

ELC Expansion Programme Update (July 2019)

1. DELIVERY ASSURANCE

Simon and the delivery assurance team have continued to meet with councils around the country, and continue to work to provide access to individual support where required on issues of policy, capital programme management, business modelling, and contingency planning. We are also working to unblock issues that councils have raised with us to provide a once-for-Scotland solution.

If the team have not yet made contact with you to arrange a specific discussion, this will happen in the coming weeks. If you would like to discuss any issues that affect the delivery of your programme, please contact Simon.

Contacts: **Simon Mair** simon.mair@gov.scot / ELCDeliverySupport@gov.scot

Progress Reporting

Following the reporting to the Joint Delivery Board on progress, the Improvement Service have begun offering specific support to local authorities as requested. This includes the development of supply and demand analysis to prioritise capital programmes, risk analysis workshops and the provision of ongoing support with Delivery Progress Reporting.

If you'd like to know more about any of the above then please get in touch with the team at the Improvement Service. We will be in touch in the near future to discuss future data collections and how we can best support expansion

Contacts: **Adam Hall** adam.hall@improvementservice.org.uk
Lisa Kennedy lisa.kennedy@improvementservice.org.uk
Team elc@improvementservice.org.uk

Local Authority ELC KHub Group

Those who are members of the [local authority ELC expansion KHub group](#) are receiving weekly updates on what's happening in the group and are encouraged to share what they have learned or ask questions of the rest of the group. This can be on any part of the expansion programme, no matter how specific, and there are no silly questions. Next month we plan to have some webinars appearing, so keep an eye out for these; but don't worry if you miss them as they'll be recorded and posted on the group. If you have any suggested topics for webinars or would like to present one please let John know.

Contacts: **John Mitchell** ELC@improvementservice.org.uk / John.Mitchell@improvementservice.org.uk

ELC Case Studies

A new Case Study on meals is on the KHub with information from Clackmannanshire and Sauchie Nursery on their approach to lunch. It is a lovely example of a sociable and healthy experience. As a follow up, a webinar on meals will take place through the local authority KHub on Aug 13th. This is intended to support ELC staff working in local authorities. Two local authorities will present on their approach and there will be opportunities to ask questions. Please sign up through the KHub.

Contact: **Aileen McLean** Aileen.McLean@gov.scot

2. PROGRAMME-WIDE ACTIVITIES

Joint Delivery Board

The Joint Delivery Board met on 25 June at the new Wallyford Primary School. Members considered updated local authority progress data. More information on the Board can be viewed at <https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/>.

Contacts: JDB secretariat **Sarah Duncan** sarah.duncan@gov.scot

3. SERVICE MODELS

Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers

[Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for early learning and childcare providers: Principles and practice](#) was published on 18 December, a joint Scottish Government and COSLA publication. Supporting [Operating Guidance](#) and a [Question and Answer](#) document to further support the sector was also published.

To support the introduction of Funding Follows the Child from August 2020 we will continue to run presentation and workshop sessions across local authority areas. We will look to tailor these sessions to meet the needs of the local area and we would be more than happy to support further events over the coming months. Please contact us to register your interest and we will do our best to meet your request.

Contact: **Laura Hill** 07824 607496 / fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot

Technical Guidance on Implementing Funding Follows the Child

Technical guidance notes developed by Scotland Excel, were published on 29 April to support local authorities and providers in the private and third sectors, including childminders, implement Funding Follows the Child, and the underpinning National Standard, from August 2020. These notes cover:

- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Guidance on Meeting Criteria 7 - Business Sustainability](#);
- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Guidance for Setting Sustainable Rates from August 2020](#); and,
- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Transition Options Guidance on Contracting](#).

Scotland Excel are currently developing 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.

Scotland Excel are also working with the Regional Improvement Collaboratives to run specific sessions on the guidance over the Summer, and, in addition to this we will look to include further sessions on the Scotland Excel guidance as part of our wider programme of engagement to support implementation of Funding Follows the Child.

Contact: **Euan Carmichael** 0131 244 9923 / Euan.Carmichael@gov.scot

Information on Local Authority Support and Funding for ELC Providers

In addition to the hourly rate that providers receive for delivering the funded entitlement, local authorities also provide a range of benefits and support to funded providers. As we progress towards the full roll-out of 1140 hours, and the introduction of Funding Follows the Child, in August 2020 there have been substantial changes in the hourly rates and the support offered to providers.

