

## **Information for Candidates June 2026**

### **Who We Are**

The Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN) is a Scottish registered charity (SC020520), established in 1991 and is the national infrastructure umbrella organisation providing support, mentoring, training, information and resources to the nearly 1,000 school-aged childcare services in Scotland, which provide childcare, play and learning to over 50,000 children.

All of our work is underpinned by a commitment to supporting and promoting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), in particular Articles 31; the right to culture leisure, rest and play; Article 12, the right to consultation and Article 18; states parties to develop appropriate services to support families, including assistance with childcare for working parents. We also have a particular focus on children in need or on poverty (Article 22) and support the provision of care for children with disabilities (article 23).

We are also committed to promoting and delivering the outcomes of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and the Playwork Principles.

We also engage strategically at national and local levels to assist in the development and delivery of policies relating to childcare, children's rights and family support.

### **Our Structure**

The Scottish Out of School Care Network is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status (Scottish charity number: SC020520), and has an annually elected board

### **Our Vision**

For all children in Scotland, to have access to high quality play, care and learning opportunities which meet their individual needs, before and after school, and all day during school holidays.

For all children in Scotland to have their rights fulfilled according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

### **Our work**

The Scottish Out of School Care Network works to promote and support the development and maintenance of high quality school-aged childcare in Scotland before and after school during term-time, and all day during school holidays.

### **Our Services**

We provide information and guidance to School Age Childcare (SAC) services, staff, management, parents and children. We deliver Achieving Quality Scotland (AQS), SOSCN's Quality Improvement Framework, as well as a variety of training session to raise and maintain standards within services. We have a range of publications and also host events across Scotland.

### **Our Values**

We are firmly committed to inclusion and equality; we are part of several campaigns UK and Scotland wide seeking to address the issue of child poverty. Everyone involved with us, as board members, employees, or freelancers, are expected to follow our code of conduct in public life and other policies relevant to their role. In turn, the organisation is a fair employer, with a strong commitment to supporting staff and providing the right training and mentoring support where needed to help ensure they can carry out their work well.

<b>SOSCN Staff</b>	<b>SOSCN Board</b>
Audrey Anderson, Chief Executive Officer	Anne Dick, Chair
Finlay Wright, ICT Manager	Lesley Compston
Patrick Morrison, Policy and Membership Manager	Steph Grant
	Marie Elizabeth McQuade
	Laura Potter
	Clare Swann

### School Age Childcare in Scotland

School age childcare, also known as out of school care, is the largest sector providing play, care, and informal learning opportunities for school-aged children outside formal education. Services all provide child-centred care after school, and some additionally provide breakfast clubs and all-day holiday care. Not including family centres there are 753 registered school age childcare services in Scotland, and 50 540 children of school age are registered to school age childcare services. (Care Inspectorate, 2024).

School age childcare services operating for more than 2 hours each day are required to register with the Care Inspectorate, and staff are regulated by the Scottish Social Services Council. Staff in registered settings are required to meet the same regulation and qualification requirements as those in early years settings. Parents using school age childcare services registered with the Care Inspectorate may be able to access government support to pay for childcare costs through tax credits or the Tax-free childcare system.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.soscn.org](http://www.soscn.org)