



# Item 6.1 - Business bulletin

## Education, Children and Families Committee

**10am, Tuesday, 1 March 2016**

Main Council Chamber, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

## Education, Children and Families Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Councillor Paul Godzik</p> 	<p>Cllr Paul Godzik (Convener) Cllr Cathy Fullerton (Vice-Convener) Cllr Elaine Aitken Cllr Robert Aldridge Cllr Norma Austin Hart Cllr Stefan Tymkewycz Cllr Maureen Child Cllr Nick Cook Cllr Gavin Corbett Cllr Cammy Day Cllr Alex Lunn Cllr Michael Bridgman Cllr Allan Jackson Cllr David Key Cllr Richard Lewis Cllr Melanie Main Cllr Eric Milligan Cllr Vicki Redpath Cllr Keith Robson Cllr Jason Rust Cllr Andrew Burns (ex officio) Cllr Sandy Howatt (ex officio)</p>	<p>Morris Smith Senior Committee Officer Tel: 529 4227</p>
<p>Vice-Convener Councillor Cathy Fullerton</p> 	<p>For education items: Marie Allan (religious representative) Rev Thomas Coupar (religious representative) Allan Crosbie (teacher representative) Craig Duncan (religious representative) Alexander Ramage (parent representative) John Swinburne (teacher representative)</p>	<p>Maria Lloyd Departmental Adviser to the Convener and the Vice-Convener Tel: 529 3294</p>

## Business Bulletin 2016

### Corporate Parenting Member /Officer Working group

The meeting on the 15 December 2015. The main presentation from Sally Egan, Director and Child Health Commissioner for NHS Lothian focussed on the legislative requirements on health services in respect to their duties as Corporate Parents under the Children and Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014. Members received a quarterly update on the range of actions to improve attainment and attendance of Looked After children. Members requested more details on what interventions would be required for Primary 5, S3 and S4 year groups. Members also heard more detail on the project being taken forward by housing and partner agencies to improve outcomes for children in temporary accommodation. Officers were asked to take forward plans to set up a short life working group to develop options for Community Benefits which will be of advantage to looked after children.

### Sub Committee on Standards

At this meeting on the 30 November two reports were discussed. [Tynecastle Nursery School Inspection report](#) and [St Margaret's Primary school Inspection report](#). The Tynecastle nursery was an exemplary report.

### Third Party Grants

Many organisations that we have worked with in the past and new organisations bid for £3m available. The bids for funding amounted to twice the money available. The report was approved at the additional [Education, Children and Families Committee on 11 February 2016](#). The awards will now be issued to organisations and support will be given by officers to those who were unsuccessful. Some of the applicants also applied for the small grants of up to £10,000 and this report is part of this committee.

### Scottish Public Service Awards for YouthTalk

Congratulations to all those involved in YouthTalk who won the Community Engagement Award for the Scottish Public Service Awards at the Parliament on Monday 7 December 2015. Evelyn Kilmurry and Andy McWhirter collected the award on behalf of all of the many staff and more importantly young people who have made YouthTalk such a successful approach.

## Edinburgh Confucius Classroom voted best in the world

Sincere congratulations to the Confucius Classroom Hub based at [Leith Academy](#) which was recently recognised as one of the best in the world in 2015. The Head teacher Jack Simpson received the award in Shanghai. The hub is a fantastic resource for all pupils in Edinburgh. It supports the growth of Mandarin language learning across the city which is now available in 29 primary and 12 secondary schools.

### Best State schools:

[James Gillespie's High School](#): Sunday Times Scottish State Secondary School of the Year.

[Broughton High School](#) were also voted best state school of the year by Tattler.

Huge congratulations to the staff, pupils and parents at both schools an impressive and well deserved achievement.

### New Queensferry School funding announcement

On Monday, 25 January 2016 the Deputy Convenor attended a visit by Cabinet Secretary for Education Angela Constance to [Queensferry Community High School](#) during which she met with pupils and staff. On that day it was announced that the [City of Edinburgh Council will receive funding through the final phase of the Scottish Government's 'Schools for the Future' Programme](#) towards the replacement of Queensferry Community High School, a project which Council approved on 25 September 2014 together with capital funding of £11m. This Council has previously benefited significantly from the earlier phases of the Schools for the Future Programme having received funding support for the new Boroughmuir High, James Gillespie's High and St John's RC Primary Schools.

The Council has not yet been advised of the procurement and delivery model for the project. In addition, due to the significant time which has elapsed since Council considered this matter, the projected costs to deliver the project will require to be reviewed. Once the parameters for the project have been clarified, a detailed feasibility study will be undertaken to provide greater clarity regarding the scope of the project to deliver the new school and the associated costs and funding. Given the significant current, and projected further, housing development in the area consideration will also be given to the initial capacity requirements for the replacement school and any future expansion strategy which may be required. Once this work has been completed a report will be taken to Council for consideration prior to the project to deliver the new school being initiated.



### Supporting equality and diversity – share information on myHR

Please support our drive to get a better understanding of the diversity of our workforce. Our Equalities Lead Officers and HR Managers want to make sure that we are meeting the needs of all employees. You can help by entering your own confidential information on myHR. [Find out how on the Orb.](#)

This information will never be used to identify any individuals. It can only be accessed by HR colleagues and will only be used to:

- advance equality and rights of the workforce
- make sure that discrimination does not occur
- better understand the workforce

## **Praise for St. Crispin's after-school club following an unannounced inspection**

A recent unannounced [Care Inspection awarded the after-school club at St Crispin's special school Very Good](#) grades across the board. They commended the after-school club commenting that the club provides an invaluable service to children and their families who attend St. Crispin's school. Most of the children are on the autistic spectrum and have learning difficulties.

They went on to say that the parent-led St. Crispin's Out of School Care Association provides a safe and nurturing environment specifically designed to meet the individual needs of the service users. Parents told the inspectors that the club offered their child independence and opportunities for socialisation which they did not have anywhere else.

## **Positive Destinations**

Edinburgh's positive destinations have improved again from last year from 91.2% to 92.3%. Edinburgh has the best positive destinations of any City in Scotland. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make such a difference to the lives of our young people leaving school and setting out on their adult lives.



## **Health and Wellbeing Team**

Congratulations to our Health and Wellbeing team who have just won the Education Initiative of the Year at the [Herald Society Awards](#) for the 'Growing Confidence Secondary School Programme'. These awards attracted over 450 submissions with over 125 organisations taking part from across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

## **Congratulations to Family Group Decision Making**

The Family Group Decision Making service win the [Leader's Award](#) for outstanding achievement at the Pride in Our People Awards on 26 November 2015. Thanks to everyone across the city who is working so hard to give our young people the opportunities they deserve.



## **Relaxed Panto**

For the second year running all Special school pupils attended a Relaxed performance of Snow white and the Seven Dwarfs at the Festival Theatre on the 14 January. This was a fantastic experience for all. Thanks to the Festival Theatre Trust and staff at the Kings Theatre for their ongoing support and hard work.