

### Who are Craigbank Nursery?

Craigbank are a primary school with an onsite nursery class, based in Clackmannanshire. They provide early level education and are currently delivering a recovery curriculum in response to Covid-19. The curriculum is based around health and wellbeing, ensuring children have opportunities to: share and express feelings; build resilience; access the outdoors and have opportunities to play alongside their peers, creating new, and building upon existing, relationships.



### How was the grant used?

- The grant was used to purchase a speaker and weaving tunnel for outdoors in the nursery. This has allowed the nursery to continue providing yoga and mindfulness practice for the children. The children now have opportunities to sing and perform outdoors in a safe way. The tunnel has created a space where children can share thoughts and worries at a time when Covid-19 restrictions have been challenging for them. The weaving also helps develop their hand and eye coordination.
- The tunnel also provides a small space for children to hide, have some alone time or to move through in a variety of ways. The open ended aspect of the resource means it is well utilised.
- Primary one purchased cushions and an outdoor mat which allowed them to be outdoors more often. They also linked language and literacy tasks to nature and being outdoors as they worked to complete the activities. Achievements and creations have been shared with parents promoting the Natural Health Award.

### What had to change due to Covid-19?

- The school adapted many of their play and learning opportunities for children to be outdoors. By purchasing a speaker and a weaving tunnel for outdoors in the nursery, children are able to spend increased amounts of time outdoors, participating in various social and well-being activities. It has also allowed children opportunities to sing and perform outdoors in a safe way.



## What difference has the grant made?

- 32 nursery children, 44 primary one children, 12 staff members and parents have participated in activities.
- The children and staff have kept a floor book showing their journey through the activities and all that they have learned along the way. Through participation in the programme the children and staff have become familiar with the local area, uncovering special places to play which they now visit frequently.
- The community are used to seeing the children and staff out and about and have even offered the children treats to take on their journeys. Craigbank Nursery hope to be fully embedded in to the local community and vice versa, when restrictions are lifted, but for now completing the Natural Health Award has helped them make a positive start.
- Primary one have also used the activities as a base for exploring the local area, including the woodland and park areas. Carefully linking experiences to the curriculum and encouraging children to develop ideas and thinking on their own has meant high levels of engagement and a feeling of individual achievement.
- Parents have also been positive about children's experiences and the school have created link activities to involve parents by sending home bags for the collection of autumn items. This activity was well received and over 90% of families participated.

'Children are developing their own ideas for outdoor learning and taking it forward, the award has really sparked their thinking.'

*(Staff member)*

'We spent all afternoon at the dam looking for things, I was so impressed with his creativeness, as my child had made a see saw with two logs.'

*(Parent)*

'When you run it makes you out of breath and all funny.'

*(Child)*

