

# ELC Expansion Programme Update (February 2020)

## 1. DELIVERY ASSURANCE

### Progress Reporting

The latest [delivery progress report](#) was considered by the Joint Delivery Board on 17 December 2019, and was published later that week. This report gives an overview of the delivery progress as at September 2019. The data show that over 49,000 children are now receiving more than 600 funded hours; a huge achievement. Recruitment and capacity indicators have also progressed well. The report is available on the Scottish Government and Improvement Service websites.

Adam and Lisa will feed back to councils in due course with continued engagement on KHub.

The Improvement Service continue to visit and offer specific support to local authorities as requested. Support includes the development of supply and demand analysis to prioritise capital programmes, risk analysis workshops and the creation and evaluation of contingency plans.

If you'd like to know more about any of the above, then please get in touch with the team at the Improvement Service.

**Contacts:** *Adam Hall*      [Adam.Hall@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:Adam.Hall@improvementservice.org.uk)  
*Lisa Kennedy*      [Lisa.Kennedy@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:Lisa.Kennedy@improvementservice.org.uk)  
*Team*                      [ELC@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:ELC@improvementservice.org.uk)

### Key contact points

As we move closer to August 2020, authorities are working incredibly hard to prepare for delivery of 1140 hours. In the delivery assurance team, we are very keen to ensure that we are available to provide any support that we can through the next eight months ensuring that all authorities have a clear route to contact the team.

To that end, we have provided a dedicated, named contact point in the team for each authority. This person will be available if you have any questions or concerns and will also be able to co-ordinate and streamline requests for information from the Scottish Government. Please contact Hannah Keates for more information. All authorities have taken part in phone calls in December/and January to start this process, and will be contacted at regular intervals going forward. The next round of calls will start at the end of February and run into March.

**Contact:** *Hannah Keates* [Hannah.Keates@gov.scot](mailto:Hannah.Keates@gov.scot)

### Local Authority ELC KHub Group

For sharing, collaboration and learning about the expansion there's an online Knowledge Hub group dedicated to ELC for local authorities.

If you'd like to find out more, please get in touch with John or register on the Knowledge Hub at <https://www.khub.net> and request to join [Early Learning and Childcare \(ELC\) Expansion Scotland: Local Authorities](#).

**Contact:** *John Mitchell*      [John.Mitchell@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:John.Mitchell@improvementservice.org.uk) /  
[ELC@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:ELC@improvementservice.org.uk)

## **2. PROGRAMME-WIDE ACTIVITIES**

### **Communications and Engagement**

We have updated our events calendar in Annex A with lots of upcoming and new events that may be of interest to you. We continue to share messages about the expansion on Twitter and encourage you to follow us @ELCScotGov and use our hashtag #TeamELC.

**Contact:** *Sheree McAlpine* [sheree.mcalpine@gov.scot](mailto:sheree.mcalpine@gov.scot)

### **Joint Delivery Board**

The next Joint Delivery Board meeting will be held on 17 March in North Ayrshire.

More information on the Board can be found at <https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/>.

**Contact:** *JDB secretariat* [ELCProgrammeOffice@gov.scot](mailto:ELCProgrammeOffice@gov.scot)

## **3. FUNDING FOLLOWS THE CHILD**

### **Guidance documents**

Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare Providers will be introduced in August 2020. All the policy and guidance documents are available [here](#). This includes the technical guidance notes developed by Scotland Excel, were published on 29 April 2019 and cover Guidance for Setting Sustainable Rates from August 2020; Guidance on Meeting Criteria 7 – Business Sustainability; and Transition Options Guidance on Contracting.

In November 2019 Scotland Excel also made available template terms and conditions, and supporting tender documentation, that local authorities can draw on as they develop their commissioning approaches ahead of the introduction of the expanded entitlement and Funding Follows the Child in August 2020. The final versions of these documents can be found on the [Knowledge Hub](#), and local authorities can also access through the members' area of the Scotland Excel website. If you are not signed up to the Knowledge Hub then copies can be requested from [Fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot](mailto:Fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot).

**Contact:** [Fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot](mailto:Fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot) or *Euan Carmichael* 0131 244 9923 / [Euan.Carmichael@gov.scot](mailto:Euan.Carmichael@gov.scot)

### **ELC Statutory Guidance Refresh**

The Scottish Government launched a consultation on the updated [Early Learning and Childcare Statutory Guidance](#) on 20 December 2019. The consultation is open until 4 March 2020.

