

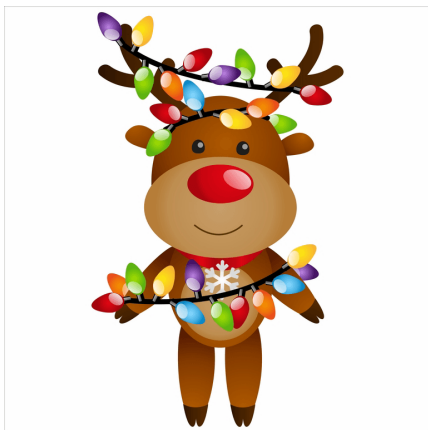


# SPELL

## Support for Play & Early Learning in Lanarkshire

2018 has been a busy year for baby and toddler groups and playgroups across South Lanarkshire. During the last year SPELL have supported over 130 groups and provided free training to over 120 parents, volunteers and childcare workers. Over 2900 children have attended SPELL's play sessions and over 80 children and their families have attended our Little Hedgehogs Outdoor Toddler Group.

We close for the Christmas break on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December and reopen on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2019.



### Elf and Snowman Treasure Hunt

Friends of Stonehouse Park, who run the toddler group Little Saplings, are hosting their Elf and Snowman Treasure Hunt on the 2nd December from 1-3pm in the Alexander Hamilton Memorial Park, Lawrie Street Stonehouse ML9 3LN. This event is FREE. Friends of Stonehouse Park have a Facebook Page [@friendsofstonehousepark](#)

### Play Activities

There are still a few spaces available for Christmas arts and craft activities and clay activities.

Arts and Crafts could include potato printing of snowmen, cone angels, Christmas decorations, hand print Santa pictures, or foot print reindeer pictures.

Clay activities will be making decorations for your trees.

We are able to offer groups and establishments one FREE play activity per school year (August to July).

### Training

Our new training programme will be released in January 2019. Details will be on our website [www.spell-lanarkshire.com](http://www.spell-lanarkshire.com) and Facebook page [@SPELLSouthlanarkshire](#). All our courses are free and open to all parents and childcare staff and volunteers who work within toddler groups and playgroups in South Lanarkshire.

## SPELL

### Contact Details:

**Lorna Henry** - Clydesdale, East Kilbride, Strathaven & Stonehouse and Larkhall  
[lorna.spell@gmail.com](mailto:lorna.spell@gmail.com)

**Katie Campbell** - Whilst Katie is on Maternity Leave Hamilton, Blantyre, Bothwell & Uddingston, Cambuslang & Rutherglen will be covered by Lorna Henry, Wendy McPhillie and Vicky Willmott  
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Facebook Page [@SPELLSouthlanarkshire](#)

## Playgroups & Nurseries (non-profit making establishments)

SPELL support all pre-5 non-profit making establishments. There are lots of choices open to parents with young children nowadays; with childminders, private, local authority and non-profit making establishments all offering different childcare options.

We thought it might be a good idea in this newsletter to explain a few of the differences in the non-profit making sector.

Establishments that are registered with the Care Inspectorate are in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council and provide free funded childcare. By August 2020 all children aged 3-5 will be entitled to receive 1140 funded hours. Currently children receive 600 hours however there are a few establishments that have already been able to introduce the increased amount of hours. Registered nurseries are required to follow The Curriculum for Excellence and there are 9 of these nurseries in South Lanarkshire.

There are 12 establishments that are not registered with the Care Inspectorate and therefore not in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council. These establishments are often known as playgroups and are not able to run over 2 hours a day. They are mainly play based however may also follow The Curriculum for Excellence.

Staff at both registered and non-registered establishments are fully disclosed by being members of the PVG scheme and both types of establishment form an important role in local communities.

To arrange a visit or enquire about availability at one of the nurseries or playgroups you should contact the group direct. Contact details can be found by

clicking [here](#) or by emailing us at [spell.org@btopenworld.com](mailto:spell.org@btopenworld.com)

If you run a baby & toddler group and would like any of these establishments to come out to visit your group and talk to parents about availability, the application process and the service they provide to families in the local community, they would be more than happy to do so.

## Meningitis Now

Although meningitis can affect anyone of any age, babies and young children are most at risk. Despite vaccines being available to protect against some types, there are still thousands of cases each year in the UK.

The Meningitis Aware Recognition Mark (MARM) toolkit has been developed by Meningitis Now to help those providing childcare to the under-5s ensure that staff, parents and carers know about meningitis, recognising and spotting the signs early.

Establishments can register FREE with Meningitis Now. To be awarded with the MARM there is a checklist which each provider will need to complete. The checklist will include providing information and training to staff about the signs and symptoms of meningitis and what action to take if a child is ill. All resources are also available for FREE on the Meningitis Now website. If you would like your establishment to be awarded with the Meningitis Aware Recognition Mark please visit

<https://www.meningitisnow.org/how-we-help/marm/meningitis-aware-recognition-mark-nurseries/>

