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Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

We hope that many of you will have enjoyed a well-deserved break over the half term and are ready for the challenges of more wintery weather! It was great to see so many of you at the leaders and managers update meeting this week and I know there are many more of you booked on for next week too. Our colleague from Ofsted, James Norman, is someone the team and I enjoy working with. He has a wealth of knowledge and his presentation was particularly well received.

With inspections in mind, I am delighted to say that Gill Owen will be leading “preparing for inspection” sessions for leaders and managers this half term. Gill has been the headteacher of three “outstanding” maintained nursery schools and is a trained Ofsted inspector, so we are very fortunate to have secured her services to lead our training. We hope to announce similar sessions for childminders very soon.

There are more details in this week’s bulletin, as well as other training opportunities led by the Inclusion Team, Autism training and the forthcoming EY DSL updates.

Enjoy your week.

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Training Team Availability

As we welcome Rachael Oakley, Training Coordinator, back from her maternity leave the training team have an update on their availability and reminders for all early years settings across the county.

Availability

- The training team will be available to speak to directly on Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday 8.30am to 4pm and Thursday 8.30am to 2pm by calling 01905 844420. Any voicemails received outside of these days will be responded to on Monday to Thursday
- If we are not available, we highly recommend emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk. All emails will be responded to based on date / time of enquiry and will be dealt when the team is available.

Reminders

- Please ensure spam / junk boxes are checked for confirmations if they are not present in your inbox.
- On receipt of your confirmation from CPD please check that joining instructions have been received. If they are not present, please contact the training team immediately by emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk and they will be re-sent. If for any reason this is not possible please notify the team within 5 working days of the course to have them re-sent. The training team cannot guarantee availability on the day of the course joining instructions are required for.
- For training courses that are virtual delivery and have extremely high delegates numbers booked to attend (for example the EY managers Forums / DSL forums and over 80 places booked) a reminder email with joining instructions will be sent from CPD approx. a week before.

Recommendations

- Download the CPD user guide (from the CPD home page) to provide support in relation to bookings, cancellations, accessing certificates and completing evaluations.
- The CPD user guide is also available from our [Education Services training website \(opens in new window\)](#)
- Always check with your CPD leader (the person who booked your training) that they've been forwarded the confirmation with any attachments to you.

Preparing for Inspection for Leaders and Managers

- Specifically for Leaders and Managers of PVI Nurseries, Pre-Schools and Out of School Clubs .
- During these sessions leaders and managers will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Ofsted framework. They will develop a greater understanding and more confidence about how the inspection process is carried out, including each of the key inspection activities and evaluation schedule.
- Cost: £32 + VAT
- Trainer: Gill Owen
- Gill has worked within the Early Years phase for over 35 years. During this time, she has been a teacher, a Headteacher of 3 “outstanding” Maintained Nursery Schools and a Local Authority Lead for Early Years. She is trained as an Ofsted Inspector but does not inspect at present.
After taking Early retirement in 2019, Gill has worked as an Early Years Consultant and Trainer for a range of schools, support services and Local Authorities.

23 November 2021, 9am to 12pm, Worcester, course code: EY/21/576

1 December 2021, 9am to 12pm, Worcester, course code: EY/21/577

Places are to be booked via [CPD Online](#) using your settings CPD leader login details. Confirmations will be issued to the email address on CPD please double check this is correct at the point of booking. Invoices will be raised on receipt of the register from the trainer. If you encounter any problems when booking, please contact the training team at workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

A Special Offer on our Early Years Inclusion Courses

The offer is on our range of early years inclusion courses available in the Spring Term, which include:

- Positive Behaviour Management (currently being rescheduled to January 2022)
- Effective Early Identification of SEND
- Introduction to Speech and Language Difficulties
- Effective Individual Provision Map (IPM) Writing - Introduction to Practice
- Training for New SENCO's - Introduction to Practice
- 'How to write a Support Plan' workshop
- Individual Risk Assessments and Health Care Plans for children with SEND within Early Years settings

The buy one get one half price applies for any bookings made from 01 October, on any early years inclusion course so you can have delegates attend two different courses with this 50% offer, and the course must be completed by the end of March 2022.

To take advantage of this offer when booking via [CPD Online](#) using your settings CPD Leader login details, please quote: **SENCOAutumn**. If you do not quote **SENCOAutumn** when booking your second course, the training will be charged at full price.

Also please be aware that the majority of the Early Years Inclusion training, detailed above, will be moving to virtual delivery. Please continue to book places as normal and as / when the course is updated on CPD we will issue revised joining instructions.

Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead Training

To confirm 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. 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 training team have updated CPD and confirmed to all delegates the changes. If due to the change of date / increase in hours you cannot make the original course booked, please contact the training team via email at: workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

The dates for Spring term training are below:

Childminders specific dates

- 22 January 2022, 9am to 3.30pm (with a break), course code: EY/21/144
- 1 and 8 February 2022, 7pm to 10pm, course code: EY/21/145
- 5 and 12 March 2022, 9.30am to 12.30pm, course code: EY/21/147

Setting specific dates

- 12 and 19 January 2022, 9.30am to 12.30pm, course code: EY/21/142
- 9 and 16 March 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, course code: EY/21/148
- 25 March 2022, 9am to 3.30pm (with a break), course code: EY/21/149

Mixed Settings & Childminder cohort dates

- 18 and 25 January 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, course code: EY/21/143
- 12 February 2022, 9am to 3.30pm (with a break), course code: EY/21/146
- 28 and 30 March 2022, 7pm to 10pm, course code: EY/21/150

Please book as normal via CPD - Joining instructions will be issued via CPD as part of your confirmation, if you have not received within 5 days of the training please contact the training team on 01905 844 420 or email workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

If you have any questions regarding your booking, please contact the training team via email at: workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

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 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.

- 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.

Autism Training

Our Autism and Complex Communications Team have organised a range of training for schools, and we've JUST had clarification that several of these courses can be offered to our early years sector.

Story Massage

Story Massage combines the benefits of agreed positive touch through the use of story, rhyme or song. The programme contains ten simple massage strokes that are easy to learn and can be used in different ways throughout different Story Massage sessions. It supports learning and communication through play and positive touch.

- Cost: £20 + VAT
- 02 November 2021, 4pm to 5.30pm, virtual delivery, course code SCH/21/427
- 14 June 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH/21/428

Signalong: A few common words

Signalong is an alternative and augmentative keyword signing communication method used by those individuals with a speech, language and communication need. Signalong uses a Total Communication Approach to teach language and literacy skills, through a combination of speech, signs and descriptions at the appropriate level.

- Cost: £20 + VAT
- 10 May 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH/21/426

Sensory Audits

A one hour course to find out What is a sensory audit? How to complete a sensory audit, A modelled sensory audit (if in setting) and Resources and equipment suggestions

- Cost: £15 + VAT
- 29 November 2021, 4pm to 5pm, virtual delivery, course code SCH/21/419
- 13 June 2022, 4pm to 5pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH/21/420

All places are to be booked via [CPD Online](#).

If you would like to explore this training to your whole setting, then please contact the Autism team directly by emailing Autism@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

Covid-Related Closures

A message from the Early Years Entitlements Team.

We hope this finds you well.

We have been made aware by Ofsted that some Early Years settings have not been reporting COVID-related closures to them because they think this is no longer a requirement.

Please can you reiterate to your local providers that they must notify Ofsted, or the childminder agency with which they are registered, of any confirmed cases in the setting, whether a child or a staff member? Settings should also tell Ofsted if they have to close the setting as a result. It is a legal requirement as set out in paragraph **3.52** of the [early years foundation stage statutory framework](#). They should report as soon as they are able to, and in any case within 14 days. Settings can see '[tell Ofsted if you have a COVID-19 incident at your childcare business](#)' to ensure that all the required information is included in their notifications.

We thank you for your continued support.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

The Early Years Entitlements Team

Study of Early Education and Development (SEED)

Research about the current childcare and early education model in England.

The study of early education and development (SEED) evaluates the:

- effect of early education on children's outcomes
- quality of provision
- value for money of providing funded early years education

Data from the first 3 waves of the survey is available from the UK Data Service:

- [SEED wave 1 data \(2 year olds\)](#)
- [SEED wave 2 data \(3 year olds\)](#)
- [SEED wave 3 data \(4 year olds\)](#)

Early Education Use and Child Outcomes up to age 7

The impact of early education at ages 2 to 7 on child outcomes as part of the study of early education and development (SEED).

[Early education use and child outcomes up to age 7](#)

Early Education and Development: Alternative Quality Scales

This examines whether current quality scales used to assess childcare settings are the best predictors of children's cognitive and self-regulation development.

[Early education and development: alternative quality scales](#)

Early Years Attendance Data

As previously communicated, the DfE are continuing to collect Early Years Attendance data during the Autumn Term, to enable them to monitor the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on the early years sector. The collection is monthly as per the dates below:

- Week commencing Monday 1st November
- December date to be confirmed

The information provided across all local authorities is used to inform the Government's Covid-19 recovery planning; it is therefore really important that we enable them to have an accurate picture of the early years sector within Worcestershire by submitting a response from all providers.

The data collection form for the week commencing Monday 1st November is now live and can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/r/FcJh9yq5L8>

The form should be completed by **all settings**, including schools, who have Early Years children in attendance. Children accessing Reception provision should not be included.

Please click on the link above, complete the form and submit by **9am on Tuesday 9th November**.

Wychavon Communication Champion Training

Based upon their successful Communication TA training the Speech and Language Therapy team are pleased to offer a free training schedule for all early years' settings in Wychavon 2021-2022! Training will be delivered by the Worcestershire NHS Speech and Language Therapy team across all three Wychavon districts (Droitwich, Pershore & Evesham). The training will focus on a new speech and language topic each term. All training will involve a service update followed by practical strategies, activities and resources to support children's speech, language and communication needs.

Please see attached flyer for more information.

Best regards,



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Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager

