

Business Bulletin

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 15 December 2020

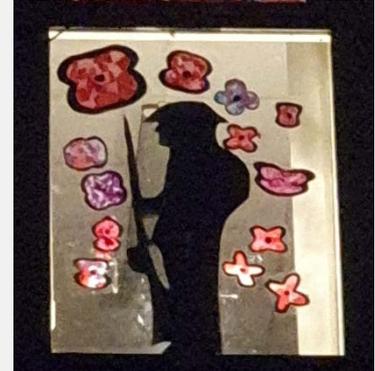
Via MS Teams

Education, Children and Families Committee

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

Window Wanderland at Willowbrae

Part of the 'To Absent Friends' Festival, a community event was held over Remembrance weekend of 7/8th November to honour, remember and celebrate the memory of a loved one. People in the community were invited to participate in decorating Windows or Wandering, or both.



P7 classes at Parsons Green took part by decorating their classroom windows with silhouettes of soldiers from WW1 and surrounding them with poppies.

The striking display was lit up on the evening of Remembrance Sunday to tie in with remembrance commemorations around the country and were a feature of the Window Wanderland community event around Willowbrae. The stunning results can be seen in these pictures.

Further information about the event can be found on the facebook page.

<https://www.windowwanderland.com/event/willowbrae-2020/>

'Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief' made this community event possible as part of the 'To



Absent Friends Festival' held across Scotland from 1st – 7th November each year – a people's festival of storytelling and remembrance. *"Because dead ordinary people live on in the memories and stories we share"*. For more information please visit: www.toabsentfriends.org.uk

A particular thanks to Mrs Quinn, Mrs Murphy, Mr Smyth and all the pupils in P7 at Parsons Green who came up with this poignant contribution to the community event and to Sam Rutherford, the chair of the Parent Council and Lara Celini, a former parent and organiser of the event, who encouraged us to participate.

Susan Cochrane

Headteacher

Parsons Green

Gaelic Medium Education Informal Consultations

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to the expansion of high-quality secondary Gaelic Medium Education (GME) in an immersive environment. As Scotland's capital city, we have a special responsibility to nurture and help cultivate the Gaelic language as an integral part of our shared heritage and national identity. The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to promoting the growth of Gaelic language and culture across the city, and sees the expansion of GME, from the earliest years through to the senior phase, as lying at the heart of future development

In order to secure a sustainable future for Gaelic, the Council has recently held an informal consultation with the GME school communities about the options for GME secondary provision in the city. Consultation documents were prepared and two virtual public meetings were held on the 25 and 30 November to discuss the options further. Comments were also able to be made by email. The informal consultation closed on 11 December.

An informal consultation outcome report will be prepared to reflect the discussions, address all comments and questions received, and conclude which option(s) will be progressed to statutory consultation.

Care Review Implementation

There has been a great deal of activity in relation to the implementation of the findings of the Independent Care Review (ICR) and a plan will be created by the end of 2020. It is expected the plan will gain approval from a newly appointed oversight board, known as the Promise, in late January 2021.

The ICR released 6 reports with a total of 80 key points for change to transform services for children and their families. They have hosted a series of webinars throughout October which are still available on line highlighting the next steps. The Promise will be working with local authorities and key corporate parents to develop their responses to the ICR. Recruitment is underway for the oversight board and expressions of interest will be considered until the 20 November. The ambitious plan will be taken forward in 4 stages over a 10 year period. The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to making the goals of the Promise a reality.

Creative Conversations: Mental Health, Black Lives Matter, Sir Ken Robinson Tribute and the Independent Care Review

Creative Conversations are led and organised by the Arts and Creative Learning team with funding from Education Scotland. They are part of the team's response to Scotland's Creative Learning Plan and consistently attract large participation numbers among teachers, school leaders and myriad partners. Each Creative Conversation features at least one inspiring, often high profile speaker acting as a catalyst for creative thinking about education and linked issues. Each Creative Conversation is facilitated by David Cameron, former Director of Children's Services with Stirling Council and now an independent consultant, and champion of all things creative and equity related.

The 50th Creative Conversation took place at the Centre for Carbon Innovation in December 2019 and featured the National Theatre for Scotland, SAMH and pupils from Craigmount High school. The conversation was about inclusion, skills and confidence developed through engaging in an exciting, challenging project which culminated in a performance for the school community and public.

The first scheduled Creative Conversation of 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19 and lockdown. The 51st Creative Conversation therefore took place online in October 2020 and was called ***Beyond Black Lives Matter***, attracting over 100 people, discussing what schools and others can and should do in response to Black Lives Matter. Jaz Ampaw-Farr, Amjad Ali and Penny Rabiger stimulated and provoked animated discussion – online!

The next Creative Conversation in November was a tribute to the late Sir Ken Robinson, again attended by over 100 participants. Participation was encouraged by a discussion between and in conversation with Richard Gerver and David Price OBE, both former colleagues and personal friends of Ken Robinson. Again, online and in the chat was a great deal of discussion about Ken Robinson's vision of a changing paradigm in education, why it has not yet happened and what needs to be done.

The final Creative Conversation for 2020 is called Wonderful, Marvellous and poses the question – wouldn't it be wonderful, marvellous if we really did care for all our children and young people. It is scheduled for 17th December and will be a conversation initiated by Fiona Duncan who chaired the **Independent Care Review** published in February 2020, and Laura Beveridge, who was a key member of the team, and is also care experienced. We want to look at the role creativity could play in turning The Promise into a reality.

More Creative Conversations are planned for 2021 looking at creative thinking, play, exams and assessment.

