## **Business Bulletin**

## **Education, Children and Families Committee**

10.00am, Tuesday, 13 October 2020

Via MS Teams



#### **Education, Children and Families Committee**

### Convener: Members: Contact: Councillor Ian Perry Councillor Ian Perry (Convener) Lesley Birrell **Committee Services** Councillor Alison Dickie (Vice-Convener) 0131 529 4240 Councillor Eleanor Bird Councillor Steve Burgess Laura Millar Service Councillor Mary Campbell and Policy Adviser Councillor Joan Griffiths to the Convener and Vice-Convener Councillor David Key Councillor Callum Laidlaw Tel: 0131 529 4319 Councillor Jason Rust Councillor Scott Douglas Councillor Louise Young Added Members for **Education Matters Religious Representatives** Vice Convener: Councillor Alison Dickie Margaret Therese Laing Mrs Fiona Beveridge Rabbi David Rose **Parent Representative** Alexander Ramage

#### The Care Review

In October 2016, the First Minister made a commitment to figure out how Scotland could love its most vulnerable children and give them the childhood they deserve. She commissioned the Independent Care Review and between February 2017 and February 2020 the Care Review worked to figure out how to achieve this. The Care Review listened carefully to those with experience of living and working in and around the care 'system' to properly understand what needed to change. The Care Review heard over 5.500 experiences. Over half were children, young people and adults who had lived in care. The rest were families and the paid and unpaid workforce. The Care Review also considered the research on the care 'system', commissioned research and reviewed the laws, rules, collected data and made connections across the 'system'. Lind to the Care Review <a href="https://www.carereview.scot/conclusions/independent-care-review-reports/">https://www.carereview.scot/conclusions/independent-care-review-reports/</a>

The work of the care review culminated in the publication of 7 outputs on 5 February 2020, the man volume of which was The Promise. In the Scottish Parliament on the 5 February the First Minister and all of Scotland's political parties pledged to keep The Promise.

Link to the Promise <a href="https://www.carereview.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/The-Promise.pdf">https://www.carereview.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/The-Promise.pdf</a>

Fiona Duncan who led the review has been appointed to lead the implementation phase and delivery of the national plan. The City of Edinburgh Council and our key partners in the NHS, voluntary sector, police and other services will be working together closely to make sure Edinburgh is at the forefront in keeping The Promise.

#### **Gracemount Primary**

In the last couple of years Gracemount Primary has invited a whole host of performers to come to the school as part of their Edinburgh Fringe experience.

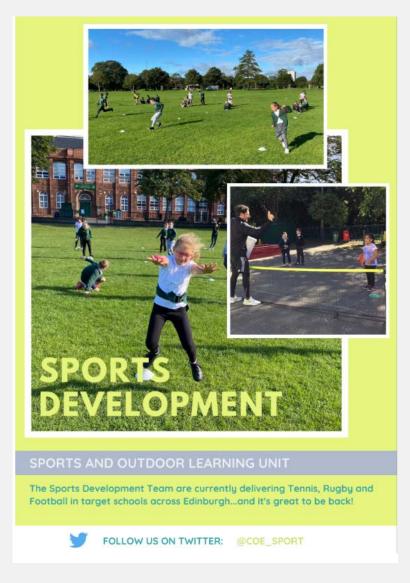
The school were aware that many children didn't experience the Fringe or see performances at the venues in the centre of town and teacher Jon Carstairs recruited artists from all over the world to give up their time. They had jugglers, musicians, storytellers, actors and even members of the official Tattoo!

This year with no performers and visitors encouraged in to school the school were delighted to be approached by Dr Bunhead (Tom Pringle) the amazing scientist!

Dr Bunhead has organised shows for all the classes from P2 – P7 using TEAMS and he has been doing experiments, teaching science and causing explosions all from his kitchen table and broadcast in to the classroom. The children have been asking him questions and interacting with the experiments. Mr Dimeck headteacher is delighted at the school preparing the future Scientists of tomorrow in their scaled down version of "The Fringe at Gracemount 2020."

#### The Sports Development Team support the return to School

The Sports Development Officers have been supporting primary schools with curricular sport delivery providing a mixture of tennis, football and rugby to P3-P7 pupils. The team has hugely enjoyed being back out interacting and engaging with the pupils. While sport-specific activity has been involved, the main focus of the sessions has been fundamental and transferrable movement skills and helping the young people fall back in love with, and remembering the importance of, sport and physical activity. The Sports Development Team are committed to working in schools until at least the October break.



#### A new Outdoor Learning Map

The Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit (SOLU) team has designed and recently launched an exciting new and innovative online resource: <a href="https://www.outdoorlearningmap.com/">https://www.outdoorlearningmap.com/</a>. This is a key tool for sharing good practice outdoor learning, including sport and physical activity across the City and beyond. Users can search for a variety of content based on different criteria. Contributors need to register and once approved can then share their ideas via the map. The resource is driven by its contributors and SOLU will continue to expand this network over the coming months and years to ensure the map has a sustainable future. This Council resource is already attracting significant national attention.

Children, young people and their families will in time be able to locate affordable outdoor learning opportunities, including free ideas. The project is funded by Scottish Natural Heritage and Scottish Forestry, which includes working with schools on developing its use. Training can be provided for Council teams and partners: contact <a href="mailto:Andrew.Bagnall@edinburgh.gov.uk">Andrew.Bagnall@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>.



#### **School Probationer Outdoor Learning Training**

The Sport and Outdoor Learning (SOLU) Team has just started its second year of delivering mandatory training to probationer teachers. Due to the current pandemic, the training has been switched to online. The aims are to provide a core foundation of understanding about outdoor learning and signpost colleagues to a significant collection of resources and support. Primary probationers are given a gap task and are planned to attend a full day face to face session in March. This will include significant outdoor provision at a suitable venue. The first wave of training will be completed wb 21 September and will have involved in excess of 95 primary probationers.

