

Newsletter

Community

Update 2016-17



Early Learning Initiative
National College of Ireland

Where has the time gone? The Parent Child Home Programme received a Certificate of Achievement from the United States to mark the 10 year anniversary of the Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP) in Ireland. Since 2007, our Home Visitors have made over 35,000 visits to over 600 families. Ten years on, PCHP children are doing well in school and their families are continuing to talk, read and play together.

We are delighted to share the highlights of 2016-17.

The Docklands and East Inner City Area Based Childhood (ABC) Programme, which is funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and the Atlantic Philanthropies, was extended to August 2018 with the national evaluation due to be published in January. Through ABC, the Government has helped ELI support over 5,000 children, parents and professionals each year.

In 2017, we are going digital with a new database system for PCHP. It will help us to ensure that all our families are getting a high quality service and their children are developing the language, literacy and numeracy skills for school. Just as the Home Visitors are learning new IT skills, our Robotic Coding Clubs are helping children in the area learn how to code.

Restorative Practice went from strength to strength last year with support from the North East Inner City Brighter Futures Initiative and the ABC Programme. It is great to see so many people so interested in working together to create a safe, inclusive and vibrant community. A highlight was welcoming the Minister Katherine Zappone; Minister Paschal Donohoe and the young people involved to the launch of the North East Inner City Young People's Report and Recommendations for the Future in May 2017.

One of the great strengths of ELI is our network of over 4,800 parents, public health nurses, early years and after school services, schools, TDs, community, statutory



and corporate organisations, who are working with us to ensure that children will have the aspirations, skills and qualifications needed to achieve their dreams. Without their substantial, long-term support, much of the ELI's work would not be possible. We admire their genuine commitment to the children and young people in the area.

Thank you to everyone who has supported ELI over the last 10 years. You have helped ELI grow from 400 children, parents, professionals and volunteers in 2007 to over 9,000 in 2016-17. We really appreciate your friendship, generosity and commitment to helping us ensure that children and young people in the area achieve their educational, career and life ambitions. We look forward to working with you again in 2017-2018 and building on past successes.

Our End-of-Year Report 2016-17 is available on our website: www.ncirl.ie/eli. To keep up to date throughout the year, please connect with us on Facebook and Twitter.

0-2 Home Visiting Programme

Parent comments

"I was underestimating my daughter's capacity to understand and to play with toys beyond the official recommended age range. The importance of positional language and describing rather than just reading the words in books."

"My home visitors gave me good advice about food and sleeping. She was always able to answer any questions I had"



60
Children

62
Parents

575
Home Visits

7
Home Visitors

Parent Support Programmes

Parent comments

"I like how my child was greeted with a warm welcome, a hand shakee and offered a chair or pillow to sit on"

"A lovely course which offered a great way to stop and spend relaxing time with baby hand out given is very helpful"



Exploring,
Playing,
Storytelling

168
Children

172
Parents

12
Practitioners

5
Toddler Groups



Jennifer Kelly and her son Devon Cummins is joined by their Home Visitor Margaret and NCI President, Gina Quinn.

76 New Families Started in September

Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP)

10
Years
in Dublin

27
Home Visitors

Parent's comments

"I think there is a very good range of books and toys which help you to approach different topics with the child according to their age"

"My child's cognitive and language skills have improved tremendously. He has become more confident and more sociable, among family and friends. He has become more interactive and has made lots of new friends in his crèche."



5,574
Visits



52 families are continuing into their second and final year.

48 Children graduated the programme in June 2017



Early Numeracy Programme

Educator Comments

"The children were confident and more aware of money".

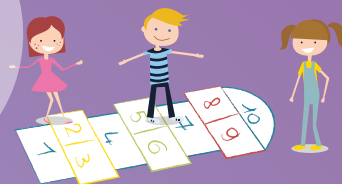
"Children enjoyed different activities while learning through fun and play, they liked attending local shops to spend their money".






"My son had lots of fun with the different activities and I enjoyed spending quality time and interacting with my son and being involved in crèche and staff".



"I really enjoyed singing the songs and doing the activities it helped me understand how my child learning through play".



 **1652** Children
 **2478** Parents
 **318** Professionals

Parent Comments

Doodle Den

 **31** Children

8  Educators

 **3 times a week over 36 weeks**

3  Afterschools



Children's literacy levels improved through activities promoting oral language, phonics and sight vocabulary.

The best thing is that my child is spending time with her school mates. She develops through them.



Parent comments

I [enjoyed] just getting to spend time with the children. We got to see their little personalities and how different each of them were. They really made each Thursday better for me. I would come out of Doodle Den feeling so happy because the children were always so great and funny. It was so nice getting to chat to them individually and take an interest in them. They always kept us entertained and we even got to see some of their dancing.

Volunteer comments



Zoom Ahead with Books

 **561** Children

5600+  Books Read

Book Buddy Comments

"Every little thing in this programme worked well. The books improved the reading and language of the kids and helped them to use their imagination when drawing pictures, and parents get a chance to spend time with their child and give their own advice when drawing."



Educator Comments

"Parental/book buddy involvement is so important for the child - it provides an opportunity for discussions between adult and child, a chance for language enrichment and for sharing an enjoyable experience. The children also really enjoyed choosing their own book each time and showing their pictures in class."