The Guidance will support local authorities in exercising their functions in relation to the delivery of ELC from 1 August 2020. It refreshes the Statutory Guidance published in 2014 and reflects the changes in the policy and legislative framework for the delivery of early learning and childcare. This includes the legislative changes which were agreed by the Scottish Parliament in June 2019 to increase the statutory funded early learning and childcare entitlement to 1140 hours, and changes to the length of a funded early learning and childcare session

We have tried to ensure that the proposed updated guidance is clear and readable, as well as improving clarity on some specific points, so that it is a more useful and user-friendly resource.

The consultation on the updated statutory guidance document can be found at:  
<https://consult.gov.scot/children-and-families/early-learning-and-childcare-statutory-guidance/>.

Following consideration of the responses to the consultation, which will include an independent analysis of the responses, the final version of the Statutory Guidance will be published in May 2020 and come into force from 1 August 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the updated Early Learning and Childcare Statutory Guidance then they can be directed to [elcstatutoryguidance@gov.scot](mailto:elcstatutoryguidance@gov.scot).

**Contact:** [elcstatutoryguidance@gov.scot](mailto:elcstatutoryguidance@gov.scot); or **Euan Carmichael** 0131 244 9923 / [Euan.Carmichael@gov.scot](mailto:Euan.Carmichael@gov.scot)

### **ELC Partnership Forum**

In order to support and promote genuine partnership between providers and local authorities, the Scottish Government and COSLA established the ELC Partnership Forum.

The work of the Forum will take a different format in the coming months in order to focus on supporting providers and local authorities on the implementation of new aspects of the policy framework that will take effect from August. This will include a focus on the Quality and Fair Work aspects of the National Standard. We will set out the details of the Forum's programme of events, and the supporting materials that will be available, shortly.

There will also be an ELC Partnership Forum event for childminders, which will be held in Glasgow on Saturday 25 April.

All information and supporting arrangements for the Forum's activities are available on the [Knowledge Hub](#). A guide to accessing the Knowledge Hub can be provided on request (via the email address below).

**Contact:** [ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot](mailto:ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot)

## **4. UPTAKE, ELIGIBILITY AND ENGAGEMENT**

### **Parental marketing campaign**

We [launched](#) our parental marketing campaign on 13 January. This will run until the end of March and we are really pleased with the response and the reach so far.

The marketing campaign includes:

- posters on phone boxes and bus stops;
- a 30 sec radio ad running nationally in Scotland;
- a social media campaign including a [video](#); and
- leaflets and posters in a range of places from community centres to GP surgeries.

We also have a range of resources available for local authorities and settings in our toolkit: [bit.ly/ELCEntitlementResources](https://bit.ly/ELCEntitlementResources). This includes 'empty belly' posters that local authorities or

settings can customise with local information, as well as pictures and content for social media or newsletters. Please get in touch if there are other materials that you would find helpful.

Our partner agency, Union Connect, are working with local authorities on partnership activities including stalls at supermarkets and shopping centres (similar to the workforce outreach work); banners for school railings; and artwork for lampposts/vans/bins.

All of the SG campaign materials direct parents to [Parentclub.scot/elc](https://parentclub.scot/elc) where they can find out more about the changes to ELC, and can link directly to the ELC page of their own local authority.

We are using the twitter handles @ELCScotgov, @scotgovedu and @parentclubscot so please follow and share from those. Parent Club also has Instagram and Facebook pages. Feel free to tag @ELCScotgov or @parentclubscot in your tweets about local parent campaigns or application deadlines.

We are also working on an FAQ/mythbusting document, so please get in touch if you have suggested content.

We have been pleased with the response to our campaign so far. A lot of the feedback emphasises that parents and carers are keen to find out what it means for their local settings, which is why the local comms are key.

**Contact: Katherine Tierney** 0131 244 0789 / [Katherine.tierney@gov.scot](mailto:Katherine.tierney@gov.scot)

### **Primary 1 deferral and ELC eligibility – future legislative change**

During a parliamentary debate of 2 October 2019, Minister for Children and Young People, Maree Todd MSP, stated the Scottish Government's intention to bring forward legislation to ensure that all children who are not yet 5 on the first day of school are eligible for funded ELC if their school start is deferred.

