



Media release

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New Dunfermline primary school is 'Making Space' to launch architectural publication

Dunfermline's newest primary school, Carnegie will, with the help of some its pupils, open its doors earlier than expected tomorrow to host the launch of Children in Scotland's new publication *Making Space: architecture and design for children and young people*.

The publication is a permanent record of the Making Space 2010 Programme, run by Children in Scotland with support from OECD's Centre for Effective Learning Environments and the Scottish Government, which championed innovation, creativity and sustainability in design for children and young people aged 0-18. The programme, which included an international award and supporting conference showcased innovative architecture and allowed educationalists and design professionals to share ideas about and experiences of creating better school buildings and learning environments.

Children in Scotland Chief Executive Bronwen Cohen said: "Inspiring physical environments can be a 'third teacher', providing opportunities for children to explore their world themselves. Making Space 2010 captures not only highly imaginative approaches to building schools such as the new Carnegie primary school but illustrates the new wider approach to learning – from 'hidden gardens' to redesigned streets and housing. And it demonstrates the value of involving children themselves in designing space."

"The launch further commemorates this outstanding programme, allowing the creativity and inspiration which it celebrated to be shared on a world stage, and further inform the 21st century design agenda which, in Scotland, is a central component of *Curriculum for Excellence*."

Attending the launch on behalf of the Scottish Government will be Director of Learning, Sarah Smith. Speaking ahead of the event, Minister for Learning and Skills Alasdair Allan said: "The choice of Carnegie Primary School to host the launch of Making Space speaks volumes about the new school and its innovative design."

"The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring even more school pupils are taught in the highest quality accommodation and our £1.25 billion Scotland's Schools for the Future programme will ensure more schools of the same calibre of Carnegie can be built in the coming years."

The newly-built Carnegie primary school is nearing completion and will be open to pupils at the start of the new school year but some pupils, staff and invited guests will be given a sneak preview as it plays host to the event.

Designed and built by Morgan Sindall, as part of Fife's £126m Building Fife's Future programme, which will see six new schools built across Fife, Carnegie Primary School was seen to be a perfect example of modern school architecture and the ideal place to launch the Making Space publication.

Councillor Douglas Chapman, Chair of Fife Council's Education and Children's Services Committee, said: "I'm so proud that Children in Scotland have chosen to come to Fife to launch their publication. It is testament to the financial commitment we have made to improve the surroundings in which our children are taught."

"In Fife we have been rapidly improving our educational standards, making us one of the leading education authorities, and with buildings like the new Carnegie Primary School we are bringing our school buildings up to the same high standards."

The new Carnegie building contains a number of innovative sustainable features including a Combined Heat and Power Engine to heat the building and provide electricity, rainwater harvesting technology and natural ventilation.

Harry Thorburn, Managing Director of Morgan Sindall, will attend the launch to see how the building is progressing. He commented: "Carnegie Primary is a true landmark project. We have worked closely with the council as well as the teaching staff, pupils and wider community to design and build a school that will have a truly positive and lasting effect on children's learning experiences. The school's design has taken a wide variety of factors into account. These have included working with the topography of the land and maximising natural light to incorporating sustainable features and considering how the staff and children use the space."

"We're delighted the school is being celebrated as an example of innovation, creativity and sustainability and very much look forward to handing it over to the community in time for the new school year."

Notes to editors

Children in Scotland is the longstanding national agency for the whole of the children's sector, reaching over 250,000 individuals through our extensive membership of more than 450 statutory agencies, voluntary sector organisations, professional associations and community groups.

For further information visit www.childreninscotland.org.uk

'**Making Space 2010**' was a one year programme, led by Children in Scotland, which included an international award and conference promoting innovation, creativity and sustainability in design for children and young people aged 0-18. The programme, and publication, received funding from the Scottish Government and OECD's Centre for Effective Learning Environments.

The award received entries from across the world; from West Africa to Japan, and winner of the Scottish award, Hyndland After School Club in Glasgow, which demonstrated an innovative transformation of an existing space, created with a small budget. Jason Brown, Principal Architect from Abbotto who designed Hyndland After School Club will be speaking at the launch. Visit www.childreninscotland.org.uk/makingspace

The publication, ***Making Space: architecture and design for children and young people***, will be launched at Carnegie Primary School on Wednesday 29 June, at 1.30pm.

For more information contact

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