

Early learning and childcare – making it better for Scotland's twos

Cath Agnew (Care Inspectorate),
Maggie Simpson (SCMA)

Jane Mair (National Day Nurseries
Association)



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Scottish
Childminding
Association

committed to quality childcare

Maggie Simpson,
Chief Executive of Scottish Childminding Association



Eligible Twos

600 hours of funded early learning and childcare

When Ameila became eligible her mother approached Lynne, a childminder she knew. The childminder was aware of the family's chaotic lifestyle.

Initially things were difficult –Amelia would not engage with the other children for stories/songs etc. or come to the table for snacks. She also jumped on furniture and was destructive with toys.

Just two months later the picture is very different. Amelia is now enjoying snack-time and is participating in all of the activities offered. Her language skills are improving. The one issue was mum's struggle with timekeeping however; this has been resolved by Lynne collecting Amelia from home, ensuring that parental lifestyle does not mean Amelia misses out on her entitlement.

How has this care provided for Amelia's needs?

What has made the difference to her language skills?

How has the childminder adapted her care to make this work for the child and family?



Scottish Childminding Association

7 Melville Terrace

Stirling

FK8 2ND

T 01786 445377

E information@childminding.org



Making a Difference

Making a Difference...
to the wellbeing and development of Scotland's children

National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) Scotland

NDNA is the charity and membership
association promoting quality early learning
and childcare for children in nurseries
nationally

Jane Mair
Policy Manager



about us

NDNA.....

- is the only membership association specifically for children's nurseries
- is a strategic partner to the Scottish Government, supporting the policy development and implementation of early learning and childcare strategy
- supports nurseries to stay up to date with the latest childcare practice and policy and provide high-quality early learning and childcare for all children
- offers support to nurseries through membership, training, events, quality improvement schemes, publications, business support and early years advisers

about our member nurseries

- private and third sector organisations
- 90% deliver funded early learning and childcare places for 3 & 4 year olds in partnership with local authorities
- 16% deliver funded places for 2 year olds
- 60,000 children, approximately half of all children taking up nursery places, do so in the private or third sector. For under-threes this rises to 60% of children, with nearly 40,000 under-threes in private nurseries alone
- current private and third sector nursery occupancy rates in Scotland – 76%
- on average private and third sector nurseries have a waiting list of 11 children whose families would like them to provide their funded place

600 funded hours

Most private and third sector nurseries operate by sessions and are staffed by shift patterns accordingly:

8am to 1pm

1pm to 6pm

Or full day care 8am to 6pm.

- 3 & 4 year old funded places mainly take wrap around care as their families are working

With places often commissioned by local authorities for 3 hrs 10 minutes a day this presents operational challenges to nurseries for 2 year old funded places:

- children arrive and leave in the middle of sessions affecting their ability to finish games and tasks and therefore marked “different”
- staffing contracts
- organisational viability

making it better for Scotland's 2's

- use existing good quality childcare settings with capacity within the private and third sectors
- parental choice: the funding should follow the child, with parents having the choice of high standard childcare provision in their locality
- increase the flexibility of delivery of funded hours to allow for a variety of operational models and accessibility for families – do not limit to 3 hrs 10 minutes per day
- make quality of experience and setting the first priority for 2's

NDNA Scotland

National Day Nurseries Association
Mansfield Traquair Centre
15 Mansfield Place
Edinburgh
EH3 6BB

T: 0131 5166 967
M: 07810 874 971
www.ndna.org.uk