



Report for the Helensburgh and Lomond Planning Group February 2022

Sessions and Activities

Following the Christmas break Fun First has returned to weekly sessions following the government guidelines on numbers, social distancing and mask wearing.

Funtime Sessions continue to be held in Helensburgh Library, The Drumfork Centre, Gibson Hall Garelochhead, Colgrain House and The Helensburgh Community Hub. A new session will start in Cardross Library following the February Half Term and in Rosneath as soon as the venue is available.

Our Fitness Sessions have restarted in the Victoria Halls.

We now run twice weekly parent and child yoga sessions and are in the process of setting up baby massage sessions.

Sadly we had to postpone our Christmas Party amid concerns re Omicron and Covid regulations.

Future Plans

We have plans this year for a party to celebrate our 20th Anniversary in May and an Easter Egg Hunt in James Street Community Garden.

It is fantastic to see that a small, local, organisation set up by a group of parents, who identified a need, continues to thrive and grow twenty years later.

The legacy of lockdowns and covid restrictions makes Fun First even more valuable, as it provides opportunities for parents, grandparents, carers, babies and pre schoolers to meet once again and socialise whilst enjoying stories, songs, rhymes, fitness activities and a chance to talk.

All of these carefully planned activities led by fully trained leaders are designed to enhance language development, parenting skills and aim to offer support to young families and decrease isolation.

Our new group Fun First Friends offers support to expectant parents, new parents and welcomes families new to the Helensburgh area. We offer support, friendship, a cup of coffee and signposting to a wide range of local services. This group currently meets monthly in the Drumfork Centre.

We have applied to the Supporting Communities Fund, jointly with Albatross Arts, to develop a programme of art and craft activities for parents and children. Once again with the aim of developing social and language skills and preventing social isolation.

We operate on a system of donations and paying what you can for our sessions ensuring that no one is excluded. We are fortunate to be supported by grants and local fundraising.

All sessions and up to date information are available on our Fun First and Fun First Babies facebook pages where free tickets can be booked. A new and revised website is about to go live any day.

We encourage anyone who knows young families who they feel might benefit from our activities to encourage them to get in touch.

Sarah Davies Chair

