

A photograph of two young children in a lush garden. A girl with long brown hair, wearing a white shirt and a blue and white striped skirt, is holding a small white flower to her nose. A boy with blonde hair, wearing a white shirt and blue overalls, is reaching out towards her. They are surrounded by green foliage and a wooden fence in the background.

Professional Learning

For people working with and for young children
and their families

Introduction

Care and Learning Alliance (CALA) has over 30 years experience in designing and delivering professional learning and quality assurance. In recent years we've expanded delivery across Scotland through both face-to-face and virtual delivery.

We hope you find something of interest in the range of courses offered: to find out more, simply call us on **01463 222569** or email info@calachildcare.co.uk and we'll put you in touch with an experienced team member to discuss your needs, cost and tailored content. We're designing new courses all the time, so if you don't see what you need, give us a call, we'll do our best to help.

Implementation of Children's Rights, links to Realising the Ambition, How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare and other related national guidance and frameworks are embedded in each course.

All CALA courses contribute to continuous professional development; participation certificates are provided.

Face-to-Face Sessions

- How Young Children Learn
- Nurturing Literacy & Numeracy Outdoors
- Nurturing Early Numeracy & Maths
- Get Creative with Technologies
- Responsive and Intentional Floor Book Planning
- Sensory Play
- Tuned in for twos
- Loose Parts Play
- Self Evaluation for Continuous Improvement ELC/SAC

Virtual

- Making effective use of 'My World Triangle'
- Schematic Play
- Setting the Table
- Children's Rights
- An Introduction to Play into Practice in School-Aged Childcare
- Nurturing Creativity
- Outdoor Play and Learning
- Outdoor Play for Parent, Baby & Toddler Groups
- Treasure Basket and Heuristic Play
- Realising the Ambition
- Floor Book Planning
- Vision, Values and Aims
- Self Evaluation for Continuous Improvement in ELC/SAC



Read on for course details.....

What our learners say

Thank you so much for pulling this course together, it reminded me of my own experiences as a child – mud pies and beasts! Our practitioners were very inspired and this has boosted their confidence to get out there with children and support family learning too.

Realising the Ambition, Edinburgh 2021

Online platform was ideal, excellent course - felt very empathetic and somewhat emotional watching the trauma informed video

Making effective use of 'My World Triangle', Highland 2021

Fantastic training, very appropriate and so meaningful and interactive

Schematic Play
Childminder, Highland 2020

This training was great and was lovely that it was still interactive even though it was virtual. Really liked the jamboards.

Tuned in for two's , Moray 2021

This course really helped us think of ourselves as professionals and just how key effective communication is to everything that we do. We've got plenty of strategies to help us now.

Professional Conversations,
Argyll and Bute 2021

Really positive experience for us as we saw how we already implement children's rights in practice but we will be doing more now. We've incorporated CR articles into our Vision Values and Aims and are promoting awareness with families and community.

Children's Rights ,Moray 2021



Face to Face Learning Sessions

2.5 hours

How Young Children Learn

Children are often more knowledgeable than we think! A practical session including a key focus on child development and the learning process:

- Explore learning theories, how, when and where children learn and implications for skilled adult interactions.
- Consider strategies to scaffold children's learning effectively, building on their existing knowledge and aptitudes.
- Look outwards at practice examples, professional reflection and planning improvement.

Nurturing Early Numeracy & Maths

Opportunities are all around us!

- Explore a range of opportunities for child led, adult facilitated maths and numeracy learning through playful inquiry, discovery and creativity.
- Ways to nurture learning from everyday situations, routines and resources, both natural and man-made to provide relevant and meaningful contexts for learning.



Nurturing Literacy & Numeracy Outdoors

A practical, mostly outdoor course where you will explore ways to provide rich, playful learning experiences outdoors.

- Explore ways to maximise opportunities for spontaneous, as well as intentional learning in the outdoor environment.
- Consider planning, resources, children's learning styles, and meaningful ways to involve children in their own learning.

NB. *Please come suitably dressed and with appropriate footwear for the outdoors*

Get Creative with Technologies

It's so much more than digital!

- Explore the use of familiar, everyday items to provide rich opportunities for children to develop their technology skills.
- Try out ways to enable children to create their own 'technology' and consider strategies to support problem-solving, creative thinking and collaborative learning.