The Scottish Government intends to bring forward legislation before the end of this parliamentary session in Spring 2021.

We know that parents and carers who are currently considering deferral for their child will be wondering what this means for them. For now, there is no change in the law. All children who are still 4 years old at the start of the school year can be deferred and start primary one the following year. Children with a birthday in January or February who defer school entry are automatically entitled to another year of funded ELC. For children with a birthday between the school commencement date in August and December, parents continue to have an automatic right to school deferral, but local authorities decide whether another year of funded ELC will be made available. Local authorities may wish to communicate locally about their policy to help parents and carers understand their options in the interim.

In the interim, work is underway to strengthen relevant sections of the ELC statutory guidance in order to support child-centred decision making and good communication with parents. A draft of the updated Statutory Guidance is currently available for consultation (see section above).

**Contact: Fran Iwanyckyj** 0131 244 7481/ [Francesca.Iwanyckyj@gov.scot](mailto:Francesca.Iwanyckyj@gov.scot)

### **Best Start Grant – School Age Payment**

When communicating with local families about deferral, local authorities may also wish to note timings for applications for the Best Start Grant School Age Payment, particularly for children who defer their school start date. The Best Start Grant School Age Payment of £250 is for families in receipt of certain benefits or tax credits who have children who are old enough to start school. Applications must be made by 29 February 2020, even where families plan to defer their child's start date. Full details are available at <https://www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant-best-start-foods/>

## **5. QUALITY**

### **Realising the ambition**

Education Scotland published [Realising the Ambition: Being me](#) on 21 February. This resource delivers on the commitment we made in the Quality Action Plan (2017) to refresh and bring together into one place National Guidance on Pre-birth to Three and Building the Ambition, the previous national practice guidance for early learning and childcare.

*Realising the ambition* reflects the rationale for the 1140 hours expansion programme; has a stronger focus on child development and what children need from staff and their environment to support their development; includes more material on trauma-informed practice; and helps to support a more coherent understanding of child development and play pedagogy across the early level of Curriculum for Excellence.

We are sending hard copies to every ELC setting and primary school.

**Contact:** *Liz Levy* 0131 244 2652 / [Liz.Levy@gov.scot](mailto:Liz.Levy@gov.scot)

### **Consultation on the statutory guidance for the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act**

The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 sets out the role parents, educators and education authorities must play in ensuring all parents are fully involved and engaged in their children's learning and in the life and work of our education settings. Over the last year the Scottish Government have been working with a range of partners to modernise and strengthen the guidance which accompanies the Act. We have done this by taking account of the changes in practice and wider legislation that have occurred since 2007 and by strengthening the language, terminology and descriptions of good practice, in so far as this is possible, whilst recognising that the duties and powers in primary statute remain unchanged.

We are now seeking the views of a wider audience to refine the updated guidance and ensure it clearly provides all those with an interest in parental engagement and involvement with the information they need, while achieving our aims of updating and strengthening the original published guidance.

To gather these wider views we will be running a full public consultation, on the draft updated guidance, from Friday 24 January 2020 until Thursday 30 April 2020.

We hope to hear from anyone who has an interest in how parents can be fully involved and engaged in children's learning and would be extremely grateful to all those who can take the time to complete the online consultation on the refreshed guidance.

**Contact:** *Liz Levy* 0131 244 2652 / [Liz.Levy@gov.scot](mailto:Liz.Levy@gov.scot)

### **Launch of the online STEM module**

As we prepare for the expansion of funded ELC to 1140 hours this August, we are providing extra support to the sector to ensure that we have a well-trained, professional and skilled workforce with free access to high quality online CPL resources to help deliver the best ELC experience for our children.

We launched the first module on 31 January 2020. This module is focused on enhancing staff skills, knowledge and confidence in delivering early learning in STEM. The online module can be accessed on the UWS's website at: <https://open.uws.ac.uk/login/index.php>. Users will need to create an account and then search "STEM" to enrol. It will also be made available on the Care Inspectorate CPL National Directory for ELC and on the SSSC website over the course of the next few weeks.

Further modules will soon be made available to all ELC staff, as follows:

Supporting the development and progression of children's early language and literacy: 24 February

Supporting parents to further engage in their children's development: 12 March

Building confidence in identifying and responding to additional support needs: 26 March.