The picture below is of the last Creative Conversation of 2018, featuring Shonette Bason-Wood and an Injection of Happiness! Teachers loved it!



New Education Support Officer for Creative Learning for the SEIC authorities

The Arts and Creative Learning Team has been working with the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) authorities to develop Creative learning and Teaching. The Arts and Creative Learning Team secured funding from Education Scotland for an Education Support officer (Creative Learning) for a year to work across the SEIC. Charlotte Bennett (previously at Clovenstone primary School) took up the post after the October holiday and is already working

closely with colleagues to identify good practice, gaps and at ways to develop creativity skills and learning across the SEIC authorities.

With a background in primary education and Biomedical Science, as well as a range of experiences across multiple sectors both nationally and internationally, Charlotte brings an enthusiasm and drive to support raising the profile of Creative Learning, Creative Teaching and creative approaches.

The role will work closely with the SEIC Creative Learning Steering Group and Creative Learning Team to identify priorities and share practice. Resources will be created to support practitioners to deliver high-quality and meaningful teaching that nurtures and develops creative skills amongst learners. Evaluative feedback will be on-going to ensure longevity of its impact throughout this year-long seconded appointment, for future development of creativity.

In the New Year, several training opportunities introducing and developing creativity skills will be offered across the SEIC authorities and to a wide-range of staff including NQTs, support-staff, classroom teachers and QIOs. Training can be provided for SEIC teams and partners – for more information, contact Charlotte.Bennett@edinburgh.gov.uk or Creative.Learning@edinburgh.gov.uk

Paolozzi Prize for Art 2020

The 8th year of the annual Paolozzi Prize for Art was scheduled to take place in June 2020 in the National Galleries of Scotland. Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown mean that the Arts and Creative Learning Team had to quickly re-plan the event to run entirely online, while retaining as much of the usual exciting buzz of the live Award Ceremony. Despite restrictions the 2020 Paolozzi prize attracted the highest number of nominations from art & design teachers across High Schools, many saying they were pleased to have something positive and celebratory for their pupils to look forward to. Forty pupils in S4-S6 were nominated across the 4 categories, which are:

- Talent & Creativity
- New Directions
- Overcoming Barriers
- Spirit of Paolozzi

The artworks and accompanying descriptors from teachers were considered by the experienced and discerning eyes of the judging panel:

- Juan Cruz: Principal of Edinburgh College of Art
- Siobhan McConnachie: Head of Education, National Galleries of Scotland
- Duncan Robertson: artist and freelance educator who studied under Paolozzi in Munich

The 8th Paolozzi Prize for Art Ceremony was a first for City of Edinburgh Council, hosted via the Stream facility of Office365 for teachers, pupils and their families to join on Thursday 25th June. This involved the Arts & Creative Learning team learning fast while working with IT specialist Gary Sullivan and resulted in a wonderful celebration of high school pupils' achievements and art work enjoyed by dozens in their homes with family. Donald Macdonald, Head Teacher of James Gillespie's High School commented afterwards: "*You not just pulled it off you delivered with aplomb*".

The overall winner this year was Ishrat Rahim of Craigmount High School, who won a cash prize of £500. Enjoy a short video about the [Paolozzi Prize](#) for Art with pupils, head teachers and art teachers, and Ishrat Rahim's winning art work below.



1 in 5

1 in 5 has run a series of virtual seminars which began by looking at the scale, causes and impact of child poverty. The proceeding seminars explore particular aspects related to child poverty more deeply, including Family Homelessness in Edinburgh and Digital Exclusion. Both of these latter seminars are linked to other areas of work currently being developed by the Lifelong Learning Health and Wellbeing Team: a new project bridging the gap between homelessness services and education; and a successful bid to Connecting Scotland which is allowing us to distribute 75 chromebooks and MiFi devices to families that need them from Discover and homeless families. The Digital Inclusion work also includes inviting council staff from all departments to become Digital Champions to support families to set up their devices and become more confident in using the internet and digital technology to become more included.

The seminars have been well attended by staff from across sectors, with a lot of very positive feedback. More seminars are planned for the New Year including a seminar to explore Poverty in relation to Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Discover

In response to the pandemic Discover has moved online delivering a programme of activities and support via a private facebook group during the summer and October holidays. 259 families are now members of the group with daily active engagement of between 205 to 215 of these members during the October half term. The team has worked with Edinburgh Community Food to develop the Discover in a Box delivery scheme whereby families can order a free box containing fresh and store cupboard ingredients, arts and crafts materials, active schools resources and other printed colouring and worksheets and information on support services which is delivered to them by CEC fleet services. The contents allow families to take part in a range of Live and pre-recorded activities including cooking, baking, health talks and arts and

