

Trusts and Grants Newsletter, Spring 2022

In what is a new feature for Seamab, we have introduced this newsletter to keep you up-todate with Seamab news, particularly initiatives related to Grants and Trusts and other fundraising activity.

We have come through the challenges that the past year and a long winter have brought for Seamab, our staff and most importantly the children and young people that we support. We now look forward with renewed optimism for our young people to what the spring and summer months may bring, as we come out from some of the restrictions that we have faced these past two years.

We are delighted with the working partnerships with our primary funders in local authorities across Scotland, but additional Grant and Trust funds do allow us to take our creativity to new levels. These additional funds provide us with the opportunity to bring new supports and opportunities to young people that they otherwise would not have experienced. We are extremely grateful to those that support us and we work tirelessly to discuss, create and then maximise any support that we receive.

That said, let's get to the news at Seamab!

Seachangers



Our Sea Changers characterise what we offer and how we hope to enable every child to reach their full potential. Each of the Sea Changers is different but they are clearly part of the same family – much like our team at Seamab. With each comes a story that gives an insight into the challenges the children have had to face before coming to stay with us, and we can use them to help children talk about feelings.

Please visit our website www.seamab.org.uk to read more about the individual Sea Changers and how these were developed in partnership with design agency, Studio LR.



New Website Launch

Our new website www.seamab.org.uk was launched on 4 May 2022. We really hope that the new site is easier to navigate and will let you discover more about Seamab, what we are doing across the organisation and how we are evolving and growing as a charity. We have worked hard to ensure that our website is as informative as it can be and help you to have a greater appreciation of what Seamab is all about. As we launch, we absolutely welcome any feedback you may have – this can be sent to our Team Secretary by email to imackinnon@seamab.org.uk.

Epic Adventures

Fundraising is crucial in us being able to deliver our Epic Adventures project; a flagship area of our work which we deliver in addition to our core education offering. Epic Adventures enhances the learning experience of our children set out within Education Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence, providing fun, physical, outdoor activities for children and young people, you can find out more about the impact this has at https://seamab.org.uk/our-work/outdoor-learning





Up to Eighteen Project

We received permission in late 2021 from Education Scotland and the Registrar for Independent Schools to extend our education provision for young people up to age 18 years, following a rigorous examination of our plans. This is an important development for our young people first and foremost, as it will reduce the number of transitions they potentially have to make. This will provide greater stability and continuity of education and care. We are greatly heartened that we have achieved this landmark outcome for Seamab and are convinced that this will make a real difference in the lives of young people who would otherwise have had to move from Seamab.





We are currently looking for a suitable property that we can develop as a home for the older aged children, now that we have the school part confirmed. We are looking for a 5-bedded property in a semi-rural location fairly close to our base in Rumbling Bridge. However, the impact of the pandemic has affected property availability, in particular 5-bedded properties. We remain confident that the right property is waiting for us and that we will secure this in the coming months.

Quality Provision:

At Seamab, two regulatory bodies examine the quality of our work – The Care Inspectorate regulates our care provision, and Education Scotland regulates the quality of our curriculum delivery. After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, we have been recently subject to an announced Care Inspection, and I am delighted to say that the 5-day inspection yielded some outstanding results across a rigorous 7 categories.

The Care Inspectorate uses these criteria for their grading system:

6	Excellent	Outstanding or sector leading
5	Very good	Major strengths
4	Good	Important strengths, with some areas for improvement
3	Adequate	Strengths just outweigh weaknesses
2	Weak	Important weaknesses - priority action required

Here is how the Care Inspectorate graded Seamab's care provision when they visited in March 2022:

Care Inspectorate Scores			
1. Wellbeing:	6		
2. Young people getting the most out of life:	6		
3. Health & Development:	5		
4. Leadership:	5		
5. Staffing levels/ working together:	5		
6. Setting (environment):	6		
7. Care Planning:	5		

The inspectors noted too the clear improvement in how care and education staff related to one another which all adds to the positive impact that the children feel from a holistic point of view.

We are so proud of the efforts of the team in achieving these outstanding grades during the most challenging of times.

The Difference Your Support Makes

Seamab, for our children and young people, can feel like it is their whole world!

Our children are very settled living with us and it is our responsibility to ensure their time here is filled with love and acceptance, working with them to bring about positive change to their lives. Some of the activities that our children have been involved in recently outwith core care and education has included: bushcraft, fishing and hunter gathering to name a few. Our children really do thrive when outdoors, learning important life skills as they do so. You make a difference, and this is expressed perfectly by our children on life at Seamab;



"I loved trying the monkey bars over water. You get to try lots of new things."

"I like the learning because you teach things I like"

"I like it [Seamab school] – I get to do schoolwork AND go outside!"

"I love doing things as a whole class"

Upcoming Projects

Derek Kirkaldy, our recently appointed Grants Manager, has been working collaboratively across all teams to develop new projects that will continue to enhance our children's lives; always evolving, we will continue to develop projects for which we can fundraise.

Some of the projects we have on the horizon include: a sensory project that will meet the needs of every child in both their home and school environments, the installation of a Youth Club on our Care Campus, securing funding for Seamab's Football Team and the ongoing need to secure grants for our Epic Adventures!

Feel free to contact Derek at any time by email to dkirkaldy@seamab.org.uk if you wish to discuss any area of our work.



Stuart Provan
Chief Executive Officer