

## **West Dunbartonshire Council**

### **Report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services**

**Children's Services Committee: 11 October 2006**

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**Subject: Career Box – Early Years Careers Education Initiative**

#### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1** To provide information to Members of the Committee on the Career Box initiative within early years education led by Careers Scotland.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** In line with A Curriculum for Excellence the Department aims to develop the capacity in all children to be confident individuals, successful learners, effective contributors and responsible citizens. Careers education and knowledge of the world of work support the development of these capacities and contribute to West Dunbartonshire's children having high expectations and aspirations for the future.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** Children within West Dunbartonshire Early Education and Childcare Centres are taking part in an exciting and enjoyable initiative which is enabling them to access materials online from Careers Scotland. The resources introduce children, at a very early age, to a programme which will help them develop career planning skills for the future.
- 3.2** The programme is part of a comprehensive initiative across all sectors which takes a common approach throughout the child's education allowing each child to access age appropriate materials from the website as they move on through primary and secondary education.
- 3.3** Currently the initiative is being trialled in St. Peter's, Gavinburn and Whitecrook Early Education and Childcare Centres but it is hoped this can be extended to other centres over time.

#### **4. Personnel Issues**

- 4.1** This is delivered as part of the Early Years Curriculum and as such there are no personnel implications.

## **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** The software to support this initiative is provided by Careers Scotland. There are no financial implications for the Education Service.

## **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1** The Career Box initiative makes a positive contribution to the 3 to 18 Curriculum in relation to careers education. The material is presented in an age appropriate way for nursery children and provides a foundation upon which future knowledge and aspirations can be built.
- 6.2** The Career Box programme will be extended to other Early Education and Childcare Centres.

## **7. Recommendations**

- 7.1** Members are asked to note the content of this report and the supporting presentation which will be given at the Children's Services Committee.

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**Background Papers:** No background papers

**Wards Affected:** Initially 1,11,14 but soon to be extended to all wards.