



Ian Morris

Early Years and Childcare Strategic Manager

Email: imorris@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Tel: 01905 844721

Our Ref: EYB164

Date: 1st October 2021

Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

As we enter October there has been a distinct chill in the air this week, but we hope that your new term has started well, and your children are settling in well to their new routines. This season of the year is always a special time for exploring all that nature has to offer but it's also a time to get to know your new children and their families and the excitement and challenges this can bring.

Of course, this year also brings a return to normality (of sorts) as well as the introduction of the new EYFS and the implications this might have on your practice. In order to reflect on this and also keep ourselves up to date with all the latest developments in Early Years, our bulletin this week brings you news of our regular Managers and Leaders meetings scheduled for November, along with our Early Years DSL Updates later the same month. Attendance is free and bookings are now being taken.

Before then though, it's the eagerly anticipated Early Years conference on 15th and 16th October so please make sure you join us for two days of inspirational and impactful keynotes and workshops that are sure to sustain you for the year that lies ahead.

Enjoy your week.

Contents

Annual Safeguarding Self-Assessment for Early Years Settings and Childminders	2
Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead Training	3
Inclusion Courses – Buy one get one half price	3
What to expect in the EYFS	3
EYFS Early Support Tracking Documents	4
Save the Date - Early Years Conference.....	4
Paediatric First Aid Course	5
A Celebratory Approach to Working with Children with SEND	5
Early Years Leaders and Managers Forum.....	5
Ofsted's role in regulating childcare: poster for parents.....	5
Early Years Safeguarding Leads forum (EY DSL Forum)	6
Early Years Choking Hazard Posters.....	6

Annual Safeguarding Self-Assessment for Early Years Settings and Childminders

Over the term we have consulted with the sector and worked with some DSL's from across the County and have now developed a self-assessment audit tool (Annual Safeguarding Self-Assessment for Early Years Settings and Childminders). Schools for some years have been completing a similar assessment known as the section 175 which legally has to be completed by all schools.

In Early Years the toolkit is **not** mandatory, however WCF believe this will support you in your setting to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding over the past 12 months. This is survey will be available yearly and can be completed [online](#).

This will need to be completed by **31st October 2021**, the results will be shared with Denise Hannibal, Early Years and Education Safeguarding Lead and will support developing training needs for Worcestershire Early Years DSL's and all Practitioners, as well as supporting you in your setting to identify any priorities to ensure safeguarding is effective.

Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead Training

From January 2022 the Early Years DSL Training will be increasing back up to 6 hours, at present the delivery is 4 hours. It will continue to be delivered virtually by Cheryl Green, our trainer, and will remain at £40 + VAT per person for each booked place.

We have reviewed the feedback from courses delivered in the April to July 2021 period and it has become apparent that additional time is needed to go into further depth on specific topics as well as to allow the discussions that take place not to be rushed or hindered due to ensuring all content is covered. This will also allow additional topics to be added in last minute based upon legislative guidance changes. As we know Safeguarding is an ever changing and evolving subject.

The training team will be working with Cheryl over the forthcoming weeks to ensure they have all the right information to amend the training booking system, CPD, and send revised confirmations out to all delegates. The intention is that this will be completed by 31 October if not before.

As a reminder, the Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead training is a single course for all types of DSL i.e. new, experienced, very experienced and is now a YEARLY course. The decision to move to yearly has been based on a number of factors. These include our experiences in the last 18 months due to COVID, that many of the safeguarding messages are the same or similar, how schools and governors access Safeguarding training, and that Worcestershire Children First want a consistent approach to Safeguarding training for ALL the workforce working with children and young people aged 0 to 18 years.

You can book your place via [CPD Online](#). If you have any questions regarding your booking, please contact the training team via email at: workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

Inclusion Courses – Buy one get one half price

A special offer is available for early years inclusion courses. Quote the following code on [CPD online](#) to get 50% off the second course you book onto:

Code: SENCOAutumn

For a full list of inclusion courses available please visit the [WCF Early Years Training webpage](#) and book on via [CPD online](#).

What to expect in the EYFS

DfE has published a new guide for parents, produced by Sheringham Nursery School and Children's Centre. ['What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage'](#) (formerly 'What to expect when') guides parents through what to expect with their child's development. It aligns with the new Development Matters to help practitioners engage with parents about their child's development.

EYFS Early Support Tracking Documents

New draft versions of the Early Support Tracking documents are now available on the Inclusion Team website A-Z of resources. They have been updated in line with the new Department for Education Development Matters and the Department for Education Birth to Five Matters - Non-statutory guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are very similar to the previous documents.

