

Forehill Early Years Centre

February 2026 Newsletter

Staffing Update

Congratulations to Annette Symington who was our successful candidate for our 52-week clerical position. Once all checks have been completed Annette will start in the centre hopefully for the beginning of March.

Congratulations to Vicky Dempsey who was our successful candidate for our temporary Senior Early Years Practitioner post. Vicky will start on 11th February and will work in the Buttercup Room.

We have 2 supply members at the moment Niamh Davidson and Jennifer Salter are covering the orange and lime groups until we interview for both posts in the upcoming weeks. These were delayed as they were initially internal and have now been moved to external on the myjobscotland website.

EYC Registration

Early Years Registration 2026-2027

For **all** children due to attend Forehill Early Years Centre in August 2026 and beyond, on-line registration opens on Monday 16th February 2026.

In Forehill we can offer a range of attendance patterns. Parents should register on the South Ayrshire Website by using the link below: [Register for Early Learning and Childcare - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/register-for-early-learning-and-childcare)

We would ask that parents note the following points:

- *Places for Early Learning and Childcare are not allocated by school catchment areas.
- *Places are allocated according to our admissions priorities and not first come first served.
- *To complete the application, you will need to have: a scan or photo of your child's birth certificate and a scan or
photo of Proof of residence (current council tax notice or recent utility bill)
- *A separate application is required per child.

***All children even if currently in nursery will require to complete an application for next year.**

If you have any questions about this or are unable to complete the registration form online, please contact the office on 01292 612461 (option 2).

Parent/Carer Engagement Needed!

Our Parent Council have offered to hold a meeting that could support EYC parents to attend at a time that might be more suitable to support childcare as we understand that nighttime meetings can be difficult to attend. On Friday 6th March at 2pm we would like to invite any parents/carers who would like to help discuss matters for the EYC or share their views/ ideas to move forward for upcoming events that we will be included in alongside the school.

Coffee and Chat Group

We would like to invite you along to our first informal parent group on Friday 20th February at 9am to support the centre in moving forwards with recommendations from our in-house staff discussions and evaluations including the use of Online Learning Journals.

Thursday Groups with Elaine

Elaine Clinton from the Early Years Family Learning team is continuing to run her group on a Thursday morning that all families can attend. She said:

Hello lovely PeeP families

Thankyou for coming along to our Health and Wellbeing sessions

For our last week of this topic, we will be inviting you to pop in for

a warm cuppa, a biscuit and a blether

On Thursday 12th February 2026

At

9-10am

If you want to attend any of our groups please email ForehillEYC.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk but if it is a last minute decision then that is fine too!

Brilliant Books

All children's individual Brilliant Books will be coming home the Week beginning 16th February. Please add some comments or updated photographs to your child's book to acknowledge you have seen it.

Packed lunches

This is a gentle reminder for parents of children who bring a packed lunch. Please try where possible to include healthy lunch choices and avoid confectionary items if possible. We fully understand and support children who have particular dietary choices we just ask that keyworkers are aware of these.

We are a NUT free centre to ensure the safety of children with allergies are not compromised therefore no items in packed lunches should contain any foods that include nuts if they do then we will not be able to provide these.

Our centre follows national guidance from "Setting the Table". [Setting the Table Guidance - gov. scot](#) and we pride ourselves on working with parents and carers to ensure all children have a positive lunch experience.

New Resources

We are excited to have used a significant proportion of our budget to update resources across the centre that will support and encourage learning across all stages of development as well as indoor and outdoors. Children have been involved in choosing some of these resources as well as all staff included. We hope to share photos of these soon once they arrive!

Swimming Lessons

We are hoping to continue swimming lessons in term 4 however this is entirely dependent on our staffing ratio. We will be in touch soon to confirm if these are going forwards.

Glow Website

The finishing touches are being added to our Glow website and should be ready within the next week to go live. We will inform you of this on group call!

Outdoor Play and Learning

We are excited to announced that we will be running another Forrest Kindergarten experience led by Sarah. This time will be slightly different with children attending 1 morning or afternoon session over the course of 3 or 4 weeks to provide more depth in learning. On the last session we parent's and carers will be invited along to join the fun! If you **DO NOT** wish for your child to be included in these please email ForehillEYC.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

We encourage children in the centre to make their own choices through play, including whether to access outdoors. If your child is unwell, they should not attend the centre. Staff will always encourage children to go outdoors as this helps reduce any bugs and infections spreading.

Drop off and pick up

Children who attend for the morning session (52 weeks) will continue to enter through the Daisy room door.

If your child attends 9-3 (term time) then they should arrive for 8.50am but no earlier as we need to ensure staff ratios are in place before they enter the centre.

Pick up at 12.45pm remains the same. 2.50pm pick up remains the same. If you have a buggy/pram and go to the back exit to pick up, please inform the person on the door and they will note on the register.

PVG

We are so lucky to have many parents ask to be PVG'd to support within the centre. This comes at a cost of £60 per person from our yearly budget therefore we need to make sure that this is a sustainable option for the EYC. We are currently reviewing this and will inform you of the decision soon.

CONTACT INFO

ForehillEYC.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk – we ask that you do not mail the school email address anymore.

Kimberly.lennox@south-ayrshire.gov.uk if you need to contact Kimberly our Head of Centre.

Important Dates

Wed 11th Feb	Children return
Mon 16th – Sun 22nd Feb	Registration Week Brilliant Books to go home
Tues 17th Feb	Gaelic starts again
Thurs 19th Feb	Elaine Family Learning Group
Fri 20th Feb	Coffee and Chat Group
Wed 4th Mar	Parent Workshop – Screen Awareness
Fri 6th Mar	Parent Council Afternoon meeting
March 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th	Shared Learning with Parents/Carers.