The module on Supporting the development and progression of children's early language and literacy was launched on 24th Feb. The next modules to be launched will be on: Supporting parents to further engage in their children's development; Understanding the social factors that may impact on children's outcomes; and Building confidence in identifying and responding to additional support needs.

**Contact: Liz Levy** 0131 244 2652 / [Liz.Levy@gov.scot](mailto:Liz.Levy@gov.scot)

### **ELC Inclusion Fund**

Round 4 of the ELC Inclusion Fund closed for applications in November, and we received an unprecedented 440 applications. 397 applications were successful in this round and £470,000 will be distributed by Children in Scotland on our behalf in the coming weeks.

Information about which settings were successful can be made available to local authorities for planning purposes.

The ELC Inclusion Fund is now in its third year and the next round of the fund is due to open in May 2020.

**Contact: Hallé Brown** 0131 244 5951 / [halle.brown@gov.scot](mailto:halle.brown@gov.scot)

### **Nursery Milk**

Through provisions in the Scotland Act 2016, nursery milk is being devolved to Scotland as part of the broader devolution of Welfare Foods. We are currently working on delivering the Scottish Milk and Healthy Snack Scheme (new name yet to be decided) in August 2020. This scheme will replace the existing UK Nursery Milk Scheme but only to child care settings in Scotland. The UK scheme will remain in place for those settings in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In April 2018 – June 2018 we ran a Welfare Foods consultation. The consultation sought views on how best to utilise newly devolved powers relating to Welfare Foods and asked how to take forward these powers to better meet the needs of children and families in Scotland. In relation to this scheme it specifically asked:

- how best we can support childcare providers to provide milk to children who attend non-funded childcare, such as childminder and private nursery
- whether we should enhance nursery milk with the addition of a healthy snack to tackle the under-consumption of fruit and vegetables for children in the earliest of years

A large number of respondents were in favour of providing fruit and vegetables as part of the new scheme.

We have been working closely with CoSLA and other stakeholders to establish a delivery mechanism for both ELC funded provision and other ELC providers. Local Authorities are currently consulting on how the new Milk and Healthy Snack scheme could be administered to both ELC funded provision and other ELC providers. The scheme is due to launch on the 1 August 2020.

New regulations are required to ensure delivery and launch of the scheme in August 2020.

**Contact:** *Philip Canavan* ([Philip.Canavan@gov.scot](mailto:Philip.Canavan@gov.scot)) or *Steven Fogg* ([Steven.Fogg@gov.scot](mailto:Steven.Fogg@gov.scot))

### **Outdoor Play Marketing Campaign**

We have commissioned a marketing campaign to promote the benefits of outdoor play which will run in April and May 2020. Outdoor play is a key focus for the commitment to extend ELC provision from 2020. The benefits of outdoor learning, exercise and play for children in terms of their physical and mental wellbeing are acknowledged and inform the rationale to increase children's access to outdoor play and learning as part of the ELC provision.

The campaign key messages are:

- promoting the recommended physical activity guidelines for children under 5 from the UK chief medical officer (180 minutes per day)
- the importance of hand washing after outdoor play, tick awareness and dressing for the weather
- promoting the long term health benefits of outdoor play (healthy weight, better bone density, improved motor skill development, etc.)

The campaign will run from the 13 April 2020 until the 3 May 2020 and will feature:

- social media advertising
- online videos
- a radio campaign on Bauer's Life Matters
- the production of 11,000 outdoor activity card packs
- marketing emails sent through the Parent Club mailing list
- a campaign page on the Parent Club website

**Contact:** *Sophie Finlayson* 0131 244 7608 / [sophie.finlayson@gov.scot](mailto:sophie.finlayson@gov.scot)

## **6. 2 YEAR OLDS**

### **Extending eligibility for Two Year olds with a Care Experienced Parent**

In December 2019, Scottish Government submitted a paper for consideration to the ADES Early Years Network regarding the Programme for Government (PfG) commitment. A further paper was considered by COSLA's Children and Young People Board on 21 February 2020.

We are currently working with COSLA and local authorities to meet the PfG commitment to extend eligibility of funded ELC for two year olds who have a care experienced parent by August 2020. We anticipate local authorities using their discretionary powers to meet this commitment until legislation is put in place.

