

SPELL

Support for Play & Early Learning in Lanarkshire

NEWSLETTER

Staff Changes at SPELL

As many of you know, Michelle MacDonald left SPELL in December. We thank Michelle for all her hard work and wish her lots of success in her new career 😊

Lorna Henry, who has over 11 years' experience working with SPELL is going to support baby & toddler groups & playgroups in East Kilbride, Strathaven & Stonehouse and Larkhall going forward. You may have met Lorna when she visited the groups with Michelle over the last few months, or she may have been in your group previously distributing vitamins or running a play activity. Lorna is looking forward to working with all the groups and will continue to support her groups in Clydesdale.

Lorna can be contacted at
lorna.spell@gmail.com or
07385 380637

Katie Campbell who has been with SPELL for over 8 years is going to start supporting the partnership nurseries offering funded childcare in East Kilbride and Strathaven. Katie will continue to support all groups in Hamilton, Blantyre, Bothwell & Uddingston and Cambuslang & Rutherglen.

Katie can be contacted at
katiec.spell@gmail.com
or 07385 380739

Vicky Willmott & Wendy McPhillie, who work in the SPELL office will also be available to visit groups so you may see them too 😊

Barbara, Kim and Stephanie continue to run our brilliant play activity programme. All play activities will continue be booked through Wendy in the office on 01698 768944 or office@spell-lanarkshire.com

PVG Scheme - Important Announcement

The PVG Scheme becomes a legal requirement from 1st April 2025. You still have time to prepare for how these changes will affect your establishment. Volunteer Scotland can help. They have up-to-date guidance, essential information and free training dates on their website www.volunteerscotland.net

FREE Vitamins

SPELL are working in partnership with NHS Lanarkshire to distribute vitamin D to children from birth to 3 years old, and healthy start vitamins to all who are pregnant, one year post natal and breastfeeding. If you would like us to visit your group with vitamins, please email office@spell-lanarkshire.com



ERIC UK

ERIC is the children's bladder and bowel charity. They work to improve the lives of children, young people & their families in the UK who suffer with continence problems. Information and support on potty training, toilet anxiety, bedwetting, constipation and much more can be found on their Facebook page [@ERIC.UK1](#) and on their website www.eric.org.uk. There is also a helpline and 'contact us' form on their website. Information is available for parents, carers and early years settings.



Play Activities

Our Play Tutor team, Barbara, Kim and Stephanie offer a variety of activities which we are able to bring to your groups. Activities are carefully designed using the Curriculum for Excellence and require parent / carer participation. With this in mind we ask that no more than 20 children attend the play activity. If your group has more than 20 children please contact Wendy on 01698 768944 or office@spell-lanarkshire.com to discuss further options. We are pleased to be able to offer one FREE play activity to all groups registered with SPELL. For a full list of our play activities please visit our website at www.spell-lanarkshire.com



The Child Accident Prevention Trust

The Child Accident Prevention Trust is a UK charity focussing on preventing death and serious injury to children from avoidable accidents. They post up-to-date recall information, advice for buying toys and equipment online and general advice on keeping your children safe. They have an excellent Facebook page you can follow [@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](#) as well as their website www.capt.org.uk

Training Programme

We have once again received funding from South Lanarkshire Council to run our training programme for the pre-5 voluntary sector. Courses are FREE to attend and open to all parents, committee members, volunteers and childcare staff who work within baby & toddler groups and playgroups in South Lanarkshire.

To book a place on any of the courses, please call Wendy on 01698 768944 or email office@spell-lanarkshire.com

Paediatric First Aid

Thursday 13th March 2025, 9.30am - 4.30pm.
Uddingston Cricket and Sports Club.

Basic First Aid Skills for Babies & Children

Saturday 15th March 2025, 10am - 1pm.
Whitehill Neighbourhood Centre, Hamilton.

Basic First Aid Skills for Babies & Children

Saturday 10th May 2025, 10am - 1pm. East Kilbride Old Parish Church, East Kilbride.

Makaton Level 1

Wednesday and Thursday 2nd & 3rd April 2025, 10am - 2pm. BOTH dates must be attended.
Uddingston Cricket & Sports Club.