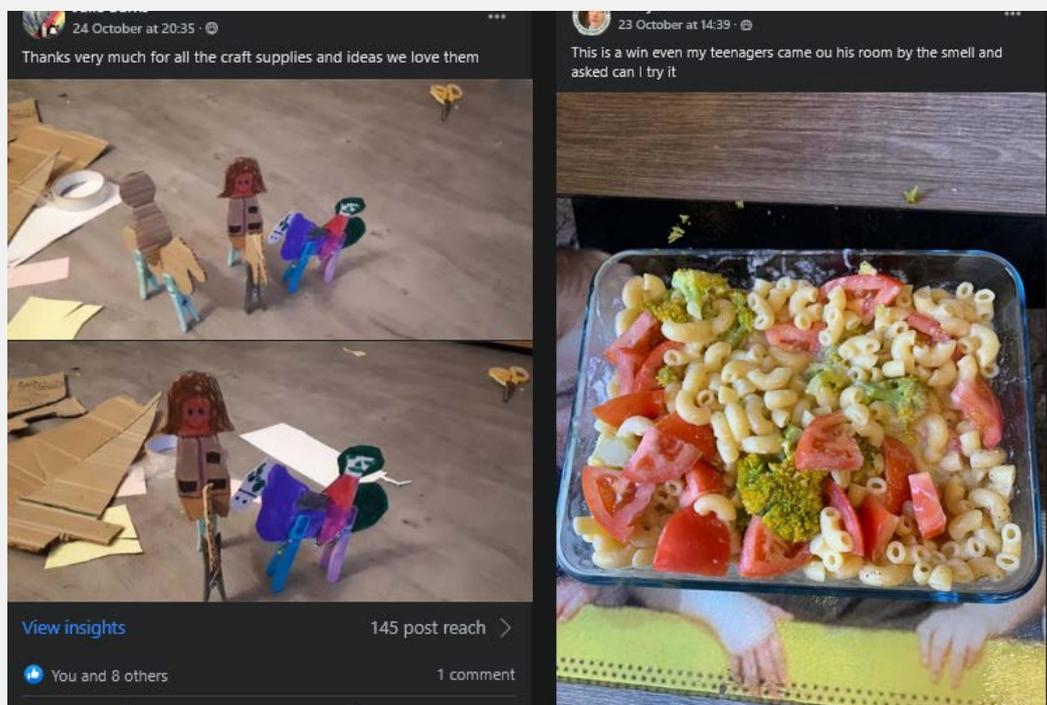
crafts sessions. There are also dance and music sessions, Live talks from Edinburgh Zoo from a selection of the animal enclosures and sessions on astronomy from the Royal Observatory.

Of 72 parents who responded to a questionnaire from the Summer programme:

- 96.7% stated that taking part in Discover had saved them money on food and activities
- 90.3% stated that Discover had helped with their relationships with their families
- 80.3% said that Discover had helped with their emotional health and wellbeing
- Over 60% said they felt more connected to their community and other families and that their children felt more prepared for returning to school after lockdown.

“This has been a godsend over the holidays. Our weeks have been more fun, especially after lockdown. It’s helped our budget too.”

“I know everyone has a story but honestly I couldn’t be more grateful. I’ve just become a single mummy about to transfer onto Universal Credit, the whole 5 week wait thing has been stressing me out monumentally, wondering how we are going to manage. So to get a huge food box delivered this morning has made me want to cry. It’s just one less week of worry and that, for me, is massive.”



Arts and Creative Learning: STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) Artist in Residence

The Arts & Creative Learning team is leading an exciting, fully funded creative project with partner city, Oulu in Finland. The project is fully funded by the city of Oulu as part of its bid towards European Capital of Culture 2026.

The Arts and Creative Learning Team is working with colleagues in Oulu, shaping the project, to develop creativity skills through a STEAM artist residency, one in each city. The Finnish Institute supported a call out for Artists in each city, while in Edinburgh, the Arts and Creative Learning Team invited applications from schools. Through a rigorous selection process, James Gillespie’s High School was selected to participate. The school identified a group of pupils who

are needing extra support to achieve and attain, and the staff wanted to re-engage them with learning in a creative way. Staff from the science department are leading the project in school and are keen to work with an artist to support learners and also to develop their own creative approaches. The schools and artists from both cities met online for the first time November 2020 and the project will run through the rest of academic year.

The STEAM residency was initially planned as a face to face residency with reciprocal visits to each city and school by the Edinburgh and Oulu artists and staff. This has been revised due to COVID restrictions, and is currently online. When Edinburgh moves into protection level 2, the Artist will be able to physically work in James Gillespie's High school, meanwhile creative solutions are being developed. Should travel restrictions allow over the course of the residency, reciprocal learning trips may be possible. The content and process of this project will be captured as one resource to exemplify creativity within pedagogy, creative learning and teaching and open ended opportunity empowering young people.

The City of Oulu has adopted the Arts and Creative Learning Team's Creativity Skills Progression Framework to support planning in the Oulu school and to enable artists and teachers plan and track progress. The Edinburgh and Oulu teams are working together to develop the Evaluation Framework for the residency and the entire project will capture and share learning from both cities as widely as possible.

Arts and Creative Learning: Heads of Creative Learning Forum

The Arts & Creative Learning Team regularly works with arts, culture, heritage, and Festivals partner organisations. The team advised on approaches and helps shape content for projects and associated teacher offered by organisations to schools.

To support the strategic development of Creative Learning as a sector which straddles both arts and education, the Arts and Creative Learning Team established the Heads of Creative Learning Forum in November 2019. Around 20 partner organisations attended the initial meeting, all agreeing that the proposal was beneficial and that CLPL the group would work together to explore creative learning partnerships between and across organisations, with schools and with the Arts and Creative Learning Team. The second meeting in January 2020, considered the possibility of developing a Creative Learning Strategy for the City. The third meeting was cancelled as it was scheduled for April 2020 in lockdown. With the disruption to schools and the unique disruption and uncertainty for Arts Organisations, the third meeting has not yet been re-scheduled. Time was needed to see what recovery for the arts and creative sector might look like. The next meeting will take place on-line in early 2021.



Heads of Creative Learning Forum discussion groups

CLPL to external organisations and colleagues

Arts and Creative Learning delivered CLPL to: teachers, Moray House PGDE and Dance Science Masters students, Screen Education Edinburgh Team and tutors, Early Years Foundation Apprentices and colleagues in Lifelong Learning, including : *Introduction to Creativity Skills, Developing Learners' Creativity Skills* and *Interdisciplinary Learning using an Online Resource*. Each session was planned to be delivered twice across the last academic year to teachers from all sectors. The follow up “*Developing Learners' Creativity Skills*” sessions were cancelled as scheduled for March 20 once lockdown in place.

