



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2023

This report will inform you of the establishment's progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2023-2024. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Head of Centre - Julie MacDonald

OUR CENTRE

Lochfield Early Learning and Childcare Centre is a new purpose-built establishment. We opened in May 2021 to children and families of the Lochfield community. The environment is designed based on the Froebelian approach. Family and community were of central importance to Froebel, a value that we share within our service where, "family and community are at the heart of education". One of his key insights was recognising the importance of children leading their own learning through their own play. The indoor / outdoor space allows children to move freely. Children and families are at the heart of everything we do at Lochfield ELCC and connecting with all children, families and community are important to us.



Vision, Values and Aims

Our Vision - is to provide a nurturing, safe and fun learning environment where children are supported to reach their full potential. We strive to inspire, challenge, and ensure the best outcomes for all children and families.

Our Values - which underpin this are included, trust, equality, curiosity, and play.

Our Aims - to provide a welcoming, nurturing, and inclusive environment for all children and families within the community allowing all to feel comfortable, safe, and secure.

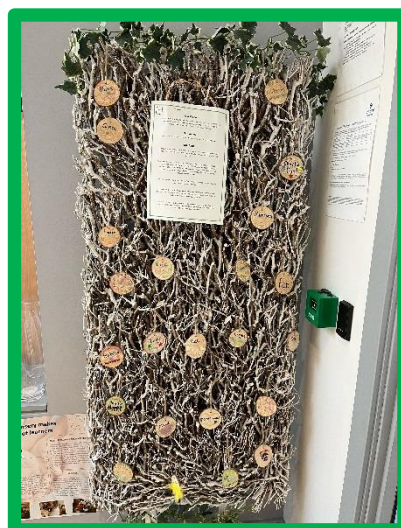
To enable children to become confident individuals and effective contributors by putting their well-being at the heart of everything we do. By building positive relationships and through observation we endeavour to ensure all children are happy, healthy and we will collaborate effectively with other agencies when required.

To build strong relationships with our families while connecting with those in our local and wider community.

To provide children with rich, purposeful learning experiences allowing them the freedom, time and space to explore their interests to enable the children to become successful life-long learners.

To have a high-quality, passionate, skilled workforce working together to provide an extensive curriculum delivered through a range of strategies to enhance children's knowledge and skills.

We will be working to establish our identity along with our vision, values and aims as we become an established centre. We will be working all together to develop these.



SUCSESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We are very proud of our journey we have made as a whole service within the two years we have been opened. Having a shared vision, values and aims has reflected the aspirations of children and families within the service. This has ensured effective partnership with parents, and everyone is consulted and included in the life of the centre and their child's learning.

From opening and into our second year we have been building up our identity within our local community. We successfully received a food for thought grant from Education Scotland and implemented Farm to Fork Project. Within the project we wanted to create a holistic learning environment where children and families were provided with the opportunity to cook and eat together. We grew and cooked our own produce and worked in partnership with the local community. We had local chefs in from the community who worked alongside children and their families and had very close links with local high school – Gleniffer. We deepened children's knowledge of nutrition, the environment and the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Parental involvement and engagement have been a high priority for Lochfield. Building up positive relationships from the start is important to us. All children and families are offered a home visit and an induction day at nursery before they start. This allows practitioners to build strong, positive attachments and contribute positively to children's wellbeing. Children benefit from warm, caring, and nurturing interactions and relationships with staff.

Comment from a parent – “The staff are more like family my little girl loves them all from being so caring to being truly invested in their development you can see they all love their job and setting”.

We have been implementing Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA) as a whole service. We ensure that our RNRA initiatives are visible in all aspects/areas of our nursery setting. Implementation of RNRA approach has benefitted our families. We aim at Lochfield to build relationships with families ensuring we are meeting their children's needs.

Comment from a parent – “I like how my child is treated with dignity and respect at all times and the bond in general my child has with all the staff”.

After being opened for two years we had our unannounced visit from Care Inspectorate on Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th June 2023. We were assessed within five different quality indicators; Quality indicator 1.1 - Nurturing care and support, 1.3 - Play and learning, 2.2 - Children experience high quality facilities, 3.1 - Quality assurance and improvement are led well, 4.3 - Staff deployment, within each individual indicator we received very good. We are as a whole team very proud and will continue to provide a high-quality service for our children and families.