To understand the changes in the sector the Scottish Government wrote to local authorities on 8 April 2019 to request an update on their actions to support partnership in their area, and on the hourly rates that are paid to funded providers for the delivery of funded Early Learning and Childcare.

A summary of the information provided by local authorities was originally published on 28 June. However, it was brought to our attention that the report contained two errors in the recording of hourly rates information provided by Falkirk Council and West Lothian Council. The errors have now been amended and a further check carried out against original returns from local authorities. Errors. The report has been reissued to local authorities and a revised copy is now available on the Knowledge Hub.

If you would like to join the [Knowledge Hub](#) then please email, ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot. Alternatively, we would also be happy to send you a copy of the summary paper.

Contact: **Euan Carmichael** 0131 244 9923 / ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot

Legislative changes

Further to the May programme update, the Scottish Parliament has now approved two pieces of secondary legislation to support the ELC expansion programme:

[The Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(no.1\) Order 2019.](#)

- This order removes the minimum session length for funded ELC (currently 2.5 hours) and increase the maximum session to 10 hours or less (currently 'less than 8 hours') so funded ELC can be delivered in a whole day session (e.g. 08:00-18:00).
- The changes to session length supports our wider efforts to improve flexibility of access to affordable ELC and support parents who are in work, training or further study.
- Changes to the minimum framework do not place an obligation on ELC settings to provide the maximum 10 hour sessions where these are not already offered.

- This order will take force from **August 2019** to support local authorities to provide more flexibility on session lengths, and to test new delivery models, during the phasing period and in preparation for full implementation of 1140 hours.

[The Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(no.2\) Order 2019.](#)

- This order formally changes in legislation the amount of funded ELC children are entitled to from 600 hours to 1140 hours. This order will take force from **August 2020**.
- This will provide the necessary legislative basis to underpin the work local authorities are already doing to deliver the expanded ELC offer from August 2020.

Contact: **Jessica Galway** 0131 244 4845/ Jessica.Galway@gov.scot

Statutory Guidance Refresh

We are now working on revising and updating the Statutory Guidance on ELC. The guidance was first published in 2014 and so it is necessary to review the document to incorporate updates to policy and reflect the new context of delivering the expanded entitlement from August 2020.

We will provide an opportunity for the sector to inform the development of the updated Guidance. In particular, we will be looking for insights from across the ELC sector to understand how to make the guidance as effective and accessible as possible. We are currently convening a short life working group to support the development of the updated guidance. The draft Statutory Guidance will then undergo wider public consultation this autumn.

Contact: **Jessica Galway** 0131 244 4845/ Jessica.Galway@gov.scot

ELC Partnership Forum

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

Any provider can apply to join the membership pool. Attendee numbers for each Forum are limited in order to enable small group discussions. Meetings are taken around the country using Regional Improvement Collaborative (RIC) areas as a guiding principle and to help maximise local representation, wherever possible. The Forum's membership pool is steadily increasing with 160 members now having joined, which includes 140 members from the private and third sector.

We understand that some RIC areas are looking at setting up local partnership arrangements, with the West Partnership establishing its own forum. Its inaugural meeting took place on 7 June with the next planned for 22 August.

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 (again, via the email address below).

Contact: ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot

ELC Partnership Summit – 12 September 2019

The [ELC Providers: Delivery Support Plan](#), published in December 2018, highlighted that the Scottish Government would work with COSLA to host a Partnership Summit, building on the work of the ELC Partnership Forum.

The Summit will be held on 12 September at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

The focus of the Summit is to bring together local authorities and providers in order to showcase good practice in partnership working, the implementation of the 'provider neutral' Funding Follows the Child approach, and reinforcing the focus on high quality, which is central to the ELC expansion and Funding Follows the Child.

The proposed audience for the Summit will be all local authorities, all funded providers who have joined the ELC Partnership Forum membership pool, representative bodies, Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland, and Scotland Excel, COSLA and Scottish Government.

We are grateful to providers and local authority colleagues who have kindly offered to run or support workshop sessions at the Summit. We will shortly be issuing more information on the Summit, including details of how to register, to those providers who have signed up to the membership pool.

If you would like any further information on the Partnership Summit then please contact us via the email address below.

Contact: ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot.

Educational Reforms/Regional Improvement Collaboratives

The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills recently made a [statement](#) to the Scottish Parliament, updating MSPs on progress of the Scottish Government's programme of education reform and next steps. The published report can be accessed [here](#).

