

Delivering Social Change

Tackling poverty and social exclusion



Northern Ireland
Executive

www.northernireland.gov.uk

DELIVERING SOCIAL CHANGE

November 2016

DELIVERING SOCIAL CHANGE STAKEHOLDER UPDATE – DEMENTIA PROJECT

(Dementia Together NI)

Spotlight on Training and Development and Learning Disability

The Hilton Hotel in Templepatrick was the venue for a very successful Learning Disability and Dementia Master Class event held on 20th October 2016. Around 112 health and social care staff heard at first hand the international expert in the field of Learning Disability, Ageing, Dementia and Palliative Care, Professor Mary McCarron, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Professor of Ageing and Intellectual Disability at Trinity College Dublin.

Very interesting information was presented by Professor McCarron who focused on her wealth of research and explained how the evidence base had informed policy and service development directly and shaped design and practice.



Geraldine Fleming HSCB, Jerome Dawson DoH, Professor Mary McCarron from Trinity College Dublin who was the key speaker at the Master Class and Seamus McErlean HSCB, Co-Chair of NI Dementia Strategy at the Learning Disability and Dementia Master Class

Initial feedback from the event recognised the need to have a greater awareness of the needs of those with intellectual disability, particularly as many are now living longer and a diagnosis of dementia is becoming more prevalent at an earlier age.



Attendees at the Learning Disability and Dementia Master Class event held on 20th October 2016

This is one of the training initiatives which have been put in place by the Health and Social Care Board and Dementia Together NI as well as the roll out of the “Supporting Derek” - A practice development guide to support staff working with people who have a learning disability and a dementia.

In addition Dementia Together NI are also training 300 Dementia Champions across the statutory and independent sectors and several staff working within the field of learning disability are undertaking this 6 months blended learning training.

UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEXT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY – NOVEMBER 2016

The draft Executive Children and Young People's Strategy consultation document is well advanced and we would aim to commence the formal consultation process in the future.

The Strategy, like the Programme for Government (PfG), has been developed using an outcomes based approach. It is focused on achieving tangible outcomes for children and young people, and sets out a framework around which to achieve them. The draft Strategy has eight outcomes based on well-being as outlined in the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015 –

- (a) Physical and mental health;
- (b) The enjoyment of play and leisure;
- (c) Learning and achievement;
- (d) Living in safety and with stability;
- (e) Economic and environmental well-being;
- (f) Making a positive contribution to society;
- (g) Living in a society which respects their rights; and
- (h) Living in a society in which equality of opportunity and good relations are promoted.

The outcomes are interlinked. Achieving a good positive outcome in one area will lead to further positive outcomes – a child who feels safe and respected will go out and play more, feel healthier and be happier in school and ready to learn. Negative outcomes will lead to more negative outcomes – a child who doesn't experience economic well-being and lives in poverty will be more likely to have poor health; could face barriers to play and feel isolated, and this in turn can affect their education. As part of the draft strategy, we have sought to explain what each of the outcomes mean; provide a context for the outcome, identify potential priority areas where the greatest effort is required, and suggest a small number of headline indicators which will be used to measure progress.

What happens next?

When the Executive has agreed the draft Strategy consultation document we will commence the formal consultation process.

Consultation process

The Children's and Young People's Strategy Team continues to prepare for the public consultation. A comprehensive Consultation Plan is being developed to set out how the team plans to engage with stakeholders during the consultation process. As indicated in previous updates the consultation will be widely publicised, and a range of consultation events held to encourage wide ranging stakeholder participation and feedback. The views of children and young people in particular are sought. Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to respond to the consultation by completing an online survey.

When will the Strategy be laid before the Assembly?

The public consultation on the Strategy is planned to commence in the near future and will continue into the New Year.

It is anticipated that the Strategy will be laid before the Assembly in Spring 2017.

For more information about the development of the Strategy, please contact the Children's and Young People's Strategy Team directly by emailing cyps@education-ni.gov.uk or telephoning Andrea Kelly on (028) 9185 8024.

URBAN VILLAGES

The First Minister and Junior Minister Fearon officially opened the Blythefield Primary school garden in Sandy Row on 10 November 2016. This project was funded by the Urban Villages Initiative, which is designed to improve good relations outcomes in areas where there has previously been a history of deprivation and community tension in areas where there has previously been a history of deprivation and community tension.

The Sandy Row area, which is within the South Urban Village, is characterised by a lack of public and private green space, making the provision of this garden particularly important to local children. The rooms enable the garden to be used by more than one class at a time and provide opportunities for formal and informal education, for play and for one-to-one working. Speaking at the opening First Minister, Arlene Foster said: “Initiatives such as this are a wonderful example of how an underused space has been transformed into a hub for innovative learning and a place which will inspire and bring people together.”

In September, the First and deputy First Minister and Junior Ministers launched the Strategic Frameworks for Urban Village areas. These frameworks were shaped by local communities, reflecting their priorities and desire to realise the full potential of the people and places where they live.