#### **Hub Biking Sessions and Other Outdoor Activity**

Colleagues in the Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit (SOLU) team worked with locality teams to design and deliver bike provision at a range of hubs over the last 3 months. This included the keyworker, Discover! and Barnardo's hubs. SOLU worked in collaboration with key partners including Bridge8, Water of Leith Conservation Trust and the Green Team to deliver specialist activity to support targets groups. Significant parts of this project were part-funded by Cycling Scotland and the kind support of our partners. Feedback was excellent, and it was excellent to see children, young people and their families undertaking outdoor physical activity. Some children learnt to ride a bike, whilst others developed their confidence all within a safe environment.

#### Active Schools Co-ordinators support the Health and Wellbeing of pupils

With extracurricular activities suspended until further notice, it was agreed that the Active Schools team could help in other ways. On Monday 24 August, the Active Schools team were deployed into schools to support young people's health and wellbeing, including physical activity and outdoor learning. Priority was given to schools with FSM > 30%, SIMD profiles were considered and other barriers which may have limited young people's engagement in physical activity, during school closures. A total of 28 schools are being supported by the Active Schools team up to October 2020. Pupils have received many activities including Bikeability, playground games, Club Golf, tennis, walking bingo and much more. Pupils have expressed how much they have enjoyed these extra activities, albeit outside and sometimes in the rain. A teacher commented to one of the team, saying "I've never seen him so engaged in PE before!"

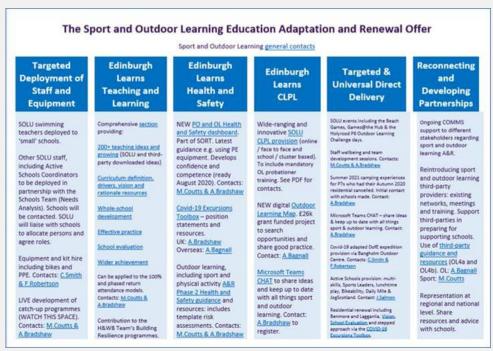
#### **Outdoor Learning Partners**

The Sport and Outdoor Learning Team has continued to remain in contact with partners via the Outdoor Learning Providers Network. This is including online meetings and the creation of a small group to develop resources and support for partners reengaging with schools and other groups. Partners find it valuable to be informed about the evolving advice for outdoor provision and to take part in a Q&A session.

#### **Sport and Outdoor Learning Offer to Schools**

A new SOLU offer was presented to schools in August. This includes the temporary deployment of SOLU staff within targeted schools; development of new activity ideas; storage online of third-party ideas; training offer; and excursions advice via the CEC Coronavirus Excursions Toolbox. The offer is available to schools via the Council's Learning and Teaching SharePoint resource: LINK (access to L&T required).





#### **National Residential Visit Support**

A colleague from SOLU was part of a national sub-group that developed two new national resources linked to supporting outdoor education centres, which undertake significant sport and physical activity: (i) Outdoor Education Centres Fit for the Future; and (ii) Coronavirus (COVID-19): reopening and operation of outdoor education centres and reintroducing visits by schools.

These resources are available via: <a href="https://www.sapoe.org.uk/links/local-authority-outdoor-education-centres/">https://www.sapoe.org.uk/links/local-authority-outdoor-education-centres/</a>. This is just one example of how the SOLU Team contributes to the national development of guidance and resources.

# Update from Committee Report; 'Breakfast Clubs: St Francis, Niddrie Mill and Ferryhill Primary Schools update Report' 10 December 2019

This short report provides an update on attendance of pupils at the school managed, CEC funded St Francis/Niddrie Mill Breakfast Club and on the attendance of St Francis and Niddrie Mill pupils at the Venchie Breakfast Club.

Currently, the Venchie referred breakfast club remains operational and children from St Francis and Niddrie Mill Primary Schools continue to attend their provision. A total of twenty three children from Niddrie Mill and St Francis Primary Schools currently attend the Venchie Breakfast Club.

#### St Francis PS pupil attendance at the Venchie Breakfast Club

- September 2020: 5 St Francis PS pupils currently attend the Venchie Breakfast Club.
- December 2019: 3 St Francis PS pupils attended the Venchie Breakfast Club.

No referrals have been made to the Venchie by St Francis PS. The additional 2 referrals were made this year by the Health Visitor.

#### Niddrie Mill PS pupil attendance at the Venchie Breakfast Club

- September 2020: 18 Niddrie Mill PS pupils attend at the Venchie Breakfast Club
- December 2019: 19 Niddrie Mill PS pupils attended the Venchie Breakfast Club

No referrals have been made to the Venchie Breakfast Club by Niddrie Mill PS over the period 2019/20

# Number of children attending the School Managed, CEC funded St Francis/Niddrie Mill Breakfast Club:

September 2020: 43 children attend St Francis / Niddrie Mill Breakfast Club (5 pupils from Niddrie Mill and 38 pupils from St Francis).

Since December 19: No Niddrie Mill or St Francis children have transitioned from St Francis/Niddrie Mill Breakfast Club to the Venchie.

#### **Rising Rolls Update**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the closure of schools and the focus on ensuring safety of staff and pupils since schools re-opened it has not been possible to establish new rising rolls working groups in schools or progress any new rising rolls project. The implications for all ongoing rising rolls projects are being assessed on an ongoing basis and any contingency plans are being developed with schools where necessary. An update on school rolls projections will be provided to Committee in December and a summary of all accommodation requirements will also be included in that report.