1. Visual Elements

Art & Design CLPL for non-specialist teachers: delivered across 7 Friday afternoon sessions, to between 6 and 14 teachers per session. An artist practitioner led an inspiring and accessible hands on session each week, focussed on one of the 7 visual elements each time. Highly positive feedback from teachers comfortable to then use the skills and activities with their classes.

Scotland's Creative Learning Plan – shared with teachers at all our CLPL sessions.

2. Culture United – *Burns & Beyond* event with schools

Arts & creative Learning led on this project with 4 Edinburgh Primary Schools who were selected to take part: Abbeyhill, Corstorphine, Flora Stevenson's and St Joseph's RC. Part of a bigger project to develop creativity with teachers, pupils and artists working towards cultural events in 4 cities across Europe:

- Leeuwarden, Netherlands
- Oulu, Finland
- Dundalk, Ireland

The project was fully funded by **Erasmus+** so and allowed the classes across the 4 schools to be involved in different workshops:

- Scottish Country Dancing
- Design workshop with [Lochcarron](#) to create tartan designs
- Spoken word workshops with excerpts from Tam O' Shanter - [Macastory](#)
- Creative writing
- Song writing and Burns song workshop with [Rachel Sermanni](#)

[Burns & Beyond](#) run their festival in January and our **Culture United** project was part of that, but exclusive for the pupils in the 4 schools. The project culminated in a *Bairns Burns* event held in the Assembly Rooms on George Street. This event was run by and for the pupils, working with artists. [See a short film about it here.](#)



This was a great opportunity to develop creativity skills, gain confidence, learn about Scottish culture through a real event, make new friends across the city and celebrate community.

We are looking at how we might develop this for *Burns & Beyond 2021*, online, with some of the original school/s to further build relationships and shape content with them.

Feedback was very positive from teachers and pupils in all 4 schools including:

P6 Teacher - *what I learned*: I feel like I've strengthened my bond with them [the pupils].

P5 girl – *what I learned*: Me knowing that if I try I can do everything

P5 boy – *what I learned*: To be more confident to talk to other people and able to dance with other people

Colleague visiting from Learning Hub Friesland:

"It makes learning fun and multidisciplinary Kids can do way more when they like what they do I wasn't expecting that so many kids took part and that every single kid played his own part All schools should use this way of learning applying it to their own subjects/priorities"

Arts and Creative Learning Team: Instrumental Music Service

The Instrumental Music Service has prioritised SQA students since lockdown, with the restrictions on certain instruments and staff movement between schools making for some complicated challenges. Brass, Wind and Voice students cannot play or practice their instruments indoors. However, following Education Scotland Guidance, a Risk Assessment was recently agreed by Health and Safety and the Schools Risk Group to allow SQA students learning brass, wind and voice to practice alone outside. The IMS team is working closely with Curriculum Leaders and QIEOs to ensure music pupils are supported as much as possible. Because IMS instructors previously worked in numerous schools a week, sometime 2 in a day, many lessons have been online, with virtual live lessons now beginning where possible. The re-introduction of IMS to primary schools will focus on P7 transitions.

Despite the many challenges, IMS continues to offer quality instrumental tuition which is appreciated. A parent recently said:

'Music is far and away X's favourite subject at school and you definitely seem to bring out the best in him! We will encourage him to get the rest of his videos submitted ASAP. He's definitely planning to take Higher Music next year, it's the only subject he's certain of.'

Please pass on our thanks to [his instructors]. We really appreciate the fantastic quality of teaching x is getting from all of you.'

IMS and Edinburgh international Festival (EIF)

In partnership with the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF), the IMS team is working with The Wind Section, an Edinburgh based musical instrument supplier. EIF is funding instrument purchases for IMS and Youth Music Initiative (YMI) pupils who do not own or have access to an instrument. This fantastic investment from EIF is made possible with support from donations and EIF's own Creative Learning Budget. The project called Play On Music is designed to support the city's young musicians acknowledging that the cancellation of the Edinburgh

International Festival in August 2020, meant many professional musicians could not play in concert halls, theatres and venues. The project also supports pupils who previously needed to share instruments. Covid restrictions mean sharing instruments cannot happen and Play On Music ensures pupils will all have an instrument to play and practice on, whether their lessons are face to face or virtual.

Screen Education Edinburgh (SEE): Edinburgh City Film Education Programme

Funded by Screen Scotland and part of Arts & Creative Learning, SEE leads a partnership that includes Into Film Scotland and Centre for Moving Image. The programme develops skills for primary, secondary and special school teachers and pupils across the City, including filmmaking projects on the theme of GTCS standard of social justice, supported by bespoke filmmaking Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL). During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Film Education programme moved on-line offering virtual learning for pupils and CLPL for teachers, ensuring continuity.

The programme culminates in December with celebratory virtual screening events, online filmmaking workshops, and the launch of curriculum linked filmmaking teaching resources. 33 teachers, 447 pupils and 40 schools engaged in the programme, with 48 animation, drama or documentary short films produced.

A teacher at Trinity Primary commented ‘the main thing I saw was an increase in the pupils’ confidence. They had to be directors and have the confidence to lead the rest of the team. I wanted to give the kids the broadest experience possible and use the expertise of the tutors, and also learned a lot about how to use film effectively in my own practice.’

A parent commented on their son’s experience of learning during lockdown ‘It was a very positive experience for X, he got on with the course quite independently and compared to how he fared with virtual learning for school, which he found quite challenging and withdrew from, the filmmaking course gave him something to look forward to each week. It gave him an aim.’



