

## **New Cumnock Early Childhood Centre**

# Afton Bridgend

## **New Cumnock**

### **KA18 4AX**

Telephone No:	01290 338593
Email:	Maria.clarke-mckay@east-ayrshire.gov.uk
Centre Blog:	
Twitter:	
Centre App:	
Denominational	Non-Denominational
Status (if any):	
Centre Roll:	The role of pupils within the Centre is 72 (3-5 years) and
	10 (2-3 years)
Further	www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolhandbooks
Information:	

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to New Cumnock Early Childhood Centre. As a staff team, we are delighted

that, you and your child will be joining us at our Early Childhood Centre!

In partnership with you, we aim to provide the highest quality of Education and Care

for all of our families. We hope that you will both enjoy and participate, in many learning

experiences, which we continue to plan together throughout the session.

We hope you will be involve as much as possible in all events at the Centre; we have

many opportunities for you to be part of a virtual committee group or for you to come

into the Centre (covid guidance allowing) and work alongside the staff team, to share

your skills and expertise.

It is important to us for you to feel welcome and that your child finds learning fun.

Together we will provide exciting learning opportunities and ensure the children

receive lots of encouragement and praise.

This handbook contains important information about the work and life of our Centre,

which we hope you will find helpful. If you have any further questions, or suggestions,

please do not hesitate to speak to either Maria or Donna.

We look forward to working in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely

Maria Clarke-McKay

**Head of Centre** 

At New Cumnock Early Childhood Centre, we aim:

To provide high quality of education and care for up to a maximum of 10 children per session in 2 to 3 years and 72 children aged 3 years to those not yet attending primary school. We are phase 1 of the Early Years Expansion – we can offer up to a full day service from 8.40-2.40.

New Cumnock Early Childhood Centres key aims and objectives reflect the key principles of national care standards as stated below:

- dignity
- privacy
- choice
- safety
- realising potential
- equality and diversity
- In consultation with Staff, children and families, we have all agreed at New Cumnock ECC we will endeavour to offer a quality provision using the acronym: THE AFTON.
- T Team Work with All Stakeholders
- H Health and Happiness
- E Equality and Equity

•

- A Achievements for All
- F Family and Care Givers as Partners
- T Trust
- O Opportunities for Lifelong Learning
- *N Nurturing Environment*

We strive for continuous improvement of our service through a system of rigorous self-evaluation.

#### **Our Staff team**

Head of Establishment:-

### Maria Clarke-McKay

Senior Early Learning and Childcare Practitioner-

#### **Donna Mitchell**

Early Learning and Childcare Practitioners:-

- Senga Walls FT
- Diane Hunter -FT
- Jean Paterson FT
- Jenna Kelly -PT
- Laura Walker –FT
- Nicole Matuszczyk PT
- Lynne Irwin-Farrell PT
- Rachel Renwick -FT
- Kelly McNair FT
- Sammy Jo Thom PT
- Gemma Menzies FT
- Heather Ewart FT
- Alannah McPheat –FT (Temp)
- June Nisbet FT (Temp)
- Danielle Collins PT Early years Support Assistant
- Cheryl Elliot Early Years Support Assistant

Early Learning and Childcare Practitioners (Community):-

- Lauren Benzies
- Sarah David
- Allison Alexander
- Mrs Mairi Houston Clerical Assistant
- Mr Stewart Welsh Janitor
- Cleaning Staff tbc

Total Number of Staff: - 22

New Cumnock Early Childhood Centre had a double inspection in May 2016, executed by both Education Scotland and the Care inspectorate. We are very pleased with our final report published by the Management inspectors and the Care inspector in August 2016.

As a result of the inspection findings, together, as a team we considered our report in depth and created our improvement plan ensuring we have measured improvements and how we can provide maximum impact in nurture and learning. We are a dedicated team who thrive on change and strive to improve alongside our families and community.

**Improvement Priority 1:** We will continue to use Self-evaluation for improvement using social distance and digital platforms to support more parental/caregiver involvement.

Concentration of Parental engagement. Reaching out to all parents with the aim of an 85% return on questionnaires and decision-making.

- Involvement of returning and new families, partners and other stakeholders in routinely evaluating and leading improvement. Through using digital platforms and surveys. We will continue to measure participation in all of these areas.
- Create a digital parents group.
- Adapting to change due to Covid 19 and everyday challenges ensuring all families and staff are involved in the decisions which will enable us to provide the best service implementing 1140 hours for eligible twos. Make good use of APP for disseminating information and as a means of communication we will utilise Twitter, Facebook and teams to ensure we are contacting and including all stakeholders.
- Continue to find new and innovative ways to engage the parents/carers and the community to be a part of the establishment, where possible their ideas and suggestions will be taken forward.
- Self evaluation against QI 2.5 of previous plan highlighted the need to enable parents to voice their own learning needs. Staff and families will work together to provide learning opportunities.
- Create prospects for shared learning between staff and parents/carers. (Future learn)
- Monthly celebration of good practice for staff team and families achievements.
- CPD for staff focussing on quality interactions and challenge questions of 1.3 and 2.7.

**Improvement Priority 2:** Due to many staff changes, this priority will remain for 2021/2022. Continue to Improve Leadership and quality learning - building on existing and new team and assessing against HGIOELC. The Centre will aspire to achieve an accreditation in children's Rights working with UNICEF

- Team building opportunities utilising methods from Columba 1400, adhering to social distance
- Champion areas allocated to provide literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and outdoor learning and time to continue to support staff, children, and families.
- Create group to update policy development and children's charter to support children's rights.
- CLPL opportunities for all staff to develop and enhance their championship roles.
- New staff to be nurtured and mentored by established team
- Continue to introduce PATHS to all stakeholders using Barnardos. Maria, Laura and Senga to access training to deliver.
- As PATHS is embedded, the programme will be used as a transition tool to feeder primary school.
- Ensure all stakeholders are supported during each change created by Covid 19.

**Improvement Priority 3:** Focus on STEM/STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, arts and maths) for learning, enjoyment and lifelong skills. Continue to evaluate progress using the indicators within Stem self-evaluation and improvement framework and STEM central on education Scotland. Keep up to date on Covid 19 guidance.

- Ensure all staff continuously updated on Covid 19 guidance as it changes.
- Expand on creativity by encouraging children to be inquisitive, imaginative and to take risks in their learning. Staff to attend in service training in house and with external venders. Deirdre Grogan will deliver training August 2022.
- Continue to provide indoor/outdoor learning environment using the natural world to enable children to explore freely.
- New staff Introduce STEM/STEAM resources to extend language, choice and enjoyment indoors and outdoors.
- Continue to reflect and offer new challenge in digital technology to enhance and deepen knowledge of everyday equipment, where children will become confident in making decisions at home and in the community.
- Invite parents to work alongside staff and share their expertise on STEM/STEAM.
- All staff to become familiar with Stem self-evaluation and improvement framework and STEM central on education Scotland.

### **Positive links with Primary schools**

Our centre has positive and strong links with two transitional primary schools.

New Cumnock Primary School 01290 338404

Hillside School 01290 423239