



Early Years Class Newsletter

April 2020

Well - what a strange start to a term this is. We all miss seeing the faces of our children and getting the chance to have face to face conversation with all the parents and carers of the children. This newsletter will be a little different to our usual information for the term.

1140

The Scottish Government issued the following statement on 31st March 2020-

Information for Parents About the Early Learning and Childcare Expansion

"Local authorities will no longer be legally obliged to deliver 1140 hours of funded childcare from this August.

The ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic means that unfortunately the Scottish Government and local authorities can no longer guarantee that the expanded funded ELC hours will be available everywhere from August 2020. At the moment, local authorities and other providers are busy meeting the critical childcare needs of keyworkers, and all other provision has closed for public safety reasons. Lots of important planned work to prepare for August (like recruitment and building projects), therefore cannot go ahead at the moment.

The full expansion will still take place, but at a later date.

If your child should be attending ELC in August 2020, you'll be wondering what this means for you.

Local authorities are working hard to assess what places will be available and to update parents as soon as possible. The decisions they make will be informed by the national public health advice on how we best respond to COVID-19."

For the full statement go to:-

<https://news.gov.scot/news/early-learning-and-childcare-expansion-1>

As soon as we have further information from North Ayrshire Council regarding this statement, we will share this with you. In the meantime, should you wish to accept your child's offer of a space in our EYC, you can do this through an e-mail to:-

garnock@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

When sending an email to either address, please use the subject heading:-

FAO Early Years/Mrs Ross-Hays.

Transitions

We understand that many of you will have concerns/thoughts regarding the transition from EY to P1 - we completely understand this. We had already undertaken some transition activities and visits to the P1 class, which had been very successful. Please be assured that the EY staff and the Primary staff are working hard to think of ways to support transitions from a distance at the moment.

North Ayrshire Council are also working closely with other agencies to support children and families to enable a smooth transition given the current circumstances.

As an extra support, we found a useful website to prepare your child for school:-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/starting-primary-school/zvbthbk>

Early Years Class Newsletter

Transitions - on returning to EY & School

We are very aware of and are placing a large focus on the impact the current situation will have on attachments when we are able to return to our Campus.

When we are finally given the go ahead to return, please be assured that we will work with you to ensure that a smooth transition takes place to benefit all. We pride ourselves on our relationships with yourselves and your children, and we will continue to work closely with you to get that balance right for your family, considering circumstances on an individual basis to get it right for every child.



Many thanks for your continued support during these strange and challenging times. We look forward to hearing and seeing what the children have been up to. Please continue to keep in touch. Remember we are here to help, so if you have any concerns or worries, do not hesitate to get in touch.

We will continue to contact you through e-mail, Google Classroom and Twitter.

