



## Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

Our bulletin is shorter than usual this week, but I hope it contains some information that you find useful. Being new in post, I am particularly looking forward to the Early Years Update Meetings in a few weeks' time. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us. It will be an opportunity to find out more about the latest developments in Early Years; including our training plans for the new EYFS which we shall be rolling out over the summer term.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment.

Enjoy the weekend.

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## Early Years Weekly Attendance Data

Thank you for your ongoing data returns.

The form for the week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February is now [live to complete \(opens in new window\)](#)

Please be aware that you need to use the new link every week – you will **not be able to access the Form** via last week's link.

The form should be submitted by **9am on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. Please note that schools with nursery provision should also be submitting a return, for the nursery children only.

## Early Years Update Meeting

Our Early Years Update Meeting for this term are open to all Childminders and Settings across the county and free to attend. Led by Ian Morris, Sam Barrett and Sharon Jones each meeting will look at Ofsted Updates, New EYFS, Safeguarding Update, school readiness and national context issues.

- 17 March 2021, 10am to 11.30am, course code: EY/21/078
- 17 March 2021, 6.30pm to 8pm, course code: EY/21/079
- 23 March 2021, 10am to 11.30am, course code: EY/21/080
- 24 March 2021, 6.30pm to 8pm, course code: EY/21/081

Places must be booked via [CPD \(opens in new window\)](#) using your CPD leader login details. Joining instructions will be attached (as a word document) to your confirmation. If you encounter any issues please contact the Training Team on 01905 844 420 or [workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

## Early years training directory

Our early years training directory is updated regularly with new courses promoted via the bulletin and can be downloaded from [our website \(opens in a new window\)](#) to help when booking courses via CPD.

If you are unable to find a specific course then please contact the training team on 01905 844 420 or email [workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk) for advice.

## Another Rapid (Lateral Flow) community testing site opens

**This week the latest Rapid flow testing site has opened at Wyre Forest House in Kidderminster.**

Wyre Forest House in Kidderminster, the home of Wyre Forest District Council, is the latest Rapid Covid Testing site to open in Worcestershire.

People living or working in Wyre Forest who don't have any Covid symptoms will be able to book a free rapid Covid test at Wyre Forest House in Fine Point Way between 10am and 5.45pm, from Monday to Saturday.

Testing will be available for people with no symptoms aged 18 and over from Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

The aim of this testing is to help drive down transmission. One in three people who are infected with Covid-19 have no symptoms, so could be spreading the disease without knowing it.

Broadening testing to identify people without symptoms, means finding positive cases quicker and breaking the chains of transmission.

All appointments need to be pre-booked using this online booking link  
<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LateralFlowTesting>

A new type of technology is used for rapid turnaround Covid tests. Results are provided within an hour as the devices used do not require a laboratory to process the test.

Other Rapid Covid Testing sites in Worcestershire are available at Pershore Leisure Centre, Redditch Town Hall, The Ryland Centre in Bromsgrove and Worcester Cathedral. All sites are open between 10am and 5.45pm, Monday to Saturday. All appointments have to be pre-booked at  
[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LateralFlowTesting](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LateralFlowTesting)

Free rapid COVID-19 tests are also available from some pharmacies across Worcestershire

To book a test in one of the participating pharmacies please go to  
[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus).

Rapid Covid Testing is conducted in partnership with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

## Lateral Flow Testing figures

Lateral flow testing (LFT) Figures from 28<sup>th</sup> January to 11<sup>th</sup> February, with the Wyre Forest site open from 12 February for LFT.

	28/1-11/2
Cathedral	59
Pershore	130
Redditch	52
Riverside	145
Ryland, Bromsgrove	22
Wyre Forest	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>

## Early years and childcare vaccine confusion – update

The Early Years and Childcare team, WCF have been made of the following article on PACEY's website that we wanted to share with everyone.

[PACEY \(opens in new window\)](#) has now received the following information from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the NHS. They have confirmed that the vaccine appointment booking system has now been amended to reflect the fact that childcare and early years practitioners are not eligible for vaccination as part of the social care workforce unless they are caring for clinically extremely vulnerable children.

DHSC has confirmed that childcare or early years practitioners who have received their vaccine will not be fined. However, if you have made an appointment and are not eligible, **DHSC has confirmed you must cancel the appointment.**

PACEY has asked DHSC to clarify what happens to individuals who have received their first vaccination and will be due a second within 12 weeks. As soon as we have clarity, we will [update our FAQs \(opens in new window\)](#)

We continue to lobby for all childcare and early years practitioners, including childminders and nannies, to be prioritised for vaccination once the most vulnerable are protected.

## Herefordshire and Worcestershire STP COVID-19 Vaccinations for Health and Social Care Workforce

We have included a flyer from our colleagues in Public Health which we asked is shared with all staff / volunteers. The aim of the flyer is to provide clarity on who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations under the term social care or health care workers in England.

## Trauma Informed Training

The West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit has launched the new Trauma Informed section of the website which includes access to **FREE ONLINE WEBINARS**. These webinars offer training in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma-Informed Practice.

The training is designed to help professionals instil a more human centric approach into their daily practice. It aims to raise awareness of relevant psychological theory behind mental health and the benefits of relationship-based practice. It explores the potential impacts of trauma and adversity across a person's entire life and promotes professional practices, activities, attitudes and behaviours that take on a trauma informed approach.

**FREE follow up support and consultation** are also available to organisations in the West Midlands to help you embed learning into your organisation.

You can access the training here: <https://westmidlands-vru.org/about/trauma-informed/>

Please scroll down and click on 'Free Online Webinars' which should direct you to a registration form. Once completed, you can access the webinars and other resources

Best regards,



Ian Morris  
Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager

