



Kilbarchan Community Nursery SCIO



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT June 2025

This report will inform you of our progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2025-2026. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Victoria Orr
Nursery Manager

OUR CENTRE

Kilbarchan Community Nursery is based within the grounds of Kilbarchan Primary School and is registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The service is in partnership with Renfrewshire Council to provide funded early learning and Childcare places during term-time for children from 3 years. An out of school care service is also provided for children attending Kilbarchan Primary school. The service is governed by a board of elected trustees from parents and carers of children enrolled. The trustees employ a fully qualified staff team to deliver early learning and childcare and out of school care on a daily basis.

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

The aims of Kilbarchan Community Nursery are to:

- Provide a flexible, high quality early learning and childcare service to meet the needs of children and their families.
- Create a secure, stimulating, happy and healthy environment, which encourages individuals to reach their full potential.
- Promote children's independence, social skills and learning for life through free play and directed activities.
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum, which takes account of local and national guidelines and is responsive to children's needs, development, and interests.
- Develop positive partnerships with families and the surrounding community to support children's development and learning.
- Recognise the value of families' input and encourage them to share in their children's learning.
- Promote a welcoming and positive ethos of equality, fairness, and inclusion, which respects and values all children and adults.

SUCCESSSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ★ We have had many changes and additions to our staff team this session which was a very exciting time for us. Jacqueline Brady successfully applied and interviewed for the position of support worker and helps out with our After School club. Mrs Brady works in the primary school, so she is an excellent link to have and has made transitions easier for our children who attend both settings. Amy We are delighted to welcome them as part of the team. Amy Grimason successfully applied and interviewed for an Early Years Support Practitioner post. She supports our children with additional support needs and with non-contact time. In December 2024, Mairi McLean retired from the nursery after an amazing 28 years. Victoria Orr successfully applied and interviewed for Manager, Chloe Poole for Depute and Danielle McKain for Senior Early Years Practitioner. We then had Siobhan Kincaid join us in March 2025 to assist with lunch cover. We are extremely proud of our staff team and do not anticipate any recruitment opportunities in the near future.
- ★ All our practitioners are dedicated to their continuous professional development, and some are engaging with further qualifications. Danielle completed her BA in Childhood Practice and will graduate at the end of June 2025. We are extremely proud of her. Rebecca is about to enter her 2nd year on the BA programme; Lydia is about to start her 1st year of the BA Programme and Stephanie is about to begin her PDA in Childhood Practice.
- ★ Practitioners engaged in training opportunities such as Leadership in Forest Kindergarten, Middle Leadership and Pondering Pedagogy to further enhance their skills.
- ★ Renfrewshire's Early progression toolkit was used throughout the session to track progress of our pre-school children meeting milestones in maths, literacy and health and wellbeing. This allowed practitioners to identify gaps in our provision and ensure the timely intervention of targeted support or challenge. The introduction of the pre-early level toolkit allowed practitioners to track the milestones of our children with additional support needs allowing us to gather more robust data.
- ★ Staff development focused on observing and recording children's progress. Feedback from staff was extremely positive with almost all staff saying they found it useful. Chloe has worked extremely hard with staff in terms of our planning cycle. We still have work to do next session; however, the impact has shown an increased level of consistent and coherent observations across the service, and this was commented on during our recent HMIE inspection.
- ★ Engagement with our Locality Inclusion Support Network continues to have been an invaluable resource in supporting practitioners to effectively support children with additional support needs. Victoria (Manager) chaired the group this year alongside another group member which was an excellent experience. Our Early Years Teacher, Claire, joined the LISN group this session which has been extremely beneficial as she is using the same strategies when working with groups of children.

- ★ The eco-schools committee lead by Elaine and Rebecca successfully achieved the 8th Green Flag award for the service as a result of our on-going work on environmental issues. We are extremely proud of this.
- ★ All children are now enrolled in Dolly Parton Imagination Library programme supporting literacy engagement and outcomes.
- ★ Fundraising events raised just over £5000 to support the nursery purchase resources.
- ★ This session, our families chose The Beatson Cancer Charity as a focus for external fundraising.

HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR NURSERY?

Leadership

Changes within the staff team offered opportunities for existing staff to progress in their careers through promotion opportunities as well as opportunities for individuals to mentor new practitioners using the National Induction Resource.

Workforce Professionalism

All our practitioners are dedicated to their continuous professional development, and some are engaging with further qualifications. Danielle completed her BA in Childhood Practice and will graduate at the end of June 2025. We are extremely proud of her. Rebecca is about to enter her 2nd year on the BA programme; Lydia is about to start her 1st year of the BA Programme and Stephanie is about to begin her PDA in Childhood Practice. Siobhan is about to begin her SVQ Level 3. We are absolutely delighted that we have so many motivated practitioners who are passionate about extending their knowledge and we are delighted that we are able to accommodate this.

Parental Engagement

The introduction of the Family App has been excellent to allow instant communication. In terms of stay and play opportunities and encouraging parental feedback, we continue to struggle to engage our parents/carers in the life of the setting, as much as we would like. As a community facility, we depend on the engagement of parents and carers for overall governance of the service. We are still in the early stages of the Family App; however, staff training is planned for the In-Service day in August to increase staff knowledge and confidence. We are looking forward to using the app to its full potential and gathering parental views through online polls etc. We recently celebrated Lilies Day (an annual gala day in the village) and it was an amazing success. Staff, children and parent's/carers worked together and showcased a wonderful float which was awarded 2nd place. We hope that we can continue to build on this success next session. Lilies Day requires a huge amount of effort and teamwork, and it was fantastic to come together as a community and celebrate our success.

Assessment of Children's Progress

The Early Level Progression Toolkit has continued to be an excellent resource when tracking children's progress. The pre-early level toolkit was a great introduction this year in supporting our children with additional support needs. We introduced "more about me booklets" for our returning children in August. This gave parents/carers the opportunity to add any additional information to their child's personal plan or changes in circumstances etc allowing practitioners to have the most accurate information about all aspects of a child's life.

We introduced personal plan documents for our out of school care children, meaning we hold the same information for all our children. Our plans ensure children's individual needs are communicated effectively with staff, ensuring personalised care and support for all children and their families. We have used this session to pilot these documents and make adaptations as required. It is anticipated that we will fully embed this next session to ensure that equity across the setting.

Performance Information

- We are delighted to have 100% of our children signed up to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Our inhouse moderation opportunities have been beneficial. The impact of these sessions highlighted that we make some edits to our tracking systems. We make these changes as recommended by our Partner Support Officer. Our current tracking systems are robust and supportive to all children's needs. We continue to notice a trending rise in our progression toolkit data which we are delighted about. We plan to complete the progression toolkit for our

ante-pre school children next session to give us even more data and to help inform improvement plan priorities in the coming years.

- We received 2 “good” grades in our HMIE inspection in March 2025 which we were absolutely delighted with, as a new management team. *“Nurturing, respectful relationships permeate the nursery and create a gentle relaxed environment. This enables children and their families to settle quickly and feel valued. The quality of teamwork amongst managers, practitioners and staff and their openness with families creates a strong sense of community.”*

Improvement Plan Priorities

Priority 1 – Improve Health and Wellbeing Outcomes for all

We are pleased with the progress that our children made in health and wellbeing outcomes this year and it was fantastic to see this threaded throughout our HMIE inspection report. Our main focus was to develop the children’s confidence in trying new things and we were delighted that some of our children engaged in new experiences like Bookbug, Musicland and Tots United. Overall, there was a 16% increase in health and wellbeing this session.

Priority 2 – Increase attainment in numeracy with a particular focus on shape

The maths priority has been successful. Children have had time to explore both 2-d and 3-d shape through using the large blocks both indoors and outdoors, notch blocks, small construction and maths resources, table games and games on the Smart board.

Most children who play in the STEM area regularly, can now name a variety of 2-d shapes and at least some 3-d shapes and can use appropriate language to describe shapes - curve, corner, point, edge, face.

Data on the progression toolkit has shown an improvement across the board with a rise in children demonstrating consistency in this priority. Overall, there was an 8% increase in numeracy this session.

Priority 3- Increase attainment with a particular focus on writing materials

The literacy priority has been successful with many opportunities to mark make introduced indoors and outdoors. The children have had the opportunity to mark make on a larger scale, which encourages both fine and gross motor skills. Creating marks has helped the children develop arm strength, coordination, and control. The movements involved also help with posture and body management.

The children have had the opportunity express themselves and create pictures which they have visioned. Many children have developed confidence when drawing and their pictures have become more detailed, and they are able to explain the meaning on their marks.

The data on the progression tool kit has shown that percentages have went up for both genders and many children are demonstrating consistently. Overall, there was a 16% increase in literacy this session.

KEY STRENGTHS

- ★ Our highly skilled practitioners and nurturing environment.
- ★ Supporting individuals and groups of children to reach their full potential.
- ★ Supporting children with additional support needs.
- ★ Supporting staff as a team and individually as required, throughout the year to ensure their wellbeing needs are being met.
- ★ Motivated staff who are ambitious are encouraged and supported to access further training opportunities and qualifications.

OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2025-26

We have made good progress during session 2025-2026 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

Improvement Priority 1: Improve Health and Wellbeing outcomes for all

Improvement Priority 2: Develop a consistent approach to our planning cycle

Full details of Kilbarchan Community Nursery's improvement priorities and actions are detailed on the establishment improvement plan. This is available on the website.

Kilbarchan Community Nursery SCIO

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HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the service we offer. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in parent/carer meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at events.