

Midlothian Early Learning And Childcare Parent / Carer Update

1140 hrs



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Lots of job opportunities in childcare

Around 11,000 extra childcare jobs will be created by August 2020, more than 300 of which will be in Midlothian. This is because the number of funded hours for eligible two-year-olds and all three and four-year-olds in settings like nurseries and childminders is almost doubling.

It will mean that instead of the current 600 hours of early learning, young children will be entitled to up to 1140 hours per year.

That is a great opportunity for anyone who has ever considered a career in childcare.

In this edition, you'll find lots of helpful advice about how to find out more about the different career paths and qualifications needed.

Working with children is fun, interesting and an opportunity to make a significant difference.



Modern Apprentices

Midlothian Council is recruiting Modern Apprentices in Early Learning & Childcare at SVQ3. The jobs are advertised on MyJobScotland.

The closing date for applications is 8th June with successful candidates starting on 20th August 2018.

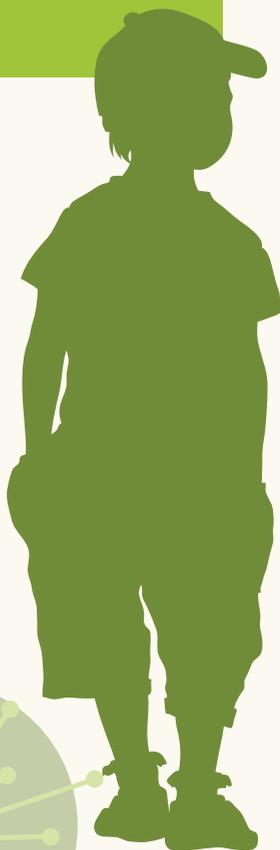
The first group of modern apprentices in childcare started with the council a few months ago.

It's a two year course. The staff members will spend the first six months gaining work experience with the aim of becoming childcare development workers.

Visit the Midlothian page of www.myjobscotland.gov.uk

6 reasons to get a job in childcare

1. You'll teach children skills they'll use for life
2. It's more than 'just a job' – it's a truly rewarding and satisfying career
3. There is so much variety (and you're never stuck behind a desk all day!)
4. It's a secure job with great opportunities for career progression
5. You'll often spend time outdoors on adventures together
6. You will change lives – yours and the children's



Be like Keith – consider a career in childcare



Keith Lorimer, Mauricewood Primary School

Keith Lorimer loves his job as a childcare development worker in the nursery at Mauricewood Primary School.

Simple questions like, "how did you do that?" and "can you tell me more about that?" can become voyages of discovery for the young minds in his care.

He says: "I really love working in early learning. It's so important. It's the start of the process of giving children the skills to be able to learn themselves."

Keith, a former office worker who has also worked as a community warden, first considered a career in childcare when he was a stay at home dad to his two children. His wife teaches. He found he really enjoyed helping out with trips when his daughter was at Cornbank nursery.

More time spent at Cornbank convinced him he'd like to pursue early learning more formally. He enrolled

in a Men in Childcare course based at Edinburgh College's Sighthill campus in Edinburgh. This was a funded place on Tuesday evenings over an academic year covering topics including 'managing behaviours'.

Keith then did a Higher National Certificate in early learning. He was among seven men doing the course.

After a couple of years at Hailesland Early Learning Centre in Edinburgh, Keith got a job at Mauricewood and has been with the nursery for three years.

He says: "I'd certainly recommend a career in early learning. There's chances to progress your career and it's very rewarding. I've also got a really good life, work balance so it's great."

Find out more about Men in Childcare at www.meninchildcare.co.uk

We have lots of information on our council website about getting a career in childcare in Midlothian.

Find out more at:

www.midlothian.gov.uk/childcare-career

Alternatively, the Scottish Government has launched its own website about job opportunities in early learning.

Find out more at:

<https://childcarecareersscotland.scot/>

And the Scottish Social Services Council also has a great online resource at:

<http://learn.sssc.uk.com/childcarecareers/>



Contact us

We'd love to hear from you if you have any questions or ideas relating to expansion either generally or specific to your provision. Please send questions via the contact details below and we will try to answer them directly and in future newsletters. We plan to issue regular updates via the council website and social media so make sure you're following us!

For further information



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