Please continue to track children on the original documents if you already have those in progress. Use the new documents to start tracking new children.

[Early years inclusion A to Z of resources - Worcestershire Children First Education Services](#)

Save the Date - Early Years Conference

We are pleased to announce the return of our popular Early Years conference.

Titled "New Beginnings", it will take place on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th October at Worcester Racecourse. The Early Years team are inviting you to a full day of inspirational and motivational keynotes and workshops exploring the most talked about and current topics in Early Years.

Our exciting line-up of keynote speakers include the internationally renowned John Siraj Blatchford and Lynnette Brock from SchemaPlay, the former story-telling laureate Katrice Horsley, and acclaimed independent consultants Neil Farmer and Sonia Mainstone-Cotton.

"Neil Farmer was particularly inspiring, he got key messages across in a way that challenged without alienating and really championed the child's perspective. Loved both his keynote and workshop. A great day with loads of new ideas."

"We feel we have gained different ideas about how to capture the children's interests and schemes and follow the way they learn to extend their learning from John and Lynette"

"There are few people on earth who give you such a boost of energy as Katrice...She transfers her knowledge of storytelling in a way that is indescribably inspiring - once you have experienced her performances, they are impossible to forget! With a big heart and an enviable presence, she turns her lectures and workshops into something completely magical. I recommend Katrice with all my heart because she is personal and always delivers beyond expectations."

"Absolutely fantastic course, excellent tutor Sonia."

"I would highly recommend Sonia's course to anyone and everyone."

Booking is now live via [CPD online](#) and be advised that places are limited. The codes are:

- Friday 15th October - CON/21/433
- Saturday 16th October - CON/21/434

Paediatric First Aid Course

This Early Years Paediatric First Aid training course is aimed at all Early Years practitioners who are looking to obtain a current paediatric first aid qualification.

The course is 12 hours and delivered over 3 sessions: 2 x 3hr live sessions via Zoom and a 6 hour session face-to-face.

Session Times: 18th October & 20th October 6-9pm (Zoom). 23rd October 9am-3pm (Face to face).
Location: Little Squirrels at Shrawley, School House, Shrawley, Worcestershire WR6 6TT
Cost: £77 per person.

For more information and details how to book, please visit:

[Early Years Paediatric First Aid Training Zoom & Face to Face \(3 Sessions\) - MBK Group](#)

A Celebratory Approach to Working with Children with SEND

DfE has also published a new guide produced by Pen Green Children's Centre, '[A Celebratory Approach to Working with Children with SEND – Giving additional support in the Early Years](#)' (formerly 'A Celebratory Approach to SEND assessment in the Early Years') to help practitioners who may be supporting children who require additional help or children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Early Years Leaders and Managers Forum

The Early Years team will be providing an update on all the latest issues in Early Years, both locally and nationally. James Norman from Ofsted will also be talking about what to expect from an inspection visit.

- 2 November 2021, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/21/511
- 10 November 2021, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/21/512

Please book your place via [CPD Online](#) and joining instructions will be issued as part of your confirmation from CPD.

Ofsted's role in regulating childcare: poster for parents

Ofsted have produced a poster about its responsibilities and how parents can contact them. Please see attached poster that childcare services can display in their setting.

Early Years Safeguarding Leads forum (EY DSL Forum)

The Early Years DSL forum is open to all PVI childminders, nurseries, pre-schools, out of school / holiday clubs and school ran / governor led nurseries and is FREE to attend.

Delivered by our Early Years and Education Safeguarding Team (Denise Hannibal our Education Safeguarding Lead and Hayley Doyle) they will provide updates on policy, legislation, guidance and local procedures, as well as giving you the opportunity for peer discussion.

- 16 November 2021, 6.45pm to 8pm, course code: EY/21/509
- 18 November 2021, 6.45pm to 8pm, course code: EY/21/510

Please book your place via [CPD Online](#) and joining instructions will be issued as part of your confirmation from CPD.

Early Years Choking Hazard Posters

Tragically, a child dies in the UK every month from choking and hundreds more require hospital treatment. It can happen quickly, and it can happen to anyone.

The Food Standards Agency have issued some useful resources in the form of a poster (attached) which can be displayed in your setting where food is prepared and served to children, as a helpful reminder of how to minimise the risk of choking.

The [food safety page](#) on the Help for Early Years Providers website also outlines important messages and links to useful resources regarding keeping children safe whilst eating.

Best regards,



Ian Morris
Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager

