

Lochwinnoch Early Learning & Childcare Class (ELCC)

Standard & 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 2023-24. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Angela Ross & Sandra Brackenridge
Depute Head of ELCC

Our Provision

The team in Lochwinnoch work within an ethos where the Froebelian approach of "freedom with guidance" is at the heart of our provision. We provide high quality play experiences for children aged 3 to 5 years old within the local community. Our service provides 40 full time equivalent places for children as stipulated within Scottish Government guidance we have provided 1140hrs of care and education to support our families. Our provision works within an open plan environment with free flow access to outdoors, with opportunities for woodland walks and gardening within the school's community garden. The nature of our provision involves working with other agencies such as speech and language, occupational therapist, and links in the local community.

Our philosophy

We respect the individuality of all and nurture the uniqueness of each child. We provide opportunities for children's learning based on a Froebelian approach where children learn through play. We welcome the thoughts of our learning community and value how these can influence our approach. We believe that all should feel included and will ensure that with warmth and understanding we strive to achieve this.

Successes & Achievements

Our team are continuing to make progress for our children and their families, of which we are very proud.

- ★ Embedded shared understanding of our philosophy with a continuous approach to include our families.
- ★ A culture of continuous self-evaluation is driving the team do the best we can for our children and their families.
- ★ Adopting a whole school Nurturing Relationships approach to our children's transition throughout the early levels. Along with introducing an extended transition for all our children going to school will aid their and their families experience in transitioning to P1.
- ★ The implementation of individual learning stories for all our children.
- ★ Building relations with families through our open-door policy; Stay & Play sessions, face to face meetings, The Meaning of Play and Transition workshops and participation in our Woodland Warriors programme.
- ★ Staff have continued to support other early years establishment within Renfrewshire.

Priorities for 2023/24

- ★ Developing staff's ability to empower children to lead their own learning which will reflect positively in the progression tool data for children moving on to P1.
- ★ Improving an understanding of wellbeing and children's rights by promoting diversity and equality through meaningful experiences within our provision.
- ★ Actively encourage families to be involved in their children's learning by embedding current practices and creating more informal opportunities to discuss children's progress.
- ★ Widen the experiences of the children to include more science and STEM activities

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We welcome all your thoughts and ideas so please share them with us as we use your feedback to help us make improvements

How successful have we been in improving our ELC?

Leadership

- Management promotes a collaborative approach in achieving our goals which empowers staff to improve outcomes for our children.
- Management encourage staff to develop their practice and lead an aspect of learning within the ELC. Enabling staff to confidently provide an extended range of high quality learning opportunities that aid our children's development.

Workforce Professionalism

- Almost all staff are working towards a degree in Childhood Practice, which has a positive influence on their practice.
- Staff are planning in the moment and responding to children's interests, enabling their learning to progress.

Parental Engagement

- We continue to support transitions to nursery initially through a home visit and/or a visit to the nursery. Helping children to build relations between home and nursery that help children feel settled and secure within the nursery.
- Families are always welcomed into the ELC and encouraged to participate in their child's online learning journal, sharing achievements and family events.
- Almost all families took the opportunity to participate in our two stay and play sessions this year. Resulting in a raised awareness of their child's play and learning experiences at nursery.

Assessment of Children's Progress

- Planning in the Moment methodology allows staff to respond to our children's interests and provide them with meaningful learning experiences, which aids their progress.

Establishment Improvement

- Our planning cycle is having a positive impact on practice, developing the learning environment to engage children and develop their interest to support deep, meaningful and relevant experiences.
- The professional development of staff is impacting on the skills they bring to enhance the quality of the learning and teaching approaches we have adopted.
- Our philosophy reflects the service we provide and is the foundation created by all involved in delivering a high-quality provision.

Performance Information

- As a team we evaluate our service using quality indicators from 'How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare' and the Care Inspectorate's 'Quality Framework', this is embedded in practice for all and supports the ongoing development of learning.
- Children are making good progress in their learning with an emphasis on their wellbeing as can be analysed from their progression pathways.
- Families are commenting on the positive influence the nurturing ethos is having on their children's wellbeing.

Key Strengths

- ★ Our nurturing ethos promotes children's wellbeing, and we actively involve all children, families, staff, agencies, and the local community.
- ★ We respect the individuality of all and nurture the skills and qualities they have.
- ★ Our collaborative approach promotes a positive and stimulating environment that follows our children's interests. As evident in the level of engagement throughout the provision.
- ★ Our nursery environment actively encourages children to lead their own learning.