There is no agreed process for proving eligibility at this time but we have been looking at the process SAAS have used for 'evidence of care experience'. There is an example form here which local authorities may wish to adapt for their purposes:

[https://www.saas.gov.uk/forms/care\\_exp\\_ev.pdf](https://www.saas.gov.uk/forms/care_exp_ev.pdf)

We will provide more detail to local authorities in due course.

### **Creating inspiring learning communities: making work thrive for under 3s**

We hosted an event '*Creating inspiring learning communities: making work thrive for under 3s*' on Thursday 30 January at The Scottish Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh.

The event was part of the Fire Starter Festival and was a great success and we would like to thank everyone who attended. We used the World Café approach which provided an opportunity to explore how we can create an online community, to acknowledge what we are doing well and it allowed us to explore ways that we can share best practice.

We intend to disseminate the key discussion themes and ideas from the session on the Knowledge Hub. We will also be sharing the 'lightening talk' videos from North Ayrshire, West Lothian and the Pan Lothian Group who all gave a wonderful account of the work they were doing to improve uptake and awareness of the two year old offer.

**Contact: Kerrie Harkness** 0131 244 3654 / [Kerrie.Harkness@gov.scot](mailto:Kerrie.Harkness@gov.scot)

## **7. WORKFORCE**

### **Workforce Contingency Event**

This event is designed to explore how we can best plan to de-risk workforce expansion challenges collectively in the run up to August 2020 and beyond, and share contingency planning solutions grounded in current practice and wider thinking from around the country. The event will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at the Corinthian Club in Glasgow.

**Contact: Patrick Lambert** – 0131 244 3018 | [Patrick.Lambert@gov.scot](mailto:Patrick.Lambert@gov.scot)

### **Recruitment Marketing Campaign**

The National Recruitment campaign has two distinct audiences: school leavers and parental returners/career changers. An update on the most recent campaign activity is available on the Knowledge Hub at: [https://khub.net/group/early-learning-and-childcare-elc-expansion-scotland-local-authorities/group-forum/-/message\\_boards/message/207588635](https://khub.net/group/early-learning-and-childcare-elc-expansion-scotland-local-authorities/group-forum/-/message_boards/message/207588635)



The campaign website contains resources which can be used for local recruitment activity. We'd encourage everyone to make use of these resources to ensure a consistent approach to potential recruits across the country. We are very happy to discuss how we can support local recruitment efforts. Campaign resources can be found at: <https://childcarecareersscotland.scot/resources/>

### **MyJobScotland website**

Private and third sector ELC providers registered with the Care Inspectorate can now post jobs on the myjobscotland website free of charge, following an agreement between Scottish Government and COSLA to support providers with their recruitment needs in the period leading up to 2020. Anyone wishing to advertise vacancies should visit [www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/recruiter](http://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/recruiter)

All jobs listed on myjobscotland are drawn through and also appear on the [www.childcarecareersscotland.scot](http://www.childcarecareersscotland.scot) campaign website.

**Contact:** *Scott Sutherland* 0131 244 9890 / [scott.sutherland@gov.scot](mailto:scott.sutherland@gov.scot)

### **Parental Employability Support Fund – ELC Boost**

As part of a £16.1 million Parental Employability Support Fund provided through the Tackling Child Poverty Fund, £4.1 million will be invested to strengthen relationships between ELC funded providers and employability services across Scotland. Services will utilise this funding to improve training and employability outcomes for low income parents and their children at a local level, and will include the promotion of training and employment opportunities within the ELC expansion itself.

**Contact:** *Sarah Guy* 0131 244 0837 / [sarah.guy@gov.scot](mailto:sarah.guy@gov.scot)

### **Disclosure Scotland updates**

Sign up to Disclosure Scotland's quarterly [e-bulletin](#) to keep up to date with what's happening at DS. You can also follow Disclosure Scotland on Twitter (@disclosurescot) and via [LinkedIn](#).

**Contact:** [dswebteam@disclosurescotland.gov.scot](mailto:dswebteam@disclosurescotland.gov.scot)

## **8. EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS**

### **SEEMiS Early Years and Transformation of the ELC Census**

The system build is well underway for the development of 'SEEMiS Early Years' to replace the current NAMS system. Developments are scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2020 to allow for a period of training ahead of the system being rolled out to local authorities w/c 2 November 2020. We are considering methods of communication and engagement to keep stakeholders up to date with system developments and preparations required ahead of system roll out. A SEEMiS Early Years specific Knowledge Hub site is being set up for local authorities to discuss plans ahead of system roll out, and we will add updates to the other ELC Knowledge Hub sites too.