With the support of SG funding and Education Scotland support, the Regional Improvement Collaboratives, part of the Government's Education Reform Programme, continue to make good progress in building their regional capacity for collaboration.

The Scottish Government provided up to £5 million directly to the RICs in the 2018-19 school year, to enhance their development and to support delivery of their 2018-19 regional plans. This includes support for RIC Early Learning & Childcare activity. We are currently liaising with COSLA and the RICs on further funding support for the 2019/20 school year.

Contact: **Scott Miller** 0131 244 8151 / scott.miller@gov.scot.

4. UPTAKE, ELIGIBILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

Parental communication

As ever, we are carefully balancing our messages to ensure that parents understand the context for the change, while leaving space for local authorities to use their local intelligence to give the information that families will want of the detailed local picture.

Leaflets and posters

Our 'Bringing You More Funded Early Learning and Childcare' posters and leaflets have been distributed to all ELC settings, and to all libraries, to give families more context for the changes to provision they might be seeing locally. These leaflets are also in the toddler 'Bookbug bags' which means that all children in Scotland receive them when they are aged 1-2.

Parent Club

The Early Learning and Childcare pages are now live on [Parent Club \(www.parentclub.scot/elc\)](http://www.parentclub.scot/elc). This includes advice on everything from funding to 'questions to ask' when choosing a setting, as well as some videos of ELC users, with more videos to be added as we film a wider variety of case studies. (Full videos are available on the [Youtube Channel](#)).

The Parent Club pages direct families to local authorities for more details of the local offer, so we have included a drop down menu where appropriate to direct parents and carers to the correct local authority websites (e.g. under 'how do I apply' here: <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/funding-and-entitlement-elc>) .

We have checked that all links are working but I would be very grateful if you could **please let us know if you would prefer us to direct families to a different web page**, or if you go on to develop any new pages we'd be happy to update the link. Note – Parent Club isn't specifically about the expansion so includes a lot of general information for parents trying to make decisions about ELC right now as well as some information on what's changing, and we will be updating it as we get closer to August 2020.

Toolkit

We now have materials available on the Knowledge Hub as part of our [parental comms toolkit](#), to share useful messages and materials and help with the consistency that parents have told us they want. We are keen to share good practice and would be happy to share materials that you have found useful in your own parental comms.

Materials include FAQs, copies of leaflets and posters, tips on message testing and feedback that we have had about the language and messages that resonate with parents and carers.

Future Marketing Campaign

We are working with our marketing agency on the development of the next stage of the parental awareness campaign for the 1140 expansion. This will include some focused and targeted activity designed where possible to fit with the application window for the August 2020 ELC intake.

Our marketing agency are currently working on proposals and we will share further details when we have them. This may include things like radio, outdoor advertising, digital and social media. All of these things could potentially be targeted in local authorities to coincide with application windows. Based on conversations with local authorities, we are working on the typical application window of January-March 2020. We have contacted local authorities (through the ELC Comms group) to ask if any local authority would like us to tailor this locally. If you haven't contacted us yet and would like us to be aware of a different application period then please let us know. (For any who don't have a distinct application window, or where it is still to be finalised, please get in touch and we can have a chat about what is most appropriate).

Contact: **Laura Tooley** 0131 244 0743 / laura.tooley@gov.scot

5. QUALITY

ELC Inclusion Fund Year 2

We are taking the opportunity over the summer to conduct a short review of the inclusion fund process. Following this review we may revise the application criteria to ensure that in subsequent years the fund continues to support individual children to access their funded ELC entitlement.

We will be opening the next funding round by the end of October 2019.

Contact: **Hallé Brown** 0131 244 5951 / halle.brown@gov.scot

SAVE THE DATE - Sharing good practice in how local authorities are embedding and strengthening quality in ELC – 13 September 2019

While local authority leads are in Edinburgh for the partnership summit in mid-September, we'd like to take the opportunity to bring them together, the day after the summit – on Friday 13 September – to share good practice in how they're embedding and strengthening quality in ELC across their providers. We'll be drawing on examples collected during the individual discussions with local authority quality leads that James Niven has been undertaking over the last year. We'll be in touch shortly with any local authorities who haven't yet been able to take part in these conversations and with local authorities from which we would like to showcase practice. In the meantime, if you're particularly keen to showcase practice in embedding and strengthening quality among your providers or to share learning and challenges, please do let us know.