Book Buddy involvement is so important for the child and to the programme as it provides an opportunity for discussions between adult and child, a chance for language enrichment and for sharing an enjoyable experience.

NCI Challenges - Rummikub, Quiz & Monopoly

 **242**
Children

 **3** Challenges

**2nd, 3rd
& 4th
classes**



"It's good for confidence building. Makes them happy and give them something to focus on. Teaches them fairness. Great for confidence and help them bond and encourage them to read more"

Parent's Comment



"What I liked about the quiz was that they could test our knowledge and have fun."

Child's Comment



"Really great initiative. The game was really challenging to both adults and children so I can see how it would improve on the children's numeracy skills. Really nice to be able to talk to the children and integrate with them properly for the full sessions"

Volunteer's Comment



ELI Afterschools Coding Club

 **34**
children

 **9-12**
Years Old

 **8**
Volunteers



learning new programming skills with mBot

 **4**
Challenges



- mBot Football
- Balloon Battle
- The Maze
- Lego Forest

3 
Afterschools



200
Balloons
Popped



Ulster Bank Financial Literacy programme

 **91**
children

4 
Afterschools

 **1**
Book



The Smart Money Stories

Upcoming Events

Restorative Practice Week
19th - 26th November

Early Numeracy Week
Positional Language
27th November – 1st December

NCI Rummikub Challenge
Wednesday 6th December

Restorative Practice

 **285**
Children

 **110**
Young People

 **36**
Schools
& Services

Participating in
lots of
restorative
circles


290+
local community
& statutory professionals



Culminating in
1 Building
for
Brighter
Futures
report!



Volunteers

 **235**
Volunteers

15
Projects

 **15**
Schools
& afterschools

10
Events

 **919**
Hours

Volunteers comments



"I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and am definitely signing up again. I was worried I would not be able to provide much in the way of experience but quickly found there were a number of areas in which I could help students, having been one myself not so long ago!"



"Great fun, very rewarding, felt like it made a difference to the children and the teachers"



"It was a great experience and opportunity - I really felt I was helping the kids and it was a nice break from my daily routine. It's a great feeling to feel you're getting involved and keeping other people progress."



Who We Are

ELI enables children, their families and the community, to acquire the skills and self-confidence needed to fully benefit from the education system. We are continually pioneering programmes that aim to address the issue of low educational achievement.

Partner us to expand the minds, hopes and ambitions of this generation, and help them to develop the skills they need for success in education, employment and life.

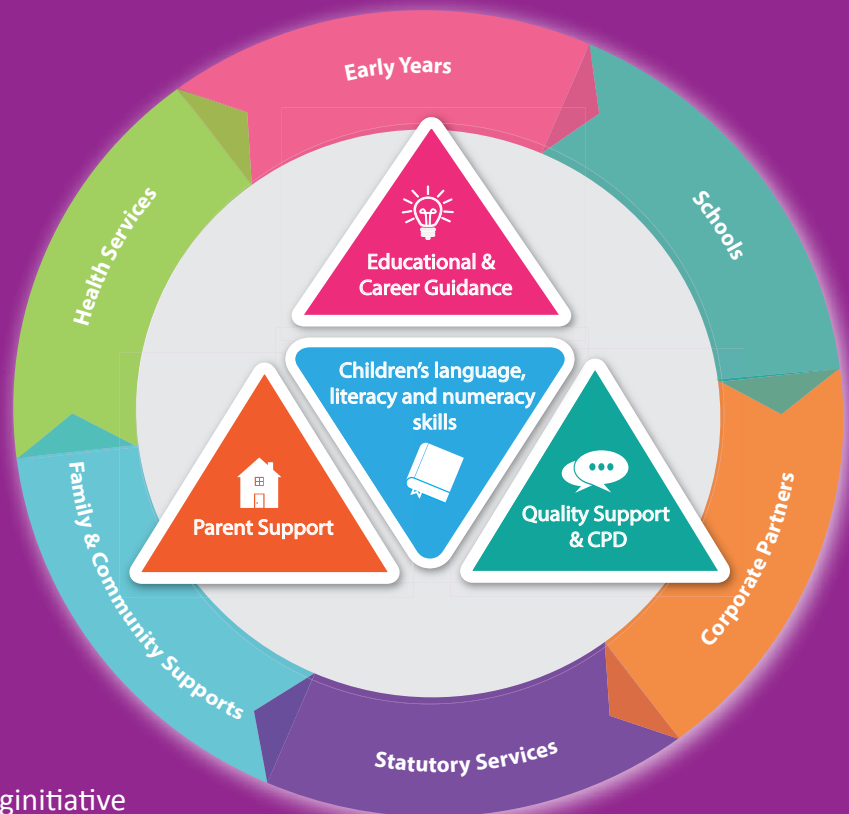
For more information on programmes and supports available in your area, please see below:

Website: www.ncirl.ie/ELI

Email: eli@ncirl.ie

Twitter: @ELI_Docklands

Facebook: www.facebook.com/earlylearninginitiative



Corporate, government and individual support is fundamental to our success. We wish to thank all of our socially- minded corporate, government and individual supporters, including: Dermot Desmond, Joseph E. Corcoran, David and Michele Joy, Keith Ennis and The Winifred Garvin Fund, who play such an active role in the advancement of ELI.

The Area Based Childhood Programme 2013-2017