An event is being planned for local authority ELC Leads and Resource Managers on 26 March to help them prepare for the roll out of the system and consider topics such as training and support plans for within their area.

SEEMiS is working on a data migration strategy and related communications to explain what data will be transferred from NAMS to the new system. They are also considering what information will be shared between settings providing funded ELC for an individual on a blended model and the recording of non-local authority staff data, with the help of a data governance group with local authority representation.

Work is on-going on defining the ELC census process, both the functionality within SEEMiS Early Years to support census requirements and the following steps of the process. There is another census process working group meeting at the end of February. The ProcXed collections for the staff and child censuses are currently being built. SEEMiS Early Years will be central to the new process, and this should make the process less burdensome for data providers and allow us to capture much richer and more robust data on the sector.

**Contact:** *Keira Gore* 0131 244 1690 / [Keira.Gore@gov.scot](mailto:Keira.Gore@gov.scot)

### **Evaluation of the ELC Expansion Programme**

Baseline data collection for the Scottish Study of ELC (SSEL) is now complete. We're holding an event for all those involved in the data collection on 4 March in Glasgow, to feedback on emerging findings and thank everyone for their support. [Registration](#) for the event is now open. If you haven't been involved in the study but would be interested in attending the event, please contact Catriona Rooke.

Two new pieces of research are currently being commissioned to complement the SSEL. The SSEL only collects data from group settings, which does not include childminding services. Qualitative research on perceptions of the impact of childminding services, including blended models, will help to bridge this evidence gap and to better understand the specific contribution childminders make to child, parent and family outcomes. We're also undertaking qualitative research exploring the lived realities of families making decisions about ELC. It will complement the SSEL by identifying potential systemic barriers to the three desired outcomes of the ELC expansion and improving our understanding of the inequality dimensions of those outcomes.

**Contact:** *Catriona Rooke* 0131 244 7203 / [Catriona.Rooke@gov.scot](mailto:Catriona.Rooke@gov.scot)

**ELC Programme – Communications and Engagement calendar**

<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b>			
<b>28 February</b>	<b>Workforce Contingency Event</b>	This is an event to explore how we can best plan to de-risk workforce expansion challenges collectively in the run up to August 2020 and beyond, and share contingency planning solutions grounded in current practice and wider thinking from around the country.	
<b>29 February</b>	<b>Enquire Conference</b>	This one day Conference in Stirling is a parent focused event with a theme of ‘your child, your school and you’.	<a href="https://childreninscotland.org.uk/enquire-conference-2020-your-child-your-school-and-you/">https://childreninscotland.org.uk/enquire-conference-2020-your-child-your-school-and-you/</a>
<b>MARCH 2020</b>			
<b>2-6 March</b>	<b>Scottish Apprenticeship Week</b>	This year’s Scottish Apprenticeship Week takes place during the first week in March. Join in and celebrate ELC apprentices and their stories using the hastags #ScotAppWeek and #TeamELC	<a href="https://www.apprenticeships.scot/scottish-apprenticeship-week/">https://www.apprenticeships.scot/scottish-apprenticeship-week/</a>
<b>4 March</b>	<b>Sikh Women Speak Event</b>	ELC stall SSELG feedback event	<a href="http://www.sikhsanjog.com/sikh-women-speak/">http://www.sikhsanjog.com/sikh-women-speak/</a>
<b>10 March</b>	<b>NDNA Member Event</b>	The NDNA host two Member Events in Scotland each year, usually in March and October.	<a href="https://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/Events/Member_Events.aspx">https://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/Events/Member_Events.aspx</a>
<b>11 March</b>	<b>Finance Working Group</b>	The ELC Finance Working Group is responsible for ensuring the programme is underpinned by a robust financial evidence base and to offer professional finance input to the development of the programme.	

