

## Partnership working

While the SQA accreditation is a reward for the efforts of the Learning and Development Team, we must acknowledge the phenomenal support provided by SDS and SQA in guiding us through the application and qualification approval processes. The continued guidance of Keith Greene of SDS and Graham Campbell from the SQA to submit the required student information, periodic reports, and updates is greatly appreciated. Linda King, Events Co-ordinator & School/College Liaison Officer with the Highland Council has also provided invaluable advice and communication support for liaison with participating schools.



## New Foundation Apprenticeship course at CALA

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 9 students from secondary schools in the Inverness and Nairn areas began the very first Foundation Apprenticeship to be delivered by CALA.

Achieving SQA approval and developing the course content for 'Social Services Children and Young People' has been a significant piece of work for the Learning and Development Team. CALA are responsible for both delivering the academic content and providing the placement opportunities for the students in our own Early Learning and Childcare settings, enabling them to put theory into practice with support from, qualified, experienced practitioners.

The students have engaged very well with the early start 'taster' sessions which due to Covid-19 lockdown were delivered online throughout June. We are really looking forward to having them back with us soon after the start of the new term.



## SDS Webinar

SDS invited us to attend a webinar designed to promote nationwide engagement and collaboration on how to adapt and overcome the challenges of training delivery during lockdown restrictions and recovery among training providers.

After hearing some of the challenges from national organisations SDS and SQA, Corrina Shearer gave a very informative presentation on how CALA intends to overcome the challenges through a programme of blended delivery.

The session provided some answers, more questions and, perhaps most crucially, introductions. By engaging in a national cohesive response to training delivery, both during and after COVID-19 lockdowns, CALA can help to inform solutions, learn from others and consolidate our position as providers of high-quality learning in childcare and related services in Highland and beyond.



## Bus Passes

One of the initial challenges for our young students is likely to be making their way to our learning base in the Longman area of Inverness.

Highland Council will assist with the provision of bus passes purchased by CALA which will entitle the students to free travel on city bus services to attend the course each Friday in Inverness.

## Future Correspondence

We are really looking forward to continuing our Foundation Apprentice journey with all our students, colleagues and partners.

"We are delighted to be welcoming our Children and Young People Foundation Apprentices to CALA and looking forward to seeing and building on the creativity they will bring to #Teamcala"

Jaci Douglas, CEO CALA

Please look out for our quarterly newsletter where we hope to update you on all the progress we have made and our plans for future course delivery.

**Thanks for reading!**

[www.careandlearningalliance.co.uk/foundation-apprenticeships/](http://www.careandlearningalliance.co.uk/foundation-apprenticeships/)