



Early Years Team

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Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

This month the early years team are focusing on engagement with the Worcestershire early years sector, hosting the Early Years DSL Forums and the Early Years Update Meetings, as well as supporting the launch of the early years Operation Encompass Pilot. We're really looking forward to seeing as many providers as possible across the virtual events; information about the events and how to book is included within the Bulletin.

In addition, the DfE have updated the Covid Recovery Programme and the NEF Team have some positive news to share with funded providers.

Best regards,

The Early Years Team.

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Early Years Bulletin: Worcestershire Reminders and Updates

School Admissions

Applications for a Reception place for September 2023 are now open; the deadline for application is Sunday 15th January 2023.

For further information and to apply for a school place, parents and carers should be signposted to [School Admissions](#).

Nursery Education Funding – Autumn Term Adjustment Claims

The Online Provider Portal is now open for Autumn Term adjustments. Funded providers have until Friday 9th December to submit any funding changes for the Autumn Term.

If you need any support submitting your claim, please email EYFunding@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Public Health – Clean Hands, Safe Hands Campaign

Aiming to raise awareness of the importance of continuing good hand hygiene, Public Health have developed an [Early Years Toolkit](#) with ideas, activities and messages to encourage children to regularly wash their hands as part of their everyday routine.

Ofsted Early Years Blog

Have you seen Ofsted's [early years blog](#)? Launched at the end of September, Ofsted intend to use their early years blog to raise awareness and promote a better understand of education and care in children's early years.

Recent posts include:

- Committee-run childcare – what you need to know
- The difference between registering with Ofsted or a childminder agency
- Registering to become a childminder with Ofsted - what to expect

Changes to the Healthy Start Scheme

The [Healthy Start scheme](#) is in the process of becoming a digital service, offering an online application process, and introducing a prepaid card to be used for purchasing healthy food and milk. This digital service will replace the paper application forms and paper vouchers. Beneficiaries of the scheme will also be able to also use their prepaid card to collect free Healthy Start vitamins.

Early Years Bulletin: DfE Updates:

Early Years Education Recovery Programme

The government is providing a package of workforce training, qualifications and support and guidance for the early years sector, to support staff and settings to address the impact of the pandemic on the youngest and most disadvantaged children. The [Early Years Education Recovery Programme](#) offers:

- Continuing professional development
- Additional funding for qualifications
- Support and guidance to early years setting through stronger practice hubs and experts and mentors

Designed to support all areas of the early years sector, the package offers training in:

- [child development](#)
- [communication and language, early mathematics and personal, social and emotional development](#) through the third phase of our professional development programme
- [Nuffield Early Language Intervention](#)
- [leadership of settings](#) with a new national professional qualification in early years leadership
- [supporting care givers in their home learning environment](#)

Additional funding for qualifications:

- [graduate-level specialist training leading to early years teacher status](#)
- [accredited level 3 early years SENCO qualification](#)
- [a review of the level 3 qualification and criteria](#)

Support and guidance to all early years settings through:

- [stronger practice hubs](#)
- [expert coaches and mentors](#) – the deadline for applications is **Friday 11th November**.

Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding Update

What is Operation Encompass for Early Years?

A meeting for all Worcestershire DSLs in Early Years Settings / Childminders to learn about the new Operation Encompass Pilot and the roles and responsibilities of the Early Years DSLs in preparation for the launch of Operation Encompass.

Opportunity for Q&A with the Safeguarding lead, Denise Hannibal,

Cost: **FREE**

- 29 November 2022, 6.30pm to 8pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10281 / 81318
- 01 December 2022, 6.30pm to 8pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10281 / 81319

Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead Forums

As requested at the recent Early Years DSL Forums, a copy of the information provided during the meetings is included within the attached PDF.

The next Early Years DSL Forums are due to take place in March:

Cost: **FREE**

- 7 March 2023, 6.15pm to 7.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10269 / 81289
- 9 March 2023, 6.15pm to 7.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10269 / 81290

To book a place on an Early Years event:

- WCF:CPD <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx> using your CPD leader login details
- Confirmations will be issued to the delegate email provided at the point of booking, please ensure junk / spam folders are checked
- Joining instructions will be included within the body of the confirmation email
- If you have not yet had access to the new booking site organised or resolved please do not attempt to create an account. Please contact the training team directly by emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.
- If you encounter any other issues when booking please contact the training team for support

Early Years Bulletin: Business Support

Nursery Education Funding - 2021-22 Supplementary Payment

Following our communications in March and August 2022, we are pleased to confirm that the 2021/22 Supplementary Payment has been included in your Autumn Term 2022 Actual Payment; this will appear as an Adjustment payment on your termly Statement.

The payment has been calculated using the number of 3- & 4-year-old funded hours you provided during 2021/22; if you did not provide any funded hours for 3- & 4-year-old children during 2021/22, you will not receive the Supplementary Payment. As in previous years, our Two-Year-Old Funding allocation was overspent, so there is no additional payment relating to funded hours provided to two-year-old children.

The Supplementary Payment is currently a one-off payment. Local Authority funding is normally allocated based on the Spring Term Census; due to fluctuations in take-up caused by Covid 19, LA's were able to submit termly data during 2021/22, which resulted in a significant change to the initial Early Years funding allocation. We are now back to normal funding allocations and therefore don't expect to have a significant funding surplus during 2022/23; we do intend however to make the same request to Schools Forum if the opportunity arises. An update will be provided at the end of the Summer Term 2023 after the DfE publish the final LA allocations.