Junior Minister, Megan Fearon said that: “The local community helped identify the key priorities for the Urban Village area in South Belfast which included enhancing the area, improving health and well-being, and providing better access to facilities and activities for children and young people. The Blythefield School project meets all these and shows what can be achieved when the local community and government works together to meet local needs.”



GETTING READY TO LEARN

Over 350 pre-school settings across Northern Ireland are currently participating in Getting Ready to Learn in 2016-17. This includes nursery schools, nursery units in mainstream, Irish medium and special schools, voluntary, community and private playgroups and Early Years' Centers.

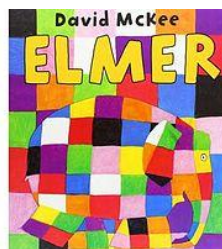
Each of these settings has selected specific themes to help increase parents' understanding of how children develop in the pre-school year and of how they can best support their child's learning at home.

310 settings are developing Big Bedtime Read; sharing information with parents on the importance of reading to young children; developing parents' confidence to share books with their child and encouraging regular bedtime reading. A key focus is on nurturing relationships as parent and child snuggle up to enjoy some special time together. Within this theme, practitioners also encourage parents to ensure good bedtime routines, creating the right environment to encourage restful sleep.

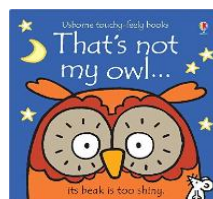
Funding has been provided to enable settings to establish lending libraries. So that children and their parents can access a wide range of stimulating and appealing books for bedtime reading. In addition, parents are encouraged to engage with local and online library services and build up personal collections of favorite books.



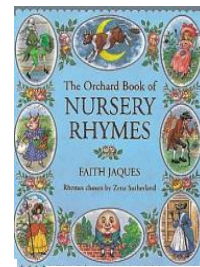
Child's Play UK



Anderson Press



Usborne Books



Orchard Books

115 settings are offering workshops to explain how Education Works in Preschool. This theme focuses on developing parents' understanding of what happens in a pre-school setting and on the importance of play. A major emphasis is on showing parents how they can support learning at home by developing specific skills by engaging children in everyday activities and stimulating play.



Practitioners participating in support clusters, exploring how everyday objects can provide a fun way to engage both parents and children and stimulate learning at Clounagh Teachers' Centre, Portadown and the Fortwilliam Centre, Belfast.

91 settings are promoting Happy, Healthy Kids, helping parents recognise the importance of physical exercise for young children and reducing screen time.

49 settings are focusing on Ages and Stages, helping parents recognise developmental milestones for 3-4 year old children and encouraging supporting appropriate expectations.

All of the themes link closely with the work of the health visitors who will be liaising with pre-school settings through Getting Ready for Toddler. The Getting Ready to Learn and Getting Ready for a Toddler Teams have been working closely to ensure a coordinated approach, sharing key messages and working collaboratively on resources. Screen shot Ages and Stages HV ?

12 support sessions have been held across Northern Ireland to outline key messages, ensure monitoring procedures are in place and to encourage sharing of practice between settings and across statutory and non-statutory sectors.

Working closely with PHA, there has been an emphasis on ensuring consistent messages for Early Years' settings. Joint sessions have been held to share information with Early Years' Multi-disciplinary teams (HSCT) and with Early Years' Inclusion teams (EA).

Key messages and guidance materials have been provided online and settings are being encouraged to share their experiences and ideas.

Getting Ready to Learn

Welcome to Getting Ready To Learn, which is part of The Early Intervention Transformation Programme:

The Early Intervention Transformation Programme (EITP) is a Northern Ireland Executive/Atlantic Philanthropies, Delivering Social Change, Signature Programme, funded jointly by the Delivering Social Change Fund, CH4, OHL, DfE, DfE and the Atlantic Philanthropies. EITP aims to improve outcomes for children and young people across Northern Ireland through embedding early intervention.

The GRTL project seeks to support pre-school education providers with DE-funded places to encourage and develop parental involvement in children's early learning. It is focused on improving outcomes for children in pre-school by engaging and empowering parents to help them create and sustain positive home learning environments.

For more information on The Early Intervention Transformation Programme, visit <http://www.ean.org.uk/early-intervention/transformations-programme/>

Welcome

Settings can apply for funding to support delivery of between one and four themes, which have been identified as particularly relevant to parents' of pre-school children:

Big Bedtime Read focuses on supporting parents to read regularly to their children at bedtime and on encouraging good bedtime routines. It also aims to increase parents' awareness of reading opportunities throughout a young child's day.

[Big Bedtime Read... More Information \[pdf / 136KB\]](#)

Education Works in pre-school focuses on increasing parents' understanding of the pre-school curriculum and the importance of play. Through this theme, settings will provide guidance to parents to support their child's learning at home.