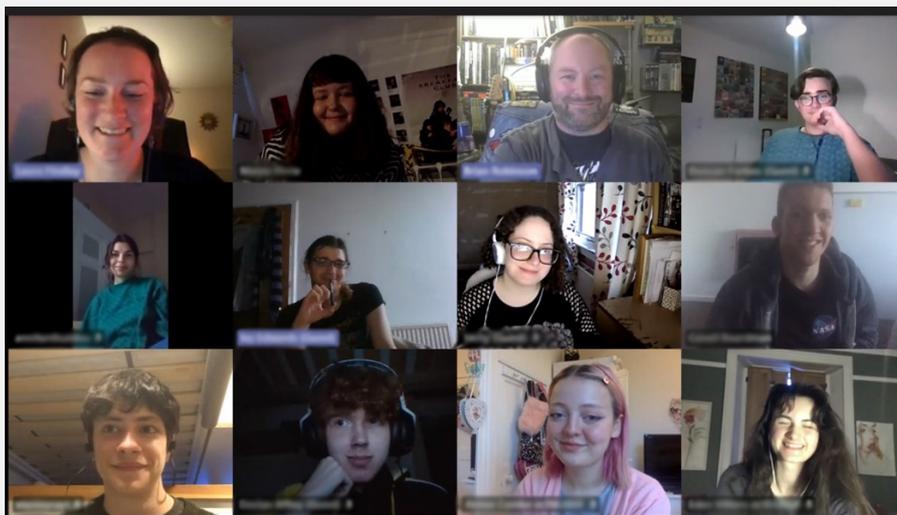
Screen Education Edinburgh: Moving Image Arts (MIA) A-Level qualification

With funding from Screen Scotland, SEE co-ordinates and delivers the MIA programme. Through study towards the MIA A Level qualification young people aged 16 – 21 gain skills and qualifications and important industry links. They access to film education, creative film skills, progression to further and higher education, and entry to the film, tv and wider creative industries. SEE also manages a national programme delivering the MIA A Level, with the course also taking place in Aberdeen, Glasgow and Inverness.

Developing a diverse and inclusive group of young people studying at higher level, or post school young people who would benefit from further development, the 2019-20 course was completed in lockdown via virtual learning, with 3 A, 4 B and 2 C passes awarded. The 2020-21 course is taking place virtually, with 14 learners currently progressing their film history, theory, critical analysis and filmmaking learning for a mock exam in January.

Learner X commented *'Although very different to what I am used to with online learning, the Moving Image Arts course has been a great source of enjoyment these last weeks and has taught me a lot about the hard work that goes into making a film.'*

'It has been brilliant to learn about the various techniques and styles and even more fun to be able to put them into practice. I look forward to continuing and would definitely recommend it to people in the future.'



Screen Education Edinburgh: BFI Film Academy

Funded by the British Film Institute (BFI), Screen Scotland and the National Lottery the Arts & Creative Learning SEE team delivers the BFI Film Academy for ambitious 16-to-19-year olds to learn more about film and how to make a career in the screen industries. It provides hands on filmmaking, industry engagement and progression support. The course meets diversity and inclusion targets for the UK, with young people also studying for the NCFE BFI/Screen Skills Preparing to Work in the Film Industry level 5 qualification.

20 young people on the 2019-20 course completed their qualification virtually during lockdown, with the 2020-21 course progressing via online learning until completion in early 2021. SEE is one of two organisations overseeing training and moderation of the NCFE qualification, supporting staff and learners at 13 film organisations across the UK.

Learner X commented 'I've enjoyed getting to know and work with other people my age who have the same interests and work through creating a film and being able to put lots of thought and effort into it. It's really helped me having something to do at the weekends and meet new people when we can't go out and spend time with friends.'



Creative Learning Team:

Creative ideas, events and activities for schools for Christmas and beyond

In recognition that Covid-19 restrictions compromise many usual school Christmas activities such as concerts, carol singing and pantos, the Arts and Creative Learning team was asked to put a list of safe, quality assured activities, ideas, events and organisations. Teachers reflected that after a difficult year, they and their pupils were keen for alternative ideas that would be fun to do and bring a bit of joy.

The list the Arts and Creative Learning Team produced was shared with all primary schools in Edinburgh and brought together a range of ideas and events across curriculum areas. The document also contains a list of publicly funded organisations that regularly offer creative workshops, learning events, CLPL and activities for schools, which are available throughout the academic year.

The festive offers help teachers allow children and young people to take part in high-quality activities remotely and safely, in-line with current guidance, from local and national organisations. This helps ensure there is still plenty of festive cheer despite the challenging circumstances and pressures both schools and organisations are currently facing. The list of quality-assured events will continually be updated so it remain relevant and accessible beyond Christmas and into the new year.

Comments from teachers have included:

“This is a great list that is really practical and accessible”

“I think that the fact that the list was compiled by teachers in education for teachers in class is invaluable. We all need to work together especially through this pandemic and the list has allowed me to engage with festive activities but spend less time researching and finding interesting resources”

Events and Activity Ideas for Christmas and beyond...




The Arts and Creative Learning Team has created a list of quality-assured organisations, festive offers and educational resources and events. This is not an exhaustive list but provides you with some ideas and contacts to get your pupils and staff creative and learning by having fun!

Below is a table of festive offers containing contact information, a descriptor of activities, curricular links and dates. Unless stated otherwise, the festive activities in the table are free, *Whole-class/school viewing costs may need to be checked*. Some organisations request that you book online to receive an online link/ticket.

