West Lothian Council

WLC ELC Standards and Quality Report for Session 2025-2026

KIRKNEWTON NURSERY

ELC Self Evaluation How good is our school? The quality indicators evidence that:	
Leadership of continuous improvement	Very good
Learning, teaching and assessment	Very good
Wellbeing, inclusion and equality	Very good
Children's progress	Very good

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ELC Context:

Kirknewton Nursery is situated within Kirknewton Primary School, a non-denominational setting located in the supportive village of Kirknewton. The school, originally built in 1924, serves a supportive community and provides a welcoming and nurturing environment for children and families.

The nursery is open 50 weeks of the year and currently caters for 44 children in total, including both ante-pre-school and pre-school learners. The nursery team consists of one Early Years Officer, four Early Years Practitioners and three Pupil Support Workers, all of whom work collaboratively to support children's learning and development. The nursery is led by a Principal Teacher and Early Learning Centre Area Support Manager (ELCASM). The wider school is led by one Head Teacher and two part-time Principal Teachers (one of which leads the nursery), with a total of seven classes across the primary stages.

At the heart of Kirknewton Nursery are its core values of kindness, caring and creativity. These values underpin everyday practice and interactions, supporting children to develop positive relationships, confidence and a love of learning within a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment.

What has your Child's ELC been doing to improve this year?

Improvement in all children and young people's wellbeing:

- Improved learner's learning and experiences of health and wellbeing through a well-planned curriculum offer.
- Built a sustainable solution to support Health and Wellbeing across the nursery setting.

Raising attainment for all, particularly in literacy and numeracy (universal):

- Improved support and challenge for all learners through differentiated and tailored support, focussed observations and targeted Skills Time sessions.

Tackling the attainment gap between the most and least advantaged children (targeted):

- Improved approaches to learning, teaching and assessment to ensure all learners, despite barriers, reach their full potential.

Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive nursery leaver destinations for all young people:

- Improve learner's knowledge of themselves as a learner and what evidences success.

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Achievements we're proud of this year:

What have been the impact of our improvements?

- Increased family engagement opportunities through the Family Learning Calendar including Stay and Plays, Christmas Singalong, Spring Walk fundraiser, Family fun sessions and curricular workshops.
- Introduction of two new interventions (Playbox and Sensory Circuits) and regulation strategies to support emotional regulation and play skills.
- Increased awareness of safety and children's rights through SIMOA and Rights Rabbit.
- Stronger partnership working with agencies to support pupil's needs including health visitor, Kinship Carer, SALT, EP, OT and Community Paediatrics.
- Refreshed lending library, introduction of Book Bug sessions, Word Boost and Renfrew assessments and interventions to enhance pupil's literacy development.
- Positive engagement with Wildside Nature and NYCOS and staff fire pit training to enhance curriculum delivery.
- Environmental audits and actions to maintain positive interactions, spaces and experiences.
- Introduction of individual and group trackers and 'Focus Child' to ensure targeted focussed sessions to raise attainment.
- Through the P1 Transition Roadmap, a wide range of transition activities available for parent/carer and child to attend to ensure a smooth transition to P1. Targeted enhanced transition available for identified pupils also.

What our children say:



'I learn lots of new things at nursery'

'The most fun right to learn about, is the right to learn'

'If someone new comes to the nursery, we show them where the toys are to make them feel included'

What our families say:

'I am very impressed with the nursery overall. My child has been given a great start in preparation for starting school and the nursery has a great involvement in that'

'The staff have all been brilliant. There are lots of varied opportunities and events and so much transition activities'

'I think my child has been really well supported, particularly when understanding their individual characteristics and traits'

'The nursery has given my child the opportunity to develop skills like numeracy, literacy and creative arts and crafts. The staff are kind, fantastic and have taken time to get to know my child and their strengths and development areas very well'

What can your child look forward to next session?

- Further develop outdoor learning including fire pit experiences and reintroduce parent and child forest sessions.
- Strengthen ASN support including varied sensory play, relaxations and regulation interventions.
- Enhance communication strategies within the nursery to support dysregulation and EAL children.
- Embed UNCRC through 'Rights Rabbit'.
- Increase communication with parents on how they can support their child's literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing development.
- Continue to strengthen partner agency working to further support children's needs.
- Capture regular pupil voice through creating podcasts and Microsoft Forms and adapt future planning.
- Embed current literacy interventions including Bookbug sessions and introduce Colourful Semantics.
- Adaptations and enhancements of the curriculum based on the refresh of the Curriculum for Excellence.
- Increase children's ICT skills and awareness of online safety through 'Digiduck'
- Continue to deliver high quality Skills Time sessions and provocations focussing on areas for development highlighted on the trackers to raise attainment.

How do we know we have made a difference? What does this mean for your child?

- Strengthened parental engagement and understanding of vital role they play within their child's development.
- Continuous progress made by all children within literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing evident on attainment trackers.
- Robust assessment measures tailored to individual pupils and progress regularly reported to parent/carers.
- All children's needs are being met through partnership working, parental involvement and individualised target setting through personal plans.
- High quality Skills Time sessions linked to progress trackers delivered to all children daily.
- Continuous development of ASN strategies to support all children's needs.
- Targeted interventions supporting literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing progress.
- Careful consideration is given to the nursery environment on a regular basis resulting in effective spaces, interactions and experiences.
- The curriculum makes real life links to prepare children with life-long learning and promoting independence.
- Positive interactions, enjoyment and feedback from pupils and parent/carers on the delivery of Wildside Nature outdoor learning and NYCOS music lessons. Staff development from modelling of these sessions.
- Resilience and confidence building in the children over the year.

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Sample Preschool tracker progress within one aspect of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing:





