Scotland Policy Conferences keynote seminar
Early Years provision: expanding childcare, growing and diversifying the workforce, and
the future for the Scottish National Standardised Assessments

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 12th March 2020
Venue: The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ

Agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05 Chair’s opening remarks
Iain Gray MSP, Member, Education and Skills Committee

9.05 - 9.30 Building a flexible and high-quality early years system
Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Children and Young People
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 - 10.15 Progress and next steps: expanding funded childcare and addressing disadvantage in the early years
Doreen Watson, Service Manager Children, Care Inspectorate
Eileen Prior, Executive Director, Connect
Cameron Sprague, Team Leader, Stramash Fort William Outdoor Nursery
Victoria Smith, Service Leader (Early Years & Early Intervention), Angus Council
Questions and comments from the floor

10.15 - 11.00 Supporting, growing and diversifying the early years workforce - recruitment and staff development
Khadija Mohammed, Senior Lecturer, School of Education, University of the West of Scotland and Member, Working Group for Diversity in the Teaching Profession
Kenny Spence, Project Manager, Men in Childcare
Jackie Galbraith, Principal and Chief Executive Officer, West Lothian College
Questions and comments from the floor

11.00 - 11.20 Key sector priorities - ensuring high quality provision
Jean Carwood-Edwards, Chief Executive, Early Years Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor

11.20 - 11.50 Coffee

11.50 - 11.55 Chair’s opening remarks
Beatrice Wishart MSP, Member, Education and Skills Committee

11.55 - 12.15 The future of Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA) for P1 pupils - addressing concerns and implementation.
David Leng, Professional Advisor, The Scottish Government
Questions and comments from the floor

12.15 - 12.55 The next steps for the SNSA - stakeholder perspectives on implementation
Margot MacAlister, Headteacher, St Francis Primary School
Sue Palmer, Literacy Specialist and Chair, Upstart Scotland
Jane Peckham, National Official, NASUWT Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chair’s and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks
Beatrice Wishart MSP, Member, Education and Skills Committee
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Scotland Policy Conferences