

Date: 22 May 2018

For immediate release

New learning resources to support early learning workforce

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) launched new learning resources to support early learning and childcare workers at a Scottish Government event in Glasgow today (Tuesday 22 May 2018).

The free digital resources will support the workforce at a time of major expansion with recruitment of thousands of new workers to meet the Scottish Government's commitment to increase free provision to 1,140 hours by 2020.

- **[Observing children](#)**
This online practice simulator allows workers to observe children at play while in different workplace settings to help them develop observation and recording skills, which play a key role in early learning and childcare.
- **[Child development](#)**
This app is an essential reference for early years practitioners in Scotland containing important aspects of national guidance and a mix of information and real world activities to support practice.
- **[Mentoring for early learning and childcare services](#)**
This app will help you implement a mentoring programme in your early learning and childcare service. We've designed it to help your service reach its potential and to support the continuous professional development of workers.

All of the resources are interactive and will support practitioners' knowledge and understanding. By working through the resources they will also be able to gain [Open Badges](#), which are a way of recognising and recording learning.

Welcoming the new resources Interim Chief Executive Lorraine Gray said: 'The early learning and childcare workforce were one of the first groups on our Register and they embraced learning and development opportunities to form a strong sense of professional identity.

'Our new resources will help the workforce to continue developing good practice and with an estimated 11,000 new workers being recruited by 2020 we hope they will support all of those joining the workforce too.'

Maree Todd, Minister for Childcare and Early Years, opened the Early Learning and Childcare National Learning event at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Delegates from across Scotland attended the event to hear from a range of

speakers and take part in workshops to support plans for early learning and childcare expansion.

ENDS

Notes to the editor

Media enquiries

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Background

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is the regulator for the social service workforce in Scotland. Our work means the people of Scotland can count on social services being provided by a trusted, skilled and confident workforce.

We protect the public by registering social service workers, setting standards for their practice, conduct, training and education and by supporting their professional development. Where people fall below the standards of practice and conduct we can investigate and take action.

We:

- publish the national codes of practice for people working in social services and their employers
- register people working in social services and make sure they adhere to our codes of practice
- promote and regulate the learning and development of the social service workforce
- are the national lead for workforce development and planning for social services in Scotland.

Each country in the UK has its own regulatory body that is responsible for the registration and regulation of social workers and/or social service workers in their country. They are: the Social Care Wales, the Northern Ireland Social Care Council and the SSSC. The Health and Care Professions Council regulates social workers in England only.

Find out more about us at:

Website: www.sssc.uk.com

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SSSCnews>

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