

SPELL

Support for Play & Early Learning in Lanarkshire

NEWSLETTER

We hope you have all had a good Christmas break and are looking forward to the new term. SPELL have a busy couple of months with our latest training programme being released, new sessions have been added to our play activity programme and a new block of our outdoor toddler group Little Hedgehogs. Details on all of the above will be posted on our Facebook page @SPELLSouthLanarkshire and our website www.spell-lanarkshire.com

Applying for Funded Childcare

(Nursery or Childminder in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council)

If your child has their 3rd birthday in the period between 1 March 2024 and 28th February 2025, you should complete an application by the end of February 2024. If your child is already 3 and needs a nursery place, you should apply as soon as possible. Your preferred nursery will have a copy of the registration form you need to complete. More information is available on South Lanarkshire Council's website www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk [Applying for an early learning and childcare place - South Lanarkshire Council](#)



Winter Car Safety

Good Egg Safety who produced the poster below is endorsed by Police Scotland, Road Safety Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Their advice is to remove children's coats and jackets, and strap them into the car seat properly. Tuck a blanket around them which can be removed if they get too hot. For more information about choosing the right car seats and keeping your children safe in the car you can visit their website www.goodeggcarsafety.com

Keep your little snow angels safe



Play Activities

Our Play Tutor team, Barbara, Helen, Kim, Lorna 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. 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

Training from January to June 2024

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.

Basic Life Support for Babies & Children

Saturday 23rd March, 10am - 1pm. Burnside, Rutherglen.

Paediatric First Aid

Tuesday 23rd April, 9.30am - 4.30pm. Stonehouse.

Elementary Food Hygiene

Wednesday 8th May, 9.30am - 4.30pm. Virtual Course on Zoom.

Makaton Level 1

Thursday 14th March, 9.30am - 4pm. Hamilton

Incubation Periods

This time of year is terrible for germs being passed around baby and toddler groups and nurseries. The link below is the recommended incubation and exclusion periods should a child (or parent/carer if attending the group too) be ill. Please consider others when attending groups if you are unwell. Other people attending groups could be vulnerable or caring for others with low immune systems.

[https://www.spell-lanarkshire.com/useful-links/Infection Control](https://www.spell-lanarkshire.com/useful-links/Infection%20Control)

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

SPELL Support Workers

Katie Campbell - Hamilton, Blantyre, Bothwell & Uddingston, Cambuslang & Rutherglen
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Michelle MacDonald - East Kilbride, Strathaven & Stonehouse and Larkhall
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Our SPELL Office can be contacted at office@spell-lanarkshire.com or 01698 768933 / 768944