with each family member individually to explain the programme and discuss the best way of communicating regularly, e.g. phone call, Seesaw, nursery gates or family learning groups. The staff member will spend time with the children in nursery to introduce each activity, then it will be given to each family to enjoy at home. Establishments could organise weekly ‘Family Fun’ time with targeted families, or a staff member could take individual photos of the children enjoying the activity in nursery and share it with their parent to encourage them to continue the activity at home. Each activity has a simple instruction card with an embedded QR code that links to short films showing each activity in action, with some being available in multiple languages, as well as some being adapted for ASN. Families will receive a certificate to celebrate taking part.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Nurseries will be linked with a Family Learning Officer who can provide ongoing support in parental engagement and recording progress as appropriate. A planning, monitoring and evaluation toolkit is provided, along with an opportunity to join info and support webinars.