CEC guidance must be followed, and you should complete a Risk Assessment.

You should also ask to see the Risk Assessment produced by the organisation, particularly if any activity is face to face and/or in school. Please be aware that some pantos and Christmas shows are interactive and you should ensure children will not be in groups of over 50. You should also satisfy yourself that they will not be encouraged to shout and sing whether in school or a venue.

Further down this document is a list of quality assured organisations, funded by Creative Scotland, and/or City of Edinburgh Council that offer activities and events for schools. You can contact these organisations at any time of the year. Check the websites to find up to date offers for schools. A direct link is provided taking you to the relevant education pages of the websites and contact details

If you need any assistance, please get in touch with the Creative Learning team: Creative.Learning@edinburgh.gov.uk

Name of organisation Contact information	Brief descriptor of activity	Curricular links/suitable Level (E,F,S)	Activity availability
Beat Box Productions Christmas Song writing! Laura Hodge the.beat.box@outlook.com	Create your very own Christmas song(s) and have a music video to accompany! Video will be shared via private YouTube link (no public access for data protection) and can be shared with parents for no additional cost https://www.beatboxproductions.co.uk/ One song and video - £375, up to five songs with one video - £700	Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing F, S	From now

YMI Business Bulletin Paragraph

The YMI Manager retired in August after 5 years helping Edinburgh’s YMI programmes grow in numbers and develop across all primary and most special schools. Fully funded by YMI, a new manager took up post on 8th December, seconded for a year from Leith Primary School

The YMI team has been working hard to prepare all its projects to begin delivery after the Christmas break. The Team is very much looking forward to bringing music and joy into all primary classrooms in the new year. To manage Covid restrictions, the YMI team is working closely with schools, tutors and partners to ensure programmes are delivered effectively and safely.



St Joseph's RC Primary School enjoying the YMI's Sounds Like Music programme prior to lockdown

YMI funds piping tuition for SQA students, and the bagpipes are among the instruments which are impacted by Covid restrictions. Recently, the YMI team spoke to Dylan Stewart, an S5 pupil at Craigroyston High School, to find out about how his piping has progressed. Dylan has been a member of the YMI's performance pipe band *Piping Hot!* for several years, performing all over the city, and receives YMI piping tuition in school. He has been working towards his Higher music exam this year and opened the annual Lord Provost Fanfare concert last year with a fantastic musical performance. Dylan said:

“Since I’ve been playing the bagpipes, I feel like my confidence has boosted as I have played in front of huge crowds on multiple occasions, whether it’s for a concert, or being hired or playing for the NHS workers, which I have been doing recently. Learning to play the bagpipes has gave me many opportunities to do thing that I never thought I would ever do, like playing for the Lord Provost, or playing at events like Burns suppers. Playing the bagpipes also gives me a sense of pride whenever people see me with them as it makes me remember how long it took me to get to the performance stage that I’m at and how rewarding it is. My piping lessons have encouraged me to take higher music as it improves my performance and it is very enjoyable. The thing I love most about playing the bagpipes is seeing people happy whenever I play them. There have been many occasions where I have played my bagpipes for people and seen people cheer up as soon as they hear me play.”



Logan McKinlay and Dylan Stewart, S5 pupils at Craigroyston High School

Sports Development Officers

With the return of schools in August, the Sports Development Officers have been supporting primary schools with curricular sport delivery, providing a mixture of tennis, football and rugby for P3 - P7 pupils. The main focus of the sessions has been fundamental movement, co-ordination and communication skills. See below for more details:

SPORT AND OUTDOOR LEARNING UNIT

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOLS DELIVERY

With the return of schools in August, the Sports Development Officers have been supporting primary schools with curricular sport delivery - providing a mixture of tennis, football and rugby for P3 - P7 pupils. August - October programme:

915
pupils took part in the sports development sessions.

85%
of pupils enjoyed the sessions.

50%
of pupils would like to continue playing out with school.

78
tennis, football and rugby sessions delivered in the 6 week block.

Click  to visit our Twitter page - @coe_sport

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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

SPORT AND OUTDOOR LEARNING UNIT

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOLS DELIVERY

FEEDBACK



"Great organisation and variety of games".

"I liked how active they all were - station rotations worked well to maintain participation for short bursts at different activities. It was well delivered and controlled".

Class Teacher - Balgreen Primary

"What parts of the sessions were your favourite...?"



"Practicing the skills".

"Playing together with my friends".



"I liked the game 'Hoop Flip' as it's testing your throwing skills".



"The pupils really enjoyed the sessions. It was pitched at their level, was delivered well and organised efficiently to run smoothly. The pupils had a quality PE session where they worked their bodies hard and were interested in the session".

"Delivery style - friendly and clear. Well paced".

Class Teacher - Stenhouse Primary



"We've hugely enjoyed being back out interacting and engaging with the kids. Although sport-specific activity has been involved, the main focus of the sessions have been fundamental and transferable movement skills and helping the kids fall back in love with, and remembering the importance of, group sport and physical activity.

Jack Beesley - Football Development Officer

SPORT AND OUTDOOR LEARNING UNIT

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT



THE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS WILL BE WORKING IN BROOMHOUSE, COLINTON, FOX COVERT RC AND MURRAYBURN PRIMARIES NEXT.

Click   to visit our Twitter page - [@coe_sport](https://twitter.com/coe_sport)

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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Braidburn School

The Active Schools Coordinator Special School Cluster has been temporarily relocated within Braidburn Special School to support the transition of pupils back into school. They have been working across a number of class bubbles (no more than 2 per day) delivering disability specific sports, playground games, themed fun physical activity and has responded to requests for specific focused areas of work.