Responsive & Intentional Floor Book Planning

- Explore simple strategies to be responsive to children's ideas and interests blended with intentional learning opportunities through skilled adult interactions.
- Support children's understanding of themselves as learners and collaborative recording to demonstrate progression, principles of curriculum design and next steps.

Sensory Play

(incorporating Treasure Basket & Heuristic Play)

- Gain an understanding of the developmental benefits and practicalities of sensory play with a focus on practical examples of Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play.
- Explore practice examples, resources and considerations for child-led sensory exploration and discovery.

Tuned in to Two's

How best we can support these busy little explorers!

- Gain an understanding of the sequence of early child development and some of the expected behaviours of the toddler stage.
- Explore the key features of what two-year-olds need from spaces, interactions and experiences and how to best to meet these.

Loose Parts Play

(Making something out of nothing in ELC, SAC & Primary)

- Explore Loose Parts Play focusing on the Toolkit from Inspiring Scotland.
- Gain an understanding of the benefits of providing low-cost, easily accessible large and small scale loose parts play indoors and out through a 'playful' approach to supporting children's learning.
- Explore considerations for planning, gathering resources, the adult role, working in partnership.

NB. *This course includes practical elements which may take place outdoors so please come comfortably dressed and with suitable footwear.*

Virtual Learning Sessions



Our simple to follow joining guidance enable users to join us securely on Google Meet where sessions include tutor presentation, hosted discussions, video, reflective tasks and chat.

All courses take account of national guidance including Realising the Ambition: Being Me and How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare with related links included in a summary handout emailed to all participants along with a course completion certificate.

Learning gained can be used to help meet quality expectations within the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare.

Virtual sessions vary in length from 1 hour to 2.5 hours. Courses can be commissioned for up to 35 learners- variance of numbers by quotation.

Virtual courses available from August 2021

Schematic Play – 1 hour 15m

- Consider some of the expected behaviours of the toddler stage.
- Take a close look at the different types of schematic play and how to use these effectively to plan environments and experiences.
- Identify key features of high-quality adult interactions to support toddlers in their play, learning and development.

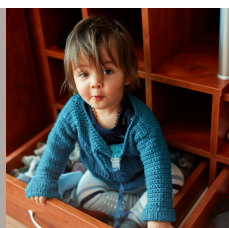
Setting the Table -1 hour

Nutritional Guidance and Food Standards for Early Years Childcare Providers in Scotland

- Gain knowledge and understanding on key aspects of the national guidance.
- Consider delivery implications of the expansion for ELC and our role in supporting high-quality experiences for children.
- Raise/refresh awareness of ways to implement the guidance effectively in practice.

Making effective use of the My World Triangle - 1 hour

- Revisit key aspects of Getting it Right for Every Child.
- Demonstrate how you can use the My World Triangle as a tool to take an overview of a child's world.
- Consider ways to use this effectively with stakeholders and other agencies to plan to meet a child's needs.





Children's Rights

- Give an overview of children's rights in Scotland.
- Refresh our awareness of specific articles in relation to childcare
- Reflect on how we currently implement children's rights in policy and daily practice.
- Consider aspects for improvement.

An Introduction to Play into Practice in School-Aged Childcare - 1 hour

- Refresh awareness of Play in relation to Children's Rights and links to National Guidance. .
- Take an overview of the Playwork Principles.
- Explore how we plan and facilitate quality playful interactions, spaces and experiences, inclusive of Playtypes and Loose Parts methodology.
- Consider aspects of practice for improvement.

Nurturing Creativity 1 hour 45

- Reflect on key aspects of how young children learn and the powerful contribution play makes to children's overall development and learning.
- Define the concepts of creativity and creative learning, and how these affect all aspects of young children's development and learning.
- Consider how we develop experiences, interactions, and spaces to support young children's creativity and creative learning.

Outdoor Play & Learning 1 hour 45m

- Increase understanding of the national context for outdoor learning and available support guidance.
- Consider planning which extends children's interests indoors to outdoor contexts.
- Explore practice examples and cross-curricular learning based on children's interests and inquiry.

Outdoor Play for Parent, Baby and Toddler Groups - 1 hour

- Take a close look at considerations for outdoor play sessions for the under 3's based on national guidance.
- Explore ways to provide rich, playful experiences to support our youngest children's learning and development.
- Explore opportunities to promote literacy and numeracy through the rich learning opportunities provided by outdoor sensory play and exploration provides.