17 March	<b>Joint Delivery Board</b>	The Early Learning and Childcare Joint Delivery Board was set up in September 2018 and is jointly chaired by Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Children and Young People, and Councillor Stephen McCabe, COSLA Spokesperson for Children and Young People. The purpose of the group is to provide overall governance of the ELC expansion programme, to manage and monitor progress against the Programme Plan to ensure that the Scottish and local Government deliver the ELC Expansion on time and within budget.	<a href="https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/">https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/</a>
21 March	<b>ELC Outdoor Learning Event</b>	This event is open and free to all ELC Practitioners (including childminders) and out of school care practitioners who would like to make better use of the outdoors in their practice. Attendees will be invited to sign up to a variety of training taster sessions, designed to build enthusiasm and confidence around outdoor learning. Workshops will be aimed at an 'absolute beginner' level and so are not suitable for practitioners who are already regularly engaging, and confident, with the use of the outdoors in ELC. There are 2 stages to the ticketing process – interested applicants are first asked to register their interest and complete a questionnaire about their current confidence and use of the outdoors. We will allocate tickets to the event based on the order in which applicants apply, combined with their suitability for the training (assessed by level of confidence and frequency of outdoor use) and geographical spread.	<a href="https://thinkdifferentevents.co.uk/events/early-learning-and-childcare/about.html">https://thinkdifferentevents.co.uk/events/early-learning-and-childcare/about.html</a>
26 March	<b>SEEMiS Early Years LA Readiness Event</b>	This event has been scheduled to update local authorities on the progress of SEEMiS Early Years developments, and to allow local authorities to share current progress and consider local requirements in preparing for the roll out of the new system.	

31 March	Strategic Forum	The ELC Strategic Forum was set up in 2016. The purpose of the group is to develop and help implement our vision for high-quality and flexible early learning and childcare (ELC) in Scotland - integrated with an out-of-school care system - that is affordable and accessible for all. The March meeting will have a focus on outdoor learning and will be held at Pollok House in Glasgow.	<a href="https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/">https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/</a>
<b>APRIL 2020</b>			
25 April	Childminding - ELC Partnership Forum Event	This event offers childminders and their representative bodies an opportunity to learn about Funding Follows the Child and the process for offering the funded early learning and childcare entitlement. This will include updates from the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland. The event will also provide an opportunity to set out more on the support that is available to childminders, in particular regarding Professional Learning and Development.	<a href="mailto:ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot">ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot</a>
<b>MAY 2020</b>			
21 May	National Outdoor Classroom Day	Celebrate national outdoor classroom day by tagging us in your pictures and using #TeamELC	<a href="https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/">https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/</a>
27 May	Scottish Education Awards 2020		<a href="https://www.scottisheducationawards.co.uk/">https://www.scottisheducationawards.co.uk/</a>
<b>JUNE 2020</b>			
16 June	Strategic Forum	The ELC Strategic Forum was set up in 2016. The purpose of the group is to develop and help implement our vision for high-quality and flexible early learning and childcare (ELC) in Scotland - integrated with an out-of-school care system - that is affordable and accessible for all.	<a href="https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/">https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/</a>
<b>JULY 2020</b>			

2 July (TBC)	Joint Delivery Board	The Early Learning and Childcare Joint Delivery Board was set up in September 2018 and is jointly chaired by Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Children and Young People, and Councillor Stephen McCabe, COSLA Spokesperson for Children and Young People. The purpose of the group is to provide overall governance of the ELC expansion programme, to manage and monitor progress against the Programme Plan to ensure that the Scottish and local Government deliver the ELC Expansion on time and within budget.	<a href="https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/">https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/</a>
<b>AUGUST 2020</b>			
August	ELC expansion programme statutory implementation date	Formal roll out of the ELC expansion increased 1140 hours will begin from August 2020.	
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b>			
5 Sept	Early Years Scotland Conference		Details to follow soon
23 - 24 Sept 2020	Scottish Learning Festival	This year's Scottish Learning Festival has an increased focus on early learning and childcare.	<a href="https://www.scottishlearningfestival.com/">https://www.scottishlearningfestival.com/</a>
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>			
3 October 2020	SCMA Conference		Details to follow soon

**ELC Programme**

<b>Date Published</b>	<b>Document Link</b>
23/03/2017	<a href="#">A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland - 2017–18 Action Plan</a>
23/03/2017	<a href="#">A Blueprint for 2020: Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Planning Guidance for Local Authorities</a>
23/03/2017	<a href="#">A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Next Steps - Analysis Report</a>
15/10/2016	<a href="#">A Blueprint for 2020: Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare Consultation</a>

