

The Curriculum

The early childhood curriculum is holistic.

caring, nurturing environment. While the intentional promotion of specific experiences and interactions are important for young children to learn, so too is a curriculum which values and upholds the rights of the child. The right to a relevant, coherent and child-centred curriculum which recognises and intends to build on what the child already
(Realising the ambition: Being me, Education Scotland, 2020).

We know from research and practice that the learning experiences provided in the earliest

Frequently Asked Questions

If my child enters school early, he/she will still be accessing the Early Level of Curriculum for Excellence, so what difference will it make if he/she is in a school setting?

Broadly speaking, children access the Early Level when they enter an Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting. Typically, the Early Level will offer a framework for learning over three years, including the Primary One year. Roughly speaking, two thirds of the curriculum will be accessed within the ELC environment. The learning experiences we offer in the ELC setting and Primary One are part of a *progression* of learning. This allows for greater opportunities for what we call 'deep learning'-where learning is more likely to be secure and is able to be applied in lots of different situations.

Additionally the staff to child ratio is reduced within the Primary One classroom.

he transition into Primary Two should also be considered and thought given to whether the child will still be accessing the Early Level or whether he/she will be able to move towards the First Level of Curriculum for Excellence.

My child can already count to ten, recognise letters and read some words. Surely the school setting will better meet his needs?

The early childhood curriculum is holistic. Whilst these are all important skills, Curriculum for Excellence encourages us to look at the needs of the "whole child". This will include looking closely at your child's social and emotional wellbeing, and providing him/her with lots of opportunities to develop these skills.

My child is "bored" at nursery. Surely it is better to go to school?

If this is your perspective, it is important that you engage in discussion with your child's Key Person and Manager of the nursery. It is the responsibility of ELC staff to ensure that your child meets an appropriate and consistent level of challenge in learning. This will enable them to make the best possible progress during their time at nursery.

If my child'