The 13 September is a date being held for one of the ADES Early Years Network's regular meetings. They've kindly offered us this date and we've agreed to host the event, extend invitation to all relevant local authority leads and to work with ADES Early Years Network to finalise a programme for the day.

Contact: **Liz Levy** 0131 244 2652 / Liz.Levy@gov.scot

Space to Grow: Indoor / Outdoor Settings

Guidance for creating high-quality experiences and opportunities for children in indoor/outdoor settings was published by the Care Inspectorate in the Hub area of their website on the 11 July 2019. ELC teams in Local Authorities have been emailed with a link to the report. An eshot was circulated to LAs and all service providers w/c 15 July. Hard copies will be sent to service providers in due course. A link to the report can be found [here](#).

Contact: **Claire McGrath** 0131 244 0352 / Claire.McGrath@gov.scot

Building the Ambition Refresh

We committed in our Quality Action Plan to refresh and re-launch the national practice guidance on Pre-birth to Three and Building the Ambition to bring this up-to-date with new evidence that will support practice in early learning and childcare. We are currently working with colleagues in Education Scotland on this updated guidance and this will be published by early 2020.

Contact: **Liz Levy** 0131 244 2652 / Liz.Levy@gov.scot

6. WORKFORCE

Recruitment Marketing Campaign

The National Recruitment Campaign went live with the latest burst of activity on 10 June and will run until the end of July.

TV was live throughout June, as was radio, while out of home advertising (phone boxes, bus shelters etc.) ran for two weeks from 17 June. Digital advertising and video on demand will continue to run until the end of July. Radio and social media activity, aimed at the school leavers audience, will be live throughout August to coincide with exam results.

A more comprehensive update 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

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/>

Contact: **Scott Sutherland** 0131 244 9890 / scott.sutherland@gov.scot

Men in Early Years – Seminar 26 September 2019

Scottish Government has provided funding via the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) to investigate innovative ways of attracting and retaining males on ELC training programmes. To ensure the learning from that work is spread widely, to share best practice and to celebrate the increasing diversity in the ELC workforce, we will be hosting an event with SFC and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) in Stirling on 26 September. We'd encourage anyone involved in recruitment or training of ELC practitioners to attend the event. For further information and to register for attendance, please follow the link below:

<http://www.sfc.ac.uk/access-inclusion/access-priorities/gender/men-early-years-seminar.aspx>

Contact: **Scott Sutherland** 0131 244 9890 / scott.sutherland@gov.scot

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.

The site experienced some issues in early summer. Those have been overcome and the site is now fully functional again.

Anyone wishing to advertise vacancies should visit www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/recruiter

Contact: **Kathryn Chisholm** 0131 244 0274 / kathryn.chisholm@gov.scot

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Short Life Working Group

In response to a number of enquiries from people wanting to move to the ELC sector asking about the extent that relevant prior learning and experience can be used to obtain ELC qualifications and

how qualifications from other countries can be used, the Scottish Government ELC workforce expansion and development team has established a short life working group to look at the current RPL landscape and establish whether there are areas that can be improved. The Group has representatives from across the sector.

Three meetings will take place over three months. The first meeting took place on 26 June 2019 where the current RPL landscape, specific case studies and potential opportunities for improvement were discussed. The next meeting is scheduled for 31 July 2019 with a final meeting taking place in August.

Contact: **Fiona McDiarmid** 01312445308 / fiona.mcdiarmid@gov.scot

7. 2 YEAR OLD OFFER

We have been working towards a legislative solution to protect the eligibility for those 2 year olds whose parents who will be affected by changes to UK Government policies in respect of the increase in the National Living Wage and a freeze to the income threshold for those in receipt of both maximum Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. We have now laid legislation to increase the income threshold before the Scottish Parliament.

In agreement with COSLA we have written out to Local Authorities to provide an update on the forthcoming legislation and ask to them to bring in the revised income threshold using their discretionary powers in advance of the SSI coming into force.

Contact: **Kerrie Harkness** 0131 244 3654 / Kerrie.Harkness@gov.scot

8. EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS

Transformation of the ELC Census

Work is on-going to develop 'SEEMiS Early Years' to replace the current NAMS system. The working group are meeting regularly to refine the system requirements so that the contracted developers can continue to build the system.

The ELC current census process is on-going, and alongside this we are developing the new census process to make best use of data that will be held within SEEMiS Early Years where possible.

