

Stramash Training Programme 2017/18

Welcome to Stramash!

Stramash is an outdoor learning organisation with bases in Fort William, Oban and Elgin. We run a variety of schools programmes, operate three outdoor nurseries for 2 to 5 year olds, an apprenticeship scheme for young people and support & training for practitioners. At the core of our organisation is the use of the outdoor environment to facilitate personal & social development of individuals, not matter how old they are or from what background they come from.

Building on our past experience, we are delighted to launch our first programme of set training courses for staff working in the early years, primary school and childcare sectors.

As well as the set training dates below, there is potential for us to provide these courses for individual organisations. We may also be able to provide consultancy visits, bespoke CPD opportunities and advice aimed at supporting practitioners and organisations to achieve best practice in the outdoors and/or set up and improve an outdoor space for learning and play. Please contact us for further details.

Terms & Conditions

We are limited to a maximum number of participants for each of our courses, and will allocate spaces on a first-come, first served basis. Where there is greater demand, we will operate a waiting list and look to arrange future dates.

Please complete the attached booking form if you would like to participate and we will send confirmation of your place, further details and an invoice at least three weeks before the course date. Payment will be required before the course date. All correspondence will be electronic so please ensure you provide a current email address.

If you have to cancel your place for any reason, we require at least 5 working days' notice. This allows us to offer your place to others on the waiting list. Unfortunately we will have to charge a cancellation fee of 50% of the course cost if you do not cancel your place or fail to turn up on the day.

If you would like to transfer your place to another person, please contact us to arrange this.

In the unlikely event of a course being cancelled by Stramash, an alternative will be offered, or the full amount refunded.



Training Calendar

Messy Maths

This course will be delivered by **Juliet Robertson** from Creative Star Learning.

This 3-hour practical course will explore the routines, resources and responsibilities of the adults, and how to re-purpose any outdoor space – a nature nook or a concrete jungle into a maths-rich environment. It will provide sensible, low-cost and do-able ideas, suggestions and strategies. The aim is active engagement and meeting children's needs through excellent outdoor provision. The content is based upon Juliet Robertson's book, *Messy Maths: A Playful, Outdoor Approach for Early Years*.

Participants will:

- Learn about maths which can happen when out and about with children using found objects, natural materials and the environment
- Consider contexts for maths and the development of the outdoor space to facilitate children's mathematical skills
- Have access to hundreds of ideas and suggestions through a password-protected blog post after the course has finished. This includes an audit to enable an action plan to be undertaken by each participant

Target audience

Whilst aimed at the early years sector, this course is also suitable for educators who work with older children.

Dates and locations

Fort William – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Saturday 7th October 2017 – 1030 to 1330

Elgin – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Saturday 10th March 2018 – 1030 to 1330

Cost

£35

Additional info

The session will be spent outdoors, whatever the weather. Participants should come suitably prepared with warm, wind and waterproof clothing, appropriate footwear and sunscreen and/or midge repellent as required. Refreshments will be provided.

Self-directed Play and Learning

This full day workshop will explore the importance of outdoor, self-directed play and learning for children in the early years. It will focus on the theories of play and learning, managing challenge and risk in natural play provision and the role of the practitioner in facilitating free-play and choice. The course will involve tutor input and discussion, practical hands-on activities and the opportunity to visit Stramash Outdoor Nursery.

Participants will:

- Explore the concept of self-directed play and learning and the play work principles
- Consider the types of creative play experiences for children that are promoted through the use of natural play spaces
- Discuss the importance of the dynamic risk benefit approach to play and learning
- Consider theories of play and learning and stages of play in child development
- Consider the balance between self-directed play and facilitating practitioner-led learning opportunities that enhance the development of children in the early years
- Share their own ideas, experiences and good practice on self-directed play and learning
- See outdoor play and learning in action during a site visit of Stramash Outdoor Nursery

Target audience

Whilst aimed at the early years sector, this course is also suitable for individuals who work with older children.

Dates and locations

Elgin – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Wednesday 15th November 2017 – 0930 to 1530

Oban – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Tuesday 20th February 2018 – 0930 to 1530

Fort William – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Wednesday 2nd May 2018 – 0930 to 1530

Cost

£80

Additional info

The workshop will be delivered outdoors, whatever the weather. Participants should come suitably prepared with warm, wind and waterproof clothing, appropriate footwear and sunscreen and/or midge repellent as required. Refreshments will be provided but participants will need to bring their own packed lunch.

Literacy Through Outdoor Play

This 3-hour practical workshop will explore how to promote literacy through play in the outdoors. It will focus on the literacy opportunities in the natural environment, the resources that can be used to support early literacy and the principle role of the practitioner. The workshop will focus on early literacy but will be adapted to cater for those working with children in primary level education.

Participants will:

- Consider the play spaces available and how to provide a literacy-rich environment
- Discuss opportunities to promote the development of talking and listening while exploring and discovering the outdoors with children using natural features and natural materials
- Consider learning opportunities to enhance the development of early reading and writing skills in the outdoors
- Share their own ideas, experiences and good practice on promoting early language and literacy through outdoor play

Target audience

Whilst aimed at the early years sector, this course is also suitable for educators who work with older children.

Dates and locations

Fort William – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Wednesday 14th March 2018 – 1230 to 1530

Oban – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Tuesday 20th March 2018 – 1230 to 1530

Elgin – Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Tuesday 22nd May 2018 – 1230 to 1530

Cost

£35

Additional info

The workshop will be delivered outdoors, whatever the weather. Participants should come suitably prepared with warm, wind and waterproof clothing, appropriate footwear and sunscreen and/or midge repellent as required. Refreshments will be provided.