Quote from Braidburn class teacher

The Coordinators involvement with my class has meant children have been supported to further develop their movement range and flexibility as she has incorporated an exercise programme developed by our physiotherapist team into the Active Schools sessions. It has been great to have the Coordinator leading these sessions as it has allowed I and the class team to work on a 1-2-1 basis with children to support them during these especially beneficial sessions.

Targeted Outdoor Learning Support

As part of the targeted deployment of Sport and Outdoor Learning (SOLU) staff, additional staff have been placed with schools and other services to support onsite and local outdoor learning. This includes the SOLU's Outdoor Learning Schools and Communities Development Officer allocated to two schools between now and the winter break. Placements will then switch to different schools and operate until March 2021. Work will focus on building outdoor learning capacity in schools and will be showcased via the council's new digital outdoor learning map; <https://www.outdoorlearningmap.com/>. This new innovative map is a key driving force in the council's strategy to sharing good practice and developing outdoor learning.

A Lagganlia instructor has also been temporarily allocated to support pupils with additional support needs. This innovative pilot project between SOLU and the Additional Support for Learning Service involves the direct delivery of outdoor learning adventurous activity and coordination of other services and partners to provide effective support for young people. This includes the involvement of Bridge8 at Wester Hailes and the council's Bangholm Outdoor Centre staff.

Sport and Outdoor Learning Training Offer

The Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit (SOLU) is currently updating its training offer to Communities and Families staff. This is being adapted at regular intervals in support of adaptation and renewal. SOLU staff have recently delivered online mandatory primary probationer training to over 95 participants, providing an introduction to outdoor learning pedagogy and safety.

Edinburgh Outdoor Learning Network

The Edinburgh Outdoor Learning network, coordinated by the Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit, brings partners together to share advice, ideas and enthusiasm for Outdoor Learning. There are currently over 40 partners registered and over 25 participants regularly attending the meetings. This has allowed partners to be kept updated about council adaptation and renewal,

and more recently a working group has been set up to develop resources for partners and schools to support future reengagement with regard to general outdoor learning activity. The next network meeting is provisionally planned for late November 2020.

Active Schools Deliver Bikeability

As part of the council's 'Closing the Gap' strategy the Active Schools team have been placed in targeted primary schools across the city delivering activities to help pupils increase their health and wellbeing.

In some schools the Active Schools Co-ordinators have delivered level 1 and 2 Bikeability, supported by other CEC staff.

Canal View and St Francis RC have not been involved in cycle training for a number of years.

P6 Canal View pupil was very nervous at start of training but now cycles to school, "I loved it so much. It was the most fun thing in my life."

"A fun and productive first Bikeability session" St Francis teacher



At Castleview there have been a number of pupils who have never been on a bike before, who are now riding.

Castleview teacher “we were so focused during our final Bikeability session yesterday. Amazing! Huge thanks to Active Schools and hopefully we’ll all be a little more confident and safer on the roads now!”



Impact of Outdoor activity



Since Active Schools were redeployment into schools in August, a range of **outdoor activities**, including playground games, multi sports, hand-eye coordination skills/games, athletics, tennis, boccia, circus skills and Bikeability, has been delivered and several teachers noted the significant impact of outdoor learning and the benefits of getting classes outside: fresh air, room to move, exploring nature, playing on grass, (many of the children don't have gardens and the school has a concrete playground

throughout), and discovering local parks, not to mention the added bonus of exercise walking to the parks. Teachers were also able to lead outdoor education sessions with the support of the ASC's.

Classes from Dalry took part in an Autumn scavenger hunt at a nearby park. A P6 pupil squealed in delight "we are going on an actual school excursion! we don't normally do that!".

A teacher from St David's Primary School commented that children have improved their fitness, co-ordination and gross motor skills. The teacher also remarked "Being new to early level, I have really enjoyed shadowing the ASC, as she has a lot of great ideas and has adapted really well to support specific individuals. I think she will continue to have impact if she was to be kept on at the school".

Delivering Playground Leaders to teachers and PSA's

The '**Playground Leaders**' programme was delivered to many teachers and Primary Schools Assistant's who can now take more of a lead on the delivery of playground games until the pupil leaders can be trained (and allowed to deliver across bubbles).

A wide range of **resources** have been collated for schools to use, giving teachers ideas for different activities. Teachers have commented that they are feeling more comfortable about delivering physical activity and are gaining confidence by co-delivering with the ASCs.

Teachers have also said that they are thankful for the help in developing lots of new ideas for fun, sports delivery. A teacher from Niddriemill said "I picked up lots of new ideas, which are currently being used in our PE sessions".



Pupils have told teachers they enjoyed playing the games that were delivered to them during class, and now play the games at lunch times and out of school, teaching the games to their families and everyone at home. A teacher from Braidburn Special school commented "having the ASC running the groups meant I was able to give my pupils 1:1 attention to further develop their movement and communication skills while they were enjoying the sports sessions".

Getting everyone involved

Inclusiveness is a key focus for Active Schools and a great example was highlighted at Hillwood Primary School. A pupil with Additional Support Needs (ASN), was struggling to engage with the rest of the class. From the first physical activity session, the ASC encouraged the pupil to join in. After only 2 weeks, the pupil started to enjoy playing catching games and tag games and was fascinated with the yoga session. The ASC commented that “one of the nicest aspects of working with the pupil was the involvement of the rest of the class and to hear the classmates chant the pupils name during a relay races session”.

Another great example was at a Primary School where a pupil with autism hadn't taken part in PE for 3 years. The pupil took part in all the physical activity sessions delivered by the ASC and the teacher commented that “this was a huge achievement”.