**Learning and Wellbeing**

<b>Date Published</b>	<b>Document Link</b>
22/12/2017	<a href="#">Daily Mile Guidance</a>
31/10/2017	<a href="#">A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland: Quality Action Plan</a>
	<a href="#">Equity &amp; Excellence Leads</a>
	<a href="#">Realising the Ambition</a>

**Out of School Care / Outdoor Learning**

<b>Date Published</b>	<b>Document Link</b>
21/12/2018	<a href="#">Out to Play; practical guidance for creating outdoor play experiences in early learning and childcare</a>
30/08/2019	<a href="#">Out of School Care Parent Survey: report</a>

**Service Models**

<b>Date Published</b>	<b>Document Link</b>
29/04/2019	<a href="#">Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: transition options guidance on contracting</a>
29/04/2019	<a href="#">Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance for setting sustainable rates from August 2020</a>
29/04/2019	<a href="#">Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance on criteria 7 - business sustainability</a>
19/12/2018	<a href="#">ELC providers: delivery support plan</a>
18/12/2018	<a href="#">Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for early learning and childcare providers: Principles and practice</a>
18/12/2018	<a href="#">Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: operating guidance</a>
18/12/2018	<a href="#">Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance for local authorities</a>
31/10/2018	<a href="#">Early learning and childcare service model for 2020: consultation analysis</a>
29/03/2018	<a href="#">Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper</a>

## Trials

Date Published	Document Link
22/05/2018	<a href="#">Early Learning and Childcare Expansion delivery trials: evaluation</a>

## Workforce

Date Published	Document Link
03/2017	<a href="#">The Skills Investment Plan Prospectus</a>

## Workforce Development

Date Published	Document Link
20/05/2019	<a href="#">ELC National Induction Resource</a>

## 2 Year Old Offer

Date Published	Document Link
07/03/2017	<a href="#">Drivers and Barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds</a>

## Evaluation and Data Transformation Project

Date Published	Document Link
29/06/2013	<a href="#">Early childhood education and care provision: international review of policy, delivery and funding</a>
23/03/2016	<a href="#">Early Learning and Childcare Data Consultation Findings</a>
15/06/2016	<a href="#">Early learning and childcare trials discussion paper: analysis of responses</a>
27/09/2016	<a href="#">Financial review of early learning and childcare in Scotland: the current landscape</a>
27/09/2016	<a href="#">Cost of early learning and childcare provision in partner provider settings</a>
07/03/2017	<a href="#">Drivers and barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds</a>
19/06/2017	<a href="#">Evaluability assessment of the expansion of early learning and childcare (NHS Health Scotland)</a>
19/06/2017	<a href="#">Provision of early learning and childcare and parents outcomes - an evidence brief (NHS Health Scotland)</a>
03/08/2017	<a href="#">Recommendations for Early Learning and Childcare Data report</a>
28/09/2017	<a href="#">Early Learning and Childcare Data Transformation Project - May 2017 Data Trial</a>
31/10/2017	<a href="#">Rapid evidence review: childcare quality and children's outcomes</a>
22/12/2017	<a href="#">Changes in early learning and childcare use and outcomes at age 5: compared two Growing up in Scotland cohorts</a>
22/12/2017	<a href="#">The expansion of Early Learning and Childcare: evaluation report 2017</a>
22/05/2018	<a href="#">Evaluation of the Early Learning and Childcare delivery trials</a>
07/08/2018	<a href="#">Parents' views and use of early learning and childcare: report</a>
27/11/2018	<a href="#">Early Learning and Childcare Data Transformation Project - June 2018 Data Trial</a>
14/08/2019	<a href="#">Scottish Study of Early Learning and Childcare: Phase 1 report</a>



## Infrastructure

Date Published	Document Link
30/06/2017	<a href="#">Space to Grow design guidance</a>

## Related SG Policies

Date Published	Document Link
04/09/2018	<a href="#">Programme for Government 2018</a>
06/06/2018	<a href="#">Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Act 2017 – Guidance</a>
29/03/2018	<a href="#">Every Child, Every Chance: The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-22</a>
16/11/2017	<a href="#">Education Governance Review</a>
22/08/2017	<a href="#">Report of the Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates</a>
	<a href="#">Scottish Attainment Challenge</a>