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QUALITY IMPROVEMENT THROUGHOUT A CHILD'S JOURNEY – AWARDS TO CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS

18 March 2016

Dear colleague,

I am writing to provide you with some more information about the Quality Improvement Awards that I announced last November at the first ever Early Years Collaborative and Raising Attainment for All joint Learning Session.

Organised by the Scottish Government, the Quality Improvement Awards (2016) will celebrate the improvement work of practitioners in services that deliver throughout the child's journey. The awards will be aimed at those practitioners who have used improvement methodology to explore and deliver better ways of working to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

Nominations can come from those involved in the Maternity and Children's Quality Improvement Collaborative (MCQIC), the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) and Raising Attainment for All programme (RAFA) and others who use quality improvement (QI) to improve services for children and families across Scotland. The three QI programmes span every age and stage across the journey of a child: from maternity services to high school education, aiming to intervene and to prioritise prevention.

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Quality improvement could not be delivered without the support and buy-in from practitioners across children's services. We would like to work with you and your teams to:

- recognise and promote where quality improvements have been tested, measured and implemented
- increase awareness of the value of quality improvement in helping services to make a positive difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable children and young people
- harness local evidence and examples about what is proven to work in building the capacity of families.

Our next joint Learning Session is on 15 and 16 November and the Quality Improvement Awards ceremony is scheduled to be held on the evening of **Tuesday 15 November** to combine with this.

All shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend the awards ceremony. This will provide a significant opportunity to share learning and to help us identify the real nuggets of local improvement work that could be scaled up and spread across areas or even boundaries.

I therefore ask for your support to champion and promote the Quality Improvement Awards in your area and to encourage your change leaders and practitioners to submit strong evidence based, outcome focused applications.

The Awards will open early in May 2016 when we will also provide further information about the categories and overall process for applications.



AILEEN CAMPBELL