Early Years Bulletin: News from the Inclusion team

Early Years Inclusion New Webinar – Using Visual Resources in Early Years

SENCO Support Advisor Jane Parsons delivers a 20 minute webinar on visual resources covering:

- The overall need to use appropriate visual support strategies for all children
- To understand how using visual aids will support children’s communication, learning and routines
- To look at how visual support/aids can be incorporated into your environment and daily practice

View the webinar here: [WCF Webinar | Visual Support in the Early Years - YouTube](#)

Inclusion Funding

The Autumn Term Actual Payment will include all the inclusion funding allocated to your setting.

Settings who are accessing the highest levels of funding; GR4 challenge and exceptional early years funding, must return the monitoring forms by the **15th November** in order for the inclusion funding to be paid. Paper copies will still be accepted (to be sent via the [Children’s Services Portal](#) (CSP) however electronic versions are now available for settings and parents to use:

Setting inclusion funding monitoring forms

- GR4 challenge: <https://forms.office.com/r/LYEU3BpWxX>
- Exceptional: <https://forms.office.com/r/ZDdVhkErMt>

Parent inclusion funding monitoring forms

<https://forms.office.com/r/Fv4n0VZZST>

Early Years Bulletin: Training news

New Training System

Access to WCF CPD booking site

Any early years setting that has not accessed the [new training and conference site \(WCF:CPD\)](#) contact the training team to get access sorted.

The new system will only work once the CPD leader(s) has been formally invited - this is the CPD course search invitation email from CAP-donoreply@worcestershire.gov.uk. As such do not attempt to create your own account.

The new system will not use any login details from the previous site which is why it is essential that access is sorted. The new system will use email addresses as usernames and due to how the system has been built we can only organise one CPD leader per individual email address, additional CPD leaders would require a different email address

Training Team: Workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk or call 01905 844420

Early Years Update Meetings

Childminders

An opportunity to hear the latest Early Years news on policy, Ofsted and best practice within the sector.

Cost: **Free**

- 08 November 2022, 7pm to 8.30pm, virtual, course code: EY 10273 / 81305

Group Settings

An opportunity to hear the latest Early Years news on policy, Ofsted and best practice within the sector. In addition to the Early Years Team, Judy Gibbs, the WCC Skills and Investment Group Manager will be attending to talk about recruitment and the support that is available within the Local Authority.

Cost: **Free**

- 04 November 2022, 10am to 11.30am, virtual, course code: EY 10272 / 81303
- 15 November 2022, 6.30pm to 8pm, virtual, course code: EY 10272 / 81304

Out of School Providers

An opportunity to hear the latest Early Years news on policy, Ofsted and best practice within the sector.

Cost: **Free**

- 29 November 2022, 10am to 11.30am, virtual, course code: EY 10274 / 81306

Early Years and Childcare Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Introduction to the role

The Introduction to the role of the Early Years & Childcare Designated Safeguarding Lead is a NEW course specifically for DSL and Deputy DSL's who are new to the role or have taken on this responsibility within the last 12 months and may / may not have completed the six-hour DSL course.

This is a FREE course to support new DSL and Deputy DSL's

During the three-hour session delegates will gain:

- An overview of the legislation and statutory guidance relating specifically to the role of the DSL, and to safeguarding and child protection more broadly.
- Information on different forms of abuse that may be encountered, and their possible signs and causes.
- An understanding of information sharing, consent and record keeping.
- An introduction to the processes and procedures used within safeguarding and child protection, including the Worcestershire Levels of Need document.

Cost: **FREE**

- 15 December 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10179 / 81140
- 20 March 2023, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10179 / 81141

To book onto an Early Years course:

- WCF:CPD <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx> using your CPD leader login details
- Confirmations will be issued to the delegate email provided at the point of booking, please ensure junk / spam folders are checked
- Joining instructions will be included within the body of the confirmation email
- If you have not yet had access to the new booking site organised or resolved please do not attempt to create an account. Please contact the training team directly by emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk to get this resolved.
- If you encounter any other issues when booking please contact the training team for support

Diversity & Inclusion Conference - Available to Book Now

We are delighted to bring you our Inclusion conference for all education settings including early years across Worcestershire.

This conference will showcase how settings, Worcestershire Children First and services can work together to promote inclusive practice across systems to ensure that we are providing the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

It will offer the opportunity to share practice, generate ideas, think deeply about what it means to be an inclusive setting and to celebrate our collective achievements and progress so far.

Tuesday 6th December (08:30-16:00) at The Bank House, Bransford, Worcester

Get the opportunity to pick three workshops out of the following options:

- 'Our Minds Matter: a person-centred, whole-school approach to social, emotional and mental health'.
- Changing the narrative: preparing for adulthood from the earliest years
- Our SEND Provision
- Transitions-All Age Disability
- An introduction into The Zones of Regulation framework
- Information on the process of identifying dyslexia in Worcestershire schools and the support that is on offer to help.
- The EEF 'Five a Day' Principle with a focus on scaffolding as part of modelled, guided, and independent practice.
- Support for early communication development in Deaf Children'
- On Wednesdays we wear pink' (All sessions)
- The Psychology of friendships in secondary school.
- Assessing and planning for language development in EAL pupils
- Listening to the voice of children, young people and their families with emotionally based school non-attendance

[CLICK HERE](#) TO BOOK A PLACE OR EMAIL US: Conferences@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk



Starting well Partnership
EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE

Smoke Free Homes Service

Smoking and your family: Advice for parents



The Starting Well Partnership in Worcestershire have launched a new service to support mums, and others living in households with young children to stop smoking.

The service will:

- Provide 1:1 support with a trained Smoking Cessation Advisor
- Provide point of contact for Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT)
- Provide joint family sessions if preferred

To refer a family email:

whcnhs.smokefreehomes@nhs.net



www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk

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