

Renfrewshire Coucil

SPATESTON EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE CENTRE

STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2019

This report will inform you of our progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2019-2020. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Julie MacDonald

Head of Centre

OUR CENTRE

Spateston ELCC is located in the Spateston area of Johnstone. We provide a service for 80 children aged 3-5 years old. Currently we have 118 children enrolled at the centre for our sessions beginning August 2019. Families can access a range of flexible placements to meet their needs. We operate a 50-week provision with opening hours 8am-6pm. Prior to enrolment we offer a home visit to families. This allows us to forge positive and long lasting relationships with our families. It allows families an opportunity to share information with us to support transitions from home to nursery. It also allows the centre to target any supports that families may require. We provide a holistic approach to learning where children are encouraged to lead in their learning following their own interests Staffing at the service comprises of the senior management team consisting of the Head of Centre, Depute Head and a senior pre-5 ELCCO. We have a BA graduate (Equity and Excellence lead officer). 1 enhanced ELCCO and 13 ELCCO’s Additional staffing comprises of 2 lunch support workers,2 clerical assistants who operate a job share work pattern 2 catering assistants and 1 janitor cleaner. We have a home link worker and other peripatetic staff who support the service.

SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We have recently expanded our staff team allowing us to support the phasing of 1140. This allows us to continue to provide quality childcare and education to our families.

Our robust approach to transitions is a key priority we aim to continue to develop this using the Renfrewshire Nurture and Resilience Approach

Throughout the summer, we extended invitations to our new families to join us for Book bug sessions. These have been well attended and we aim to develop this in the future.

Our holistic approach to how children learn has been recognised by other services and we have shared our good practice and our developed environment with other practitioners. Your children have led in this by showing visitors around and explaining what we have on offer at each of our zones.

Renfrewshire council recently held their first mini learning festival. We were involved in showcasing our outdoor learning environment. This was in recognition of our recently developed outdoor environment. The outdoor zone offers challenge risk taking and a stimulating environment for our young learners.

Our family group system has proven very successful we will continue with this supporting you and your family, as we get ready to relocate to our new centre in 2020. This will ensure continuity in sharing all aspects associated with the relocation.

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

Our vision is to provide a high quality flexible service to support children and their families to achieve the very best.

Our values that underpin this are respect, trust, challenge and enjoyment

Our aims at Spateston ELCC are:

* To provide a nurturing environment for all children and families within the centre allowing them to feel happy, safe and secure.
* Provide children with learning opportunities and experiences to enable them to have lifelong learning skills resulting in a high level of achievements.
* Promote close partnerships between home, school and our local communities.
* Offer a flexible service to meet the individual needs of our children and their families.
* Provide a full curriculum that is well-planned and delivered with differentiation allowing children to fulfil their potential.
* To have a knowledgeable staff team working collaboratively promoting learning and life skills to our children

**HOW SUCCESSFULHAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR CENTRE/NURSERY**

**Leadership**

* Senior leaders at the centre are committed to promoting and maintaining positive relationships throughout the service. Recognition of each team members contributions are valued and respected. Staff are encouraged to take lead roles in many aspects of the service.
* Current thinking and theory underpins our practice and the ethos of the service. We embrace the thinking and practices of both Froebel and Reggio Emmilia. Involving both the local and wider communities and using a holistic approach to how young children learn.
* Staff are encouraged to undertake CPD to enhance both their own development and to share this with the team to enhance the service we provide for your family.
* The introduction of a new BA Graduate role (Equity and Excellence lead practitioner) continues to have an impact enhancing our team; this supports our staff’s knowledge and understanding of theory and current thinking.
* Feedback from staff have indicated that they feel supported both professionally and on a pastoral level at the centre by the senior management team.

**Workforce Professionalism**

* All staff are fully qualified and registered with the SSSC and adhere to the codes of practice.
* Training opportunities are available to staff these can be from either external or internal sources this enriches the opportunities we can provide allowing us to support our young learners.
* Collegiate time allows staff the opportunity for professional dialogue sharing knowledge experiences and practice ensuring the best possible experiences are available for your children.
* Staff confidently take lead roles within the centre. Staff are inspired and promote this to provide a rich learning environment for our young learners.
* Staff are keen to undertake additional qualifications. Two staff have almost completed Froebel training. Two staff are committing to gaining their PDA in Childhood Studies. One member of staff is committed to gain their BA in Early Childhood studies.
* Some staff have been involved in promoting the profession by highlighting our roles as practitioners to local high school pupils interested in following a career.
* A recent Renfrewshire council learning festival gave the opportunity for services to promote their achievements and celebrations in a public forum. Our service promoted our environment and our Frobelian based approach where children lead in their own learning by following their interests.