[Education Works in Pre-School... More Information \[pdf / 141KB\]](#)

Happy Healthy Kids focuses on raising parents' awareness of the importance of physical activity. Through this theme, settings will provide guidance to help parents increase the amount of time children spend on physical exercise and encourage reduced screen time at home.

[Happy Healthy Kids... More Information \[pdf / 137KB\]](#)

Ages and Stages focuses on raising parents' awareness of developmental milestones for 3-4 year olds, helping them to recognise their child's achievements and next steps in learning. Through this theme, settings will provide guidance for parents to help them support the development of specific skills at home.

[Ages and Stages... More Information \[pdf / 133KB\]](#)

Participants can log in here to access guidance materials for each theme.

If your application has been approved and you have not yet registered, please click the 'Register' button below.

Login / Register

Login

Username

Password

Getting Ready to Learn

Welcome to the Getting Ready to Learn Support Page


Here you can find a range of resources to support implementation of your selected theme/themes, including suggested outlines and support materials for workshops and guidance for parents.

Sessions are likely to focus on:

- sharing your knowledge and expertise with parents;
- explaining the importance of quality early years' experiences;
- sharing what you do within your own setting to develop specific skills;
- demonstrating how parents can support their children's development at home

Keep it simple, practical and fun!

[2016 / 17 Participating settings and their chosen themes \[pdf / 223KB\]](#)



Sharing Practice

Several people have mentioned that some parents discourage their children from getting messy! Thank you to Angela Lynam, from Kindertex Community Playgroup for sharing this picture.



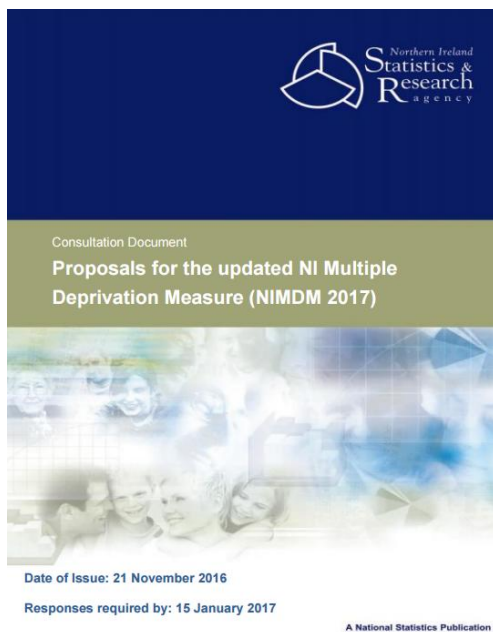
What a lovely idea for helping parents understand just how much learning is going throughout the day. I was told about this at a previous cluster in Portadown as well but it is great to see a picture!

If you have any ideas that you think people might like please send them into grtl@ean.org.uk

UPDATED MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION MEASURE (NIMDM 2017)

Consultation on proposals

As part of its work to update the current Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM 2010), NISRA is consulting users about the proposed indicators to be included in the forthcoming measure, referred to as NIMDM 2017.



The key consultation questions along with relevant considerations are contained in Sections 9 to 16 of the [Consultation Document](#), which present proposals for each of the seven separate domains that are incorporated within the multiple deprivation measure (i.e. income; employment; health and disability; education, skills and training; access to services; living environment; and crime and disorder).

The consultation invites your views on the responses in respect of (i) each of the recommendations that arose from the 2010 Deprivation update and (ii) the proposed indicators in each of the NIMDM 2017 domains. In addition, it seeks your views on whether the current domain weights still reflect current priorities and invites you to outline how you have used, or intend to use, the deprivation measures.

The consultation will run for eight weeks and closes at midnight on 15 January 2017. All key stakeholders are encouraged to register to attend one of the five supporting [Information Sessions](#) that are being held in Belfast, Cookstown, Enniskillen, Limavady, and Newry to outline the various proposals. The easiest way for you to respond to the consultation is online at: <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dof/proposals-for-the-nimdm17>

However, if you would prefer to use an alternative way to respond or indeed require further information, please contact the Deprivation Team (telephone 028 9034 8271 or email deprivation.NISRA@finance-ni.gov.uk) who will be happy to answer any queries that you may have regarding the consultation.

The Deprivation Team recognises that the updated measures, which are planned for release in mid-2017, will be hugely important to a variety of interested parties and users. Accordingly, we actively encourage you to take part in this important consultation and look forward to meeting you at one of the planned information sessions and receiving your response. A summary report detailing all of the responses to the consultation will be made available, in due course, on NISRA's [Deprivation web page](#).





Have you missed previous newsletters?

Previous editions of the Delivering Social Change Stakeholder Update are available at:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/delivering-social-change-stakeholder-updates-2015-16>

We would love to hear what you think about the Delivering Social Change Updates. You can contact us by.....

Writing to:



***The Delivering Social Change Communications Team
The Executive Office
Room E4.16, Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SR***

E-mailing:



dsccomms@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Phoning:



028 9052 3433