Treasure Baskets & Heuristic Play 1 hour 30m

- Explore what is meant by Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play and ways to provide this for babies, toddlers and children up to school age.
- Consider opportunities to support children's sensory development and language and numeracy .



Floor Book Planning - 1 hour 30m

(Takes account of RTA and responsive planning)

- Explore meaningful ways to support child-led, adult supported play and learning based on children's interests and inquiry.
- Plan for responsively for both spontaneous and intentional planning.
- Demonstrate the use of Floor Books as a tool to support children to plan, record and review their learning and progression in meaningful ways.
- Gain an understanding of the criteria for effective floor book plans and how to implement this in practice.

Self-Evaluation 1 hour 30m

- Explore the principles of self-evaluation leading to improvement.
- Support you to use the national framework and a range of associated national guidance as tools to reflect, evaluate and plan next steps.
- Demonstrate practical ways to embed this in practice and involve all stakeholders.

Realising the ambition: Being Me

National practice guidance
for early years in Scotland



Introduction to Realising the Ambition: Being Me

Two-part course 2 x 2 hours (delivery options available)

Part 1:

- Explore an overview of the national practice guidance for early years in Scotland.
- Develop a deeper, shared understanding of the key messages.
- Policy and practice implications for you, your colleagues and your setting.
- Critically reflect on practice and ways to use the guidance to make any necessary changes to embed RTA in your setting.

Part 2:

- Further explore how children learn – a brief look at Schematic Play.
- Child-led learning – nurturing curiosity and creativity.
- Spontaneous and intentional learning through pedagogical approaches including heuristic play.
- Self-evaluation for continuous improvement.

Vision Values & Aims - 1 hour 30m

- Support understanding of what vision, values and aims are and their purpose.
- Consider how to develop these, who to involve and ways to do this.
- Demonstrate ways to achieve your vision values and aims and monitor progress and impact.

Professional Conversations 1 hour 30m

- Explore the importance of and range of professional communication.
- Support understanding of factors affecting professional conversations and ways to manage these effectively.
- Consider ways to support mutually respectful professional conversations consistently.

Safe

Healthy

Achieving

Nurturing

Active

Respected

Responsible

Included

CALA e-learning zone

CALA E-Learning Zone

Learning anytime, anywhere!

Certificate of Achievement
This certificate is proudly presented to
The Learning Alliance of Scotland
Supporting Young Children's Behaviour

Our Courses

1. Building the Ambition
2. Introduction to Risk Assessment
3. Literacy: Learning for Life
4. Top Tips for Interacting with
5. Young children
6. How we eat
7. Healthy Body image and Body Confidence
8. Smart Start
9. Young carers – seen, heard, supported
10. SOSCN- Supporting Activity and Wellbeing
11. Introduction to Child Protection
12. Introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation
13. Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse
14. Understanding the Child's Plan
15. What makes a good Chronology
16. Setting up a Gaelic Medium Toddler Group
17. Supporting Young Children's Behaviour – for parents
18. Supporting Young Children's Behaviour – for practitioners

Over 10,000 modules accessed in last year

CALA learning is supported by the Scottish Government's Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund.

Don't forget our CALA short format interactive e-modules

Choose from:

- Understanding Child Protection*
- Gender Equal Play
- Understanding the Child's Plan*
- Introduction to Risk Assessment
- What Makes a Good Chronology?*
- Activity & Wellbeing*
- Think You Know Neglect?*
- Top Tips for Interacting with Young Children
- Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse*
- Literacy; Learning for Life
- Supporting Young Children's Behaviour – Parent*
- Supporting Young Children's Behaviour – Practitioners
- Smart Start*
- How We Eat*
- Healthy Body image, body Confidence*
- Connecting Young Carers*

Excellent mix of written and visual explanation, easy to digest and offers extra reading outwith the course
Very well structured course for the intended learning outcome thank you

I enjoy using the Cala E-Learning Zone, it's great that so many of the courses are free! I like the blend of presentation, that I can replay and revisit at any time and I've downloaded/printed off helpful info sheets to use with family and at work.

Thanks for a really interesting interactive course. I'll certainly be giving things a lot more thought before judging children and parents.

***Free**

Discounts are available for bulk buy purchases - please contact us to discuss.



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