



Giving Children the Best Start in Life: A plan to expand and increase flexible provision across South Ayrshire

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act, 2014 established duty to increase early years entitlement from 475 hours to 600 hours of early learning and childcare and to make provision for 600 hours of early learning and childcare for eligible 2 year old children. Over the past two years there has been considerable expansion to create provision for 2 year olds. All children aged 3 and 4 and eligible 2 year olds now have access to 600 hours early learning and childcare. In addition as part of the Act we have consulted with parents and increased the flexibility of hours.

The results of the consultation are available on the Council website –

Service Vision: Excellence and Equity

Progress with Implementation of the Children and Young people Act and Next Steps

The plan provides information about the key service objectives. It also provides the ways in which the success of each task will be measured. This plan is part of the Early Years Service Plan and the wider plan for Educational services

Links with Council Plans:

SO2.2 More Children and young people are successful learners, responsible citizens, confident individuals and effective contributors

Key Action -ED6 Update Policies and procedures in line with legislation

Sub Action: Continue to develop flexible services in line with legislation and Scottish Government Policy to provide high quality early learning and childcare for children age 2-5 years

Progress 2014-2016

Tasks	How will we measure impact on children and families?	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expand services to provide 600 hours of early learning and childcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">% of families have access to 600 hours early learning and childcare.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">100% children and families have access to 600 hours of early learning and childcare
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase number of nurseries offering flexible provision to support working families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Additional nurseries offer full day provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10 nurseries offer full day provision from August 2015.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental consultation carried out in line with the legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plan developed and published to increase flexibility as a result of parent consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental consultation carried out in November 2015. Plan for increased flexibility prepared.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand provision for children aged 2-3 across South Ayrshire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of nurseries offering provision for two year olds • Number of places available for eligible children aged 2-3. • % of LAC children aged 2-3 accessing early years provision • % looked after 2-3 yr old children taking up early learning and childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since August 2014- November 2015 6 additional Nurseries provided places for two year olds. <p>Muirhead</p> <p>Colmonell</p> <p>Girvan Nursery School</p> <p>Ballantrae</p> <p>Braehead</p> <p>Carrick Centre, Maybole</p> <p>Space Place</p> <p>This has created the capacity for an additional 148 places.</p> <p>In November 2015 100% of Looked After 2 year old children had access to a nursery place. This is a significant improvement from the previous 50% accessing provision in 2014.</p> <p>Parental uptake of the new provision has not yet reached the Scottish government prediction of 76%. In South Ayrshire in November 2015 the uptake was 27.5%. This figure is increasing.</p>

Next Steps

Plan based on Parental Consultation for Sessions 2016- 2018

Tasks	How will we measure impact on children and families?	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of nurseries offering flexible provision to support working families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional nurseries offer full day provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further 5 nurseries to offer full day provision from August 2016.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and Implement a charging policy to enable parents to purchase additional spaces / time in early years centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will have the opportunity to purchase additional hours of early learning and childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft charging policy agreed at leadership Panel and implemented in October 2016.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand provision for children aged 2-3 across South Ayrshire to include provision in Coylton, Dundonald, Newton, Kirkmichael, Kincaidston, Crosshill, Annbank and Maidens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of nurseries offering provision for two year olds Number of places available for eligible children aged 2-3. % of LAC children aged 2-3 accessing early years provision % looked after 2-3 yr old children taking up early learning and childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From August 2016 new provision for children aged 2 will open in Coylton, Dundonald, Newton, Kirkmichael, Kincaidston with an additional 60 places available. Work plans in place to develop provision in Crosshill in January / February 2017 Monitor uptake of provision for LAC and eligible children Childminders to provide access for children

		aged 2-3 years. Quality Assurance and planned support programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement pilot to deliver 1140 hour early learning and childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 1140 hours to all children and families in one early years centres from August 2016- July 2017 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval for pilot and implemented in August. Parents have access to 1140 hours with range of options available to suit family needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase early years centres offering full year provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 additional centres provide early learning and childcare across 51 weekes a year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership Panel approval for change from Head Teacher to Manager in 3 early years centres. Approval to provide 51 weeks per year early learning and childcare in Girvan and Wallacetown Early Years Centre's.