

MANIFESTO FOR OUT OF SCHOOL CARE 2016

The Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN) is calling on MSPs of all parties to:
(SOSCN is a Scottish registered charity: SC020520)

1. Support the creation of a national policy and strategy for out of school care which recognises the vital role school-age childcare services play in ensuring the best outcomes for children and families in Scotland, with actions to ensure school-age childcare services are appropriately supported and resourced across the country.
2. Enable wider access, both during term-time and holidays, to out of school care services across Scotland for children in need, especially children with disabilities and families in poverty.
3. Actively support and promote the inclusion of out of school care services within local community planning to ensure the best possible wellbeing outcomes for children and families.
4. Support the maintenance and where required, further development, of the current level of out of school care provision across Scotland- out of school care services are key to parents of school-age children either remaining in, or accessing, employment and education opportunities.
5. Ensure ongoing financial commitment to support the continued development of the out of school care workforce.
6. Support research and study into the benefits of out of school care on children's wellbeing and development.
7. Work with their colleagues in the UK Parliament to ensure parents of children access help with the costs of school age childcare through tax credits/ universal credit and childcare voucher schemes.

#osc2016





The Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN)

The Scottish Out of School Care Network is the national charitable organisation (Scottish charity no: SC020520) supporting the development of high quality out of school care, which includes term-time after school, holiday and breakfast clubs, across Scotland. All of our work is underpinned by our commitment to supporting and promoting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and supporting the wellbeing of children through the GIRFEC approach.

SOSCN supports children's rights to play, care and learning.

Address: SOSCN, Level 2, 100 Wellington Street, Glasgow G 2 6DH
Web: www.soscn.org
Twitter: @twitter

Out of School Care in Scotland

In Scotland there are nearly 980 after school care services, 585 holiday services and 536 breakfast clubs. In total the sector provides childcare places for over 50,000 children; this makes it the largest provider of play and leisure opportunities for primary school-age children in Scotland.

Out of school care services are registered with, and regulated by, the Care Inspectorate against the same national care standards as other daycare of children services such as nurseries.

Out of school care staff are registered with, and regulated by, the Scottish Social Services Council; in accordance with legislation, managers of out of school care services must either be qualified to, or working towards a degree level qualification in Childhood Practice, the same as managers of other daycare of children services.

Although out of school care has a key role in supporting parents and carers access employment and training opportunities, we believe that out of school care should be based upon the child's needs for play, care and learning opportunities outside school, and as such should be a universal right for all children.

How Out of School Care Supports the Wellbeing of Children

Out of school care services are child-centred services operating with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) at the heart of their work- out of school care ensures that all children have their rights to be consulted and listened to; to access play, leisure, rest and cultural activities, and for disabled children to be supported by appropriate services.

Out of school care services should meet the individual needs of the children in their care and support the children's wellbeing and development.

