Crèche Worker Training Course

Community Learning and Development, (previously Community Education) is part of the Education Division in Midlothian Council. The service has been through a number of changes since 1998 when the report Communities, Change through Learning was produced.

Much of the work is carried out through partnership working and Midlothian Council’s CLD Partnership Strategy for 2005–2008 is available on the Council’s website.

Community Learning and Development works within the Scottish Executive and Westminster Parliament’s three key priorities: Lifelong Learning, Active Citizenship and Social Inclusion, and its key functions are Personal Development and Capacity Building.

Community Learning and Development works across four neighbourhood teams by means of thematic work — Adult Learning, including Adult Literacy and Numeracy, Work with children and young people and Community capacity building. It is served by a headquarters team and a Quality Assurance Team made up of Thematic and Neighbourhood Team Leaders.

The Qualification(s)/Learning Programme(s)

Midlothian Community Learning and Development provides a range of learning programmes for adults, including an advertised mainstream programme and a community-based programme which seeks to encourage adults back into learning. The Crèche Worker Course is part of the Community-based programme.

Overall aim of the Crèche Worker Training course

Midlothian Council Community Learning and Development runs the crèche course —

- To ensure and improve the quality of Community Learning crèche provision in Midlothian.
- To enable adults to access community-based adult learning opportunities as a first step back to learning.

General Objectives

- To ensure crèche provision meets standards laid down by the Care Commission.
- To enable crèche workers to have the confidence and skills to work with pre-school children.
- To increase the number of crèche workers available.
- To raise awareness of employment prospects and other educational opportunities available.
- To create an environment which encourages adult returners to access learning opportunities.
Reasons for submitting qualification/learning programme for Credit Rating and Levelling

- The course would sit within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).
- The course participants, Further Education providers and other employers would be able to see the level of learning/understanding involved in the course and match that against other learning opportunities.
- The course would have greater currency; participants could take the credits with them to other learning opportunities.
- Recognition of Prior Learning would be made an easier process as course participants would be able to make use of the course Learning Objectives, developed for the submission, and the course level in their applications.

The Crèche Worker course is a key element of Midlothian Community Learning and Development’s Community Based Adult Learning Programme. Having the course credit rated and levelled would give value to the course and its role in attracting adults into learning or moving them on to further learning. It would also recognise the work of the CLD Workers who developed this in-house course.

Benefits

There are benefits to the course participants and to the course providers —

- Easier for the course participants to use the course in a variety of ways, eg Recognition of Prior Learning.
- Employers and other learning providers know that the course meets particular standards and they can see at a glance the SCQF level and amount of learning involved.
- The credit rating and level can be used to find out how the course sits with those child care courses recognised by the Scottish Social Services Council, including in relation to recognition of prior learning.
- Recognises the value of the Crèche Worker course as a pre-recruitment course and as a springboard into employment or further learning.
- Attracts more participants because of these added benefits.

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<th>OUTCOME</th>
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The Crèche Worker Training Course
Midlothian Council