Contact: **Keira Gore** 0131 244 1690 / keira.gore@gov.scot

Scottish Study of Early Learning and Childcare (SSELC)

Our findings from Phase 1 of SSELC – which collected data on eligible two-year-olds and their parents in November 2018 – will be published on the Scottish Government website before the end of August 2019.

Data collection for Phase 2 of SSELC – which focused on four- and five-year-olds who are starting Primary 1 in August 2019 – has now ended and our contractor, ScotCen Social Research, has begun processing the questionnaires that have been returned.

Data collection for Phase 3 of SSELC – which will follow-up with eligible two-year-olds involved in Phase 1, as well as collecting data on a new cohort of three-year-olds as they begin accessing

their statutory entitlement – will begin in October 2019. We will be in touch with LA leads in due course to clarify arrangements for data collection.

We very much appreciate the support of all involved in this important evaluation of the ELC expansion in Scotland.

Contact: **Catriona Rooke** 0131 244 7203 / catriona.rooke@gov.scot

9. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Children Service Strategic Engagement

The Children's Services Strategic Engagement is a Scotland-wide programme of visits to Children's Services Strategic Partners local areas which ran from 5 October 2018 to 10 June 2019. The engagement aimed to identify examples of practice being applied to improve outcomes for children and young people; understand the challenges for local areas; improve collaboration and multidisciplinary working and provide support on development and implementation of future plans.

To support this engagement the SG reviewed the 2017 Children's Services Plans and consulted on the Statutory Guidance on Part 3 (Children's Services Planning) of the Children and Young People Act, which closed on 17 June.

The team heard about excellent examples of multidisciplinary approaches which embody Getting it right for every child and aim to: promote targeted services through universal services; improve outcomes for looked after and care experienced children and young people; support earlier support and advice for mental health and wellbeing; and support multi-agency collaboration to deliver routes into work for parents and young people as well as income maximisation being delivered through universal children's services.

To promote and share some of the excellent examples, the team hosted an Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Networking event on 24 June. This was attended by every Children's Services Planning lead from across Scotland, key senior children's services stakeholders and colleagues from across learning and health directorates. Key challenges that were highlighted from the visits were that: collaboration of resources in local areas is variable causing tensions in some partnerships; there is a need for leaders to work across boundaries and be truly collaborative; and assessment of need should be done jointly with local authorities and health boards – working together using all resources provides better assessments of need.

The team are now considering the learning from the visits alongside the responses to the consultation and will work with strategic leads to redraft the statutory guidance and respond to the challenges highlighted.

Contact: **Hannah Keates** Hannah.keates@gov.scot

UNCRC Consultation

The Scottish Government is seeking views on how best to incorporate the UN's 'gold standard' for children's rights into Scots Law and improve the lives of children and young people.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is the most complete statement of children's rights ever produced and sets out the rights of every child, irrespective of

where they live, the religion they follow or the make-up of their society. This includes rights to be treated fairly and equally, the right to be as healthy as possible, and the right to be heard. Incorporating the UNCRC will strengthen existing work to protect and respect children, and the Scottish Government's consultation seeks views on the best way to do this within the context of Scots law, and the powers of the Scottish Parliament.

Following consultation, the Scottish Government intends to deliver legislation in this parliamentary session.

The consultation is available on the Scottish Government [website](#) and runs until **14 August 2019**.

Contact: **Rona Parry** rona.parry@gov.scot

ELC Programme – Communications and Engagement calendar

AUGUST 2019			
August	1 year to go until ELC expansion is fully rolled out in all 32 LA's	You will all be aware that August this year is a big milestone for us all as we hit 1 year to go until the ELC expansion is rolled out. We are currently working up a media plan for August to mark this milestone and hope that you will join us in celebrating 1 year to go.	
August (date tbc)	ELC Partnership Forum	To support providers of early learning and childcare, the Scottish Government and COSLA have established the Partnership Forum to allow as many providers to participate as possible, and ensure appropriate geographic coverage. The Forum builds on good practice and look at ways to further strengthen effective partnership working across Scotland.	
13 August	Meals Webinar	A webinar on meals intended to support ELC staff working in local authorities. Please sign up through the KHub.	
22 August	West Partnership Forum	The West Partnership RIC's partnership forum.	
SEPTEMBER 2019			
3 Sept	ELC 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.	https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/
10 Sept	ELC 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	https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/