The ASC for special schools made specific progress with one child who previously refused to go onto the Astro Turf. Through determination and highly engaging sessions, the child is now no longer afraid of this area

and consistently spends the full hour of physical activity on the Astro Turf having lots of fun engaging in the session.



Focus on Girls

Encouraging **girls** to take part in activity is another key focus for Active Schools. Girls as young as Primary 5 have started to drop out of sport and physical activity sessions. It had previously been S2/3 at secondary school before we saw this trend. A girl from Brunstane Primary School had been inactive and always opted out of PE, took part in the physical activity sessions delivered by the ASC from the start of term and is now not only taking part in the sessions but enjoying them too. A teacher from Niddriemill Primary School commented that “seeing the confidence grow, especially in some of the girls when playing playground games had been fantastic”.



Book Week Scotland 2020 16th – 21st November 2020
Funding of £750 and £500 was secured for these events.

Citywide - Prize-winning poet [Michael Pedersen](#) and, designer to the literary stars, [Jon Gray](#) are joining Edinburgh Libraries in Book Week Scotland to champion our virtual poetry jamboree. A prompt for one and all.

To start you off Michael has written verse one of the poem, 4 lines titled...The future... is...and we ask you, the public, for verse two.

Our future has never looked more different and poetry is a deep rooted, soul searching, joyous way to get our thoughts and feelings out into the open in words.

#DreamsWeDreamOfDreaming and we'll send your words out into the world. We aim to gather as many as we can and look at how we can collaborate them into forever memories. A "Future" e book list will be developed, and hard copy stock purchased to enable this theme to continue for the months ahead.

Sighthill Facebook Event – 18th Nov - Sara Sheridan will give an online talk on "Agatha Christie and about how the 1950s relates to today". This will be an online event, broadcast through Facebook Live in the evening. Sara has kindly agreed for the talk to be recorded and available for up to a week after the event.

Central x 2 Events – These two online events are part of Edinburgh Libraries Book Week Scotland programme, in partnership with [Birlinn](#) publishers and supported by [Scottish Book Trust](#).

18th Nov - An evening with Alastair McIntosh, one of Scotland's leading writers and an honorary professor of the University of Glasgow.

19th Nov - We were delighted to host author [Gillian Galbraith](#), the most loaned eBook author in the UK during the recent lockdown period to talk about her writing, Libraries and this fantastic achievement.

Kirkliston - This year's Book Week Scotland North West Edinburgh public and school libraries have come together for a unique project in partnership with Impact Arts. Impact Arts are Scotland's leading community arts charity, which primarily works with vulnerable communities. Their new group Creative Pathways is aimed at 16-26yr olds and is a creative employability programme for young people not involved in education, employment or training. The young people enjoyed the challenge of thinking about the future and the world around them. They created a survey to share their thoughts, which was shared on social media. As a result of their thoughts and collaboration they have created a comic book influence installation for BWS consisting of 4 pop up banners. The banners will be showcased initially in Forrester High School and will rotate around NW school and public libraries. They can be used by community branches and secondary schools to promote collections such as the citywide Escape, Connect, and the Relate bibliotherapy project.

HMP Edinburgh Library – Michael Pederson will produce an audio on BWS and the Poetry Jamboree for the prison radio. Fife College will base their next writing workshop on the jamboree. The prison have donated £3, £5 and £15 as prizes for 3 winners which will be read out on the prison radio.

Macmillan@Edinburgh Libraries - each day of the week will feature a "Cancer related" book on their FB account going with the theme of the dreaming/focusing on the future.

South West Libraries – teamed up with the Arts & Creative Learning (south west) and created an introduction to Visual Poetry and Photography, called Photo Poems. These Photo Poems will inspire those who like photography and the idea of combining images into poetic sequences. Marketing is in the form of a video of visual poems.

School Librarians – A host of activities across the city including - designing a literacy mask, COVID safe story sticks using online Wheel of Fortune generator, pupils drawing how they see their future, lunchtime story cafes based on what the future needs to be and how the young of today fit in.

Children and Young People - Edinburgh Libraries Children and Young People's (CYP) services created a dedicated facebook page for our library offering during lockdown making sure we covered all aspects of CYP's core offering ranging from Bookbug, Read Write Count to STEM and bookgroups. The page quickly increased user numbers and alongside it's weekly timetable, it has hosted events with our partners such as the Royal Observatory and the University of Edinburgh plus a successful Drag Queen Story Hour event during Pride.

Macmillan - **Macmillan @ Edinburgh Libraries** for **The Service Team of the Year Award** (for passionate and determined teams supporting people affected by cancer) was successful! The Awards Panel has selected the team as the **Scotland Regional Winner** of this award.



Jenny Smith, head teacher at Currie High School, pays tribute to former pupil Peter Sawkins who recently won the Great British Bake Off.

Peter came to us as a spritely S1 pupil, full of energy and enthusiasm for learning, badminton and baking. As an accomplished sportsman, Peter naturally grew a competitive spirit and Peter would give his all in every aspect of school life. Always with a smile on his face, his passion for being the best version of himself was infectious and as a result Peter achieved success in school every step of the way. This was not only academic achievement. We saw Peter grow from a bouncy 12 year old into a bouncier and blossoming adult who grew in confidence, demonstrated the ability to work superbly well in a team and very much became a responsible citizen. From a young age, Peter showed tenacity, resilience and self-belief in all his endeavours and this spirit has strongly influenced the type of person he is now. We could not be prouder! This is beautiful exemplification that dreams can come true. Peter, you are an

inspiration and we cannot wait to invite you into school, when we can so that you can share with us your wonderful story!