

Dear Glasgow City Council,

It has come to my attention in recent days that Jade McLean, an excellent early years practitioner who runs a Childminding business in Penilee, Glasgow has been refused permission to expand her service. I am writing to you in support of her appeal against this decision. Jade and her staff are excellent at their job, the provision they provide is second to none! You will not get a better service in the area. The experiences that Jade provides for the children in her care are rich learning experiences both indoors and outdoors, the space she has inside and outside her house is more than adequate for these experiences of learning to take place and more importantly be enjoyed. She has an excellent reputation in the community and parents are desperate to get their children

into Jade's Childminding. My child loved going to Jade's, his development and speech is advanced in years both due to my parenting skills and the experiences that he had at Jade's and this is noticeable to family and friends around us.

Is it not part of Glasgow City Council's 'Recovery Resilience and Reconnection Plan 2020' post covid-19 to and I quote from their next steps agenda: "... consider ways to raise awareness of third sector partners working within communities. We will continue to strengthen existing partnerships and form new partnerships to support families and communities." ?

That being the case, why then has this application to expand the number of places that Jade can offer been refused? Glasgow City Council states quite clearly

on their Education and Children's Services website that parents are given the option of Early Learning Centres in the form of Childminding or Nursery settings, it makes no difference if a child's learning takes place in a house or a Nursery, if the childminder is providing rich quality learning experiences for the children in their care and the parents are satisfied that their child's needs are being met then surely 'Getting It Right for Every Child' should be Glasgow City Council's top priority! In my view as a parent of a child who has benefitted immensely from his experience and time with Jade, it seems ludicrous that she is not being granted this expansion and more children are going to miss out on this crucial stage of their education and this is very sad. I urge you in light of all of this to reconsider your decision.

Yours sincerely,

Emma and Gordon Clark

(Parents of a child who attended Jade's
Childminding Service)