		monitor progress against the Key Milestone Plan to ensure that the Scottish and local Government deliver the ELC Expansion on time and within budget.	
12 Sept	ELC Partnership Summit	Taking place in the Edinburgh International Conference Centre the National ELC Partnership Summit brings together local authorities and providers in order to showcase good practice in partnership working, support implementation of the 'provider neutral' Funding Follows the Child approach, and to reinforce the focus on high quality, which is central to the ELC expansion and Funding Follows the Child.	
13 Sept	Learning Event – Sharing good practice in how local authorities are embedding and strengthening quality in ELC	While local authority leads are in Edinburgh for the partnership summit in mid-September, we'd like to take the opportunity to bring them together, the day after the summit to share good practice in how they're embedding and strengthening quality in ELC across all of their providers.	
14 Sept	Early Years Scotland Annual Conference	Early Years Scotland Annual Conference will be held in central Glasgow and will have a focus on 'There is more to learning than play'. Full details can be found in the link on the right hand side column.	https://earlyyearsscotland.org/conference
25-26 Sept	Scottish Learning Festival	SLF is Scotland's key educational event which provides a great professional learning opportunity with a fantastic line-up of keynote speakers, opportunities for professional networking and a practitioner-led seminar programme. This year's theme is 'Achieving Excellence and Equity'. The SG ELC team will be attending the SLF as I am sure many of you will be. Look out for our stall and workshops and we look forward to seeing you all there.	https://education.gov.scot/news-and-events/events/Scottish%20Learning%20Festival%202019
26 Sept	Men in Early Years – Seminar	Scottish Government has provided funding via the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) to investigate innovative ways of attracting and retaining males on ELC training programmes. To ensure the learning from that work is spread widely, to share	http://www.sfc.ac.uk/access-inclusion/access-priorities/gender/men-early-years-seminar.aspx

		best practice and to celebrate the increasing diversity in the ELC workforce, we will be hosting a free event with SFC and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) in Stirling.	
28 Sept	Scottish Association Conference Childminding Annual	SCMA's annual conference will be held in Stirling and the theme will be 'Lean on Me' which has been carefully chosen to encompass a myriad of topics including: community, resilience, quality, the importance of strong partnerships, friendship, interventions to address stigma, and thought leadership.	https://www.childminding.org/conference
OCTOBER 2019			
October (date tbc)	ELC Partnership Forum	To support providers of early learning and childcare, the Scottish Government and COSLA have established the Partnership Forum to allow as many providers to participate as possible, and ensure appropriate geographic coverage. The Forum builds on good practice and look at ways to further strengthen effective partnership working across Scotland.	
NOVEMBER 2019			
22 November	ELC 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 Key Milestone Plan to ensure that the Scottish and local Government deliver the ELC Expansion on time and within budget.	https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/
27-28 November	Education Scotland Buildings Conference	Education Buildings Scotland Exhibition, Conference and Awards Dinner brings the Scottish education built environment and policy professionals together from early years, schools,	https://www.educationbuildings.scot/

		colleges and universities for two days under one roof. ELC will feature in this year's two day conference and more details on what to expect will be available soon.	
DECEMBER 2019			
3 December	ELC 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.	https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-strategic-forum/
FEBRUARY 2020			
February	6 months to go	A key milestone in the run up to August 2020.	
AUGUST 2020			
August	ELC expansion programme to be begin formal roll out	Formal roll out of the ELC expansion increased 1140 hours will begin from August 2020.	

ELC Programme

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

Learning and Wellbeing

Date Published	Document Link
22/12/2017	Daily Mile Guidance
31/10/2017	A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland: Quality Action Plan
	Additional Graduate Commitment

Out of School Care / Outdoor Learning

Date Published	Document Link
21/12/2018	Out to Play: practical guidance for creating outdoor play experiences in early learning and childcare

Service Models

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

Trials

Date Published	Document Link
22/05/2018	Early Learning and Childcare Expansion delivery trials: evaluation

Workforce

Date Published	Document Link
03/2017	The Skills Investment Plan Prospectus

Workforce Development

Date Published	Document Link
20/05/2019	ELC National Induction Resource

2 Year Old Offer

Date Published	Document Link
07/03/2017	Drivers and Barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds

Evaluation and Data Transformation Project

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

Infrastructure

Date Published	Document Link
30/06/2017	Space to Grow design guidance

Related SG Policies

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