**Assessment of Children’s Progress**

* We continue to use a holistic approach to planning at the centre. We allow your children lead in their own learning by following their interests. Staff have been given additional training to understand the theory behind this, theory underpins our practice. We use floor books to document your child’s learning. Tracking, observations learning stories, provocations and 3D mind mapping are all evident throughout our planning process. We share with you regularly through home reporting and parental workshops. We value your comments and work alongside you to support your child’s development.
* We have a robust system of tracking your children’s learning. Literacy, numeracy, Health, and Wellbeing are our core subjects. Our staff know your children very well and track their progress using these core elements.
* Staff participate in collegiate sessions. This allows them the opportunity to professionally discuss children’s progress and plan for any support or challenge that may be required.

**Parental Engagement**

* Transition is a key priority within our service. This begins at initial application to the service where relationships with our families are cultivated. Home visiting prior to enrolment at the centre allows our families the opportunity to share information in a relaxed informal situation. This can happen within the service depending on your family’s needs.
* Home reporting and termly updates are offered to families allowing a time for discussion and sharing achievements. Curriculum events and workshops allow you to participate in your child’s learning journey.
* Our family group system allows relationships between keyworkers and yourselves to be forged. We believe this a key priority in promoting good communication.
* We have had a series of events where we have invited you to visit the centre. These included baking and creative experiences. Through this engagement, we had some dad’s volunteer their services linking to their world of work. We had the opportunity to visit the local fire station and had the opportunity to make burgers from raw ingredients giving children a deeper understanding of where foods come from and the processes of cooking.
* Book bug sessions allowed you to participate in promoting literacy for you and your child.
* We continue to use My School app.as a means of reaching families. This allows us to communicate with you any events or updates. We are now investigating a new online system, which we hope will allow us to provide more information about your child’s experiences at the centre.
* We have a home link assistant who supports family learning opportunities. We consult regularly with you and this allows us to plan and provide groups to meet your needs. Examples of these included Sleeping Difficulties, Nutritional Awareness, Heart Start and individual work with families as required. Feedback after events allow us to evaluate and plan for future support.
* Our Fun Day allows us to involve our families to enjoy a relaxed fun filled day for all at the centre in the early summer term.
* Our school leavers evening allows families to participate and celebrate their child’s time at nursery.
* Our commitment to our families is a key priority highlighted in the centre’s improvement plan. We are planning to enhance your home linked learning opportunities using a specific approach focussing on literacy and numeracy.
* We are involved in a new approach to develop resilience with our children and families this called Renfrewshire’s Nurture and Resilience Approach and you will be informed of our next steps as we progress on this exciting new incentive

**Performance Information**

* Our holistic approach to planning is facilitated by very committed practitioners. We continuously evaluate our own practice. This reflection allows us to develop and plan to ensure progress in your children’s learning.
* Practitioners are committed to your children’s health, wellbeing this is key to our service. We place high importance in getting it right for you as a family.

**Establishment Improvement**

* Our environment reflects and supports our vision and values. We take great pride in our links with our families and the community.
* Staff are committed to continuously developing their zones at the centre to meet the changing interests and needs of your children.
* Senior management support and promote leadership in different aspects of the service this gives opportunities for staff to further develop their own areas of expertise.
* We use current thinking and documents to allow us to continuously improve and develop our service.
* We are regulated by and regularly inspected by the Care Inspectorate and our own local authority ensuring quality and equity for you and your family.
* Our service improvement plan allows us to prioritise and set realistic and achievable targets to support you and your children

OUR KEY STRENGTHS

* Our child centred approach that allows children the opportunity to lead in their own learning by following their interests.
* Our high quality indoor and outdoor environment.
* Our family key worker system which provides continuity for families ensuring depth and knowledge through all aspects of care and education allowing us to support and challenge when required.
* Our robust tracking systems allow us to measure how well our children are progressing in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.
* Our Transition programme, which ensures seamless transitions through every aspect of families lives. I would consider the order here. Committed staff who are motivated to improve their own knowledge through gaining additional qualifications in Froebel, PDA and BA in Early Childhood Studies.

OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2019-20

We believe that we have made very good progress during session 2019-20 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

* Continue to promote partnership with families by developing our home link area and resources.
* Continue to support children’s learning through our holistic approach to planning.
* Support staff to continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of curriculum design and delivery
* Continue to develop opportunities to enhance family’s involvement in their children’s learning.
* Continue to enhance our transition programme to meet the needs of our families.
* Continue to support the phasing of 1140 hours with close consultation from local authority working party.
* Continue to support and involve all stakeholders in the Schools Estate Management Programme and subsequent relocation to our newly built centre.

**Spateston Early Learning and Childcare Centre**

**Churchill Avenue**

**0141 618 3213**

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/spatestonpre5/>

Full details of our improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the improvement plan which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the office.