Key messages from the report –

Staff were kind, warm and nurturing in their approach.

Respectful interactions supported children to feel valued, respected and their views mattered.

All children were settled and happy in the service.

HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR CENTRE?

Leadership

- Our shared vision, values and aims reflects the aspirations of children, families, and staff.
- All practitioners have leadership roles and are very enthusiastic when carry these roles out. These include Food for Thought project, Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA), Forest Schools and Parents Committee.
- The strong senior leadership team value and support staff to continue to develop knowledge and skills, this promotes a culture of respect and inclusion.
- Continuous improvements, self-evaluation and quality assurance ensures that senior leadership team have a very good overview of the whole service.

Workforce Professionalism

- Practitioners are very confident and knowledgeable within their role and they all work collaboratively together.
- Practitioners know children and families well and they value the connections they have made. They have high aspirations for all children and families.
- Practitioners are fully committed to their own professional development with some achieving additional qualifications and continuing towards further qualifications.
- Teamwork as one is the culture within our setting to feel valued, respected and everyone's views matter.

Parental Engagement

- Effective partnerships with parents ensured almost all parents felt included in their children's learning.
- Strong partnerships with families and our local community have enhanced children's learning and we have built up invaluable links.
- We value the strong relationships we have built up with families and their views are regularly sought and parents committee represents a voice.

Assessment of Children's Progress

- Practitioners have a very good understanding and knowledge of development, theory and practice such as schematic play and Froebelian principles. This has a positive impact on the environment and staff practice where they provide high-quality learning for our children.
- Documentation of children's learning is tracked across literacy, numeracy and health and well-being pathways. Progress ensures improved outcomes for children's learning and well-being.
- Data is gathered from the Progression Tool and informs support, challenge for children and the environment.

Establishment Improvement

- Priorities within the establishment improvement plan and the evidence we have gathered has positively impacted on aspects of the service for children and families – particularly community and parental engagement.
- Our agreed philosophy along with theory is evident in each learning zone and the opportunities to support deep meaningful experiences for children.
- We promote a culture of respect and inclusion for all at Lochfield ELCC.

Performance Information

- Evaluating our service using 'How good is our early learning and childcare' and A quality framework for day-care of children, childminding and school-aged childcare. Has been a key resource for us to ensure we evaluate our performance through continuous improvement.
- Children are making very good progress, and this is gathered through the learning pathways we have in place along with data gathered through the progression tool is analysed to ensure we are performing to a high standard.
- We had a very positive inspection and achieved five very goods within all quality indicators they inspected.



Key Strengths of the Centre

- A strong leadership team that values the views of staff, children, and families. This promotes a culture of respect and inclusion.
- A shared vision values and aims reflects the aspiration of children and families within Lochfield ELCC.
- High quality learning environments both indoors and outdoors provides children with opportunities to explore, be curious and develop their skills in problem solving.
- A very welcoming ethos for all, staff are kind warm and nurturing in their approach.
- Respectful interactions where staff support children to feel valued, respected and all children are happy.
- Effective partnerships with parents building up relationships and involve them in their child's learning and life of the centre.
- Care Inspectorate inspection identified significant strengths in our service and graded us very goods in all five quality indicators.

Our Next Steps – Priorities for 2023-24

We believe that we have made very good progress during session 2022-23 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

- Reflect on our learning environment and zones to ensure it provides consistent high-quality opportunities at all times.
- Work alongside our Educational Psychologist to embed Renfrewshire's Nurture Relationships Approach (RNRA) – identifying our second principle.
- Continue to build on parental engagement in their children's learning, through the sharing and engagement of learning and information.
- Continue to enhance practitioner's professionalism through ongoing training, collegiate and mentor support, establish leadership roles.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the establishment. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in parent/carer meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at events.

Lochfield Early Learning and Childcare Centre
165 Lochfield Road
Paisley
PA2 7GJ

Tel: 0300 300 1478