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Children's Services

Head Teacher: Mrs Nicola McGlynn

17 August 2020

Dear Parents

Early Years Expansion - Inchinnan ELCC - Update

As you may be aware the Council has plans to extend its early years provision at Inchinnan Community Nursery as part of the Scottish Government's Early Years Expansion Plan; which will offer parents and carers 1140 hours of early learning and childcare for 3 to 5 year olds. Work was originally programmed to start at Inchinnan Primary School in March 2020 but the COVID-19 lockdown meant that all construction projects were suspended. At the end of the last school session there was still uncertainty regarding how lockdown and physical distancing restrictions would impact on the contractor's capacity to deliver on the programme of work and the feasibility of utilising the local church hall to undertake PE for the duration of the construction period also had to be reassessed in relation to the Church of Scotland's capacity to support this project with new restrictions placed on the use of the hall.

I can now confirm that these matters have been resolved and that from September 2020 refurbishment of the existing gym can commence to accommodate the new early learning and childcare centre. It is envisaged that the nursery will move into its new accommodation in January 2021 and thereafter demolition of the existing community nursery can take place before construction of the new school gym hall can commence in February 2021. An activity plan is noted below to provide you with indicative timescales for the works to be undertaken. Please be assured that the health and wellbeing of our children, staff and visitors will be a principal focus with disruption managements arrangements developed in consultation with the school and nursery management teams and the project team.

As the gym hall would be out of use from September 2020 it was originally planned that a letting arrangement with the Church of Scotland, to facilitate the delivery of PE, would be implemented as soon as schools returned in August 2020. However, at this time Scottish Government guidance advises that all PE lessons should be undertaken outdoors until further notice and this means the use of the church hall will not be required until such times as indoor PE is allowed. When the Council receives notification of the lifting of this restriction PE will be undertaken in the church hall for the duration of the construction of the new gym. With a focus on safety, and to support the children moving between the school and church hall, an additional member of staff

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has been recruited for the duration of the decant; which is expected to last until the end of session 2020/2021 in June 2021.

Following easing of Covid-19 restrictions on construction activities the programme of works at Inchinnan has been re-sequenced as follows:

- 31/08/2020 - Conversion of Gym Hall to Nursery
- 18/12/2020 - Handover of new nursery facility. Available for use from January 2021 onwards.
- Jan 2021 - Feb 2021 - Demolition of Existing Nursery
- Feb 2021- June 2021 - Construction of New Gym Hall. Available for use from August 2021 onwards.

The above dates are based on current Covid-19 restrictions allowing site activities to continue and do not allow for any lockdown conditions being imposed.

Yours sincerely

Nicola McGlynn

Mrs Nicola McGlynn
Head Teacher