WORCESTERSHIRE CHILDREN FIRST

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Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

In my introduction last week, I talked about the beautiful Spring weather we had been enjoying and as I write this week, I am watching large flakes of snow drift past my window! What a difference a week makes!

It's been an enjoyable week for me being able to connect with so many of you at the Leaders and Managers Update on Wednesday evening. As always, the attendance of so many of you at the end of a long and busy day was really gratifying. We hope that the session was worthwhile.

I also very much enjoyed our Preparing for Inspection session this week. Your dedication, commitment, and willingness to engage during such events when you have so many other commitments to manage never ceases to amaze me - it's one of the things that makes the Early Years sector such a joy to be part of.

Enjoy your week.

Contents

Free Storytelling Training Has Arrived!

Your Animateys Active Storytelling Training is now available to all Early Years settings and schools in the county.

To access the training you will need to:

- Go to the checkout page on the Animateys website.
- Create an account for your school/setting (or log in if you already have one)
- Enter the coupon code for your district at checkout

NOTE: You will not need to add any payment details.

Please find your codes below:

- *Bromsgrove: storybr
- *Malvern Hills: storymh
- *Redditch: storyred
- *Worcester: storywo
- *Wychavon: storywyc
- *Wyre Forest: storywf

These codes are for the use of all schools and settings across Worcestershire. They may not be shared with anyone outside of the county. Codes are all lower case.

For a reminder of what this training is all about, please click to watch a short video.

We urge you all to take up this wonderful opportunity.

Early Excellence Webinars

The Early Years Team have secured funding meaning we can offer registered Ofsted PVI settings and Schools the option to **access one** Early Excellence webinar free for their **whole staffing** team.

From 12th March 2022:

- There will be a choice of seven webinars for PVI settings and five bitesize webinars for Schools to choose from
- There are 30 licenses available per webinar
- Each setting / school can only access one webinar out of the 12 options available (see table below)
- Each webinar link is valid for 6 months from the date of distribution
- We recommend the training being undertaken during a team meeting

To request a license on your preferred Webinar this must be done via CPD Online using your setting / school CPD leader login details.

- Each webinar will be available from the 12th to the 20th March 2022 for bookings
- Each webinar can be found by clicking on "20th March" on the calendar function under search events on CPD.
- When requesting a place please ensure it is booked under the manager / owners / childminders / team lead / EYFS lead's name.

After the closing date for interest has been reached (20th March) the training team will:

- Double check to ensure that each setting / school has only requested one webinar only
- Contact any settings / schools that have booked onto more than one webinar to determine which one you wish to access.
- Issue the specific link for the webinar to the person the request has been logged against (aka place booked via CPD) and it is then their responsibility to ensure that the webinar is accessed and viewed by the team within the next 6 months.

We hope that you take advantage of accessing a free webinar and details of your choices are below:

PVI Settings & Childminders ONLY

Understanding How to Support Children's Well-being & Involvement 0-4	For practitioners committed to putting the child at the centre of all they do, this programme will support teachers to gain an understanding of how we can measure and support children's well-being as they develop emotionally, using the international recognised Leuven Scales of Well-being as a framework. The three parts are: Session 1: The signs, signals and levels of wellbeing and involvement Session 2: Moderation of levels of involvement Session 3: 10 Action Points: An audit tool	EY/22/113
Let's Talk: Understanding Language & Communication in the EYFS 0-4	A three-part webinar package for EYFS practitioners who are looking to develop language and communication skills The sessions will draw on the latest research findings and explore the key steps involved in early language development. Consider the processes involved in holding a 'conversation', vocabulary enrichment and how we can successfully support quality talk within provision. Session 1: Stages of development for speech, language and communication Session 2: The impact of the learning environment Session 3: Action planning for practice and provision	EY/22/114
Understanding Outdoor Learning in the EYFS 0-4	An insightful three-part webinar package designed for EYFS practitioners which places outdoor learning in the spotlight Session 1: Establish Principles: Exploring the Special Nature of Outdoor Learning Session 2: Rethink Provision: How to Maximise Opportunities Outdoors Session 3: Develop Practice: What do Adults Need to Know and Do Outdoors	EY/22/115
Strengthening Observation & Assessment Practice 0-4	With a much sharper focus on assessment and observation practices in the Revised EYFS, now is a good time for schools and settings to review and develop their existing processes to ensure that they underpin the careful planning of a curriculum that meets the needs of all of our children In this three-part webinar, we will explore the new statutory requirements, recommendations and core principles and help you to review your current practices; the tools and strategies you use and how they support the unique child. Session One: Exploring Principles & Practice Session Two: Reflecting on What and Why Session 3: Looking Closely at Observation and Assessment	EY/22/116

Building Your Understanding of Child Development 0-4	This three-part webinar package focuses on child development and is an insightful and thought-provoking programme centred on key aspects of pedagogy Session 1: Exploring Schemas: Session 2: Exploring Self-Regulation: Supporting First Steps Session 3: Sustained Shared Thinking: Building Authentic Learning Partnerships	EY/22/117
All About Developing Work with Two Year Olds	A three-part webinar package focused on pedagogy and practice for EYFS staff working with our youngest children To ensure that we have inspiring environments with provision and practice of the highest quality for our two-year olds, it is critical that early year's practitioners develop a deeper understanding of the unique needs of these young learners. During these webinars, we will explore what is special about being two. Time will be spent considering children's development, how this relates to play, active learning and thinking – and we will look at examples of outstanding provision.	EY/22/118
Understanding Practice & Provision in the EYFS 0-4	A three-part webinar package designed for those looking to refresh their EYFS knowledge. Each webinar places a different aspect of EYFS provision under the spotlight with new ideas and inspiration for practice. Session 1: Making the Most of Continuous Provision in the EYFS Session 2: How to Build on Children's Interests Session 3: How to Secure Effective Interactions	EY/22/119

Schools ONLY

Creating Conversations! Inspire Language through Role Play	Inspire language and explore the importance of establishing meaningful and quality domestic role play that remains in place all year. The acquisition of spoken language and communication skills in early childhood builds strong foundations for reading, writing and mathematics. High quality role play supports children as they experiment with language, allowing vocabulary to flourish in meaningful contexts. This session will consider resources that can be added to the environment which will provide opportunities across all areas of learning and reflect children's personal experiences.	EY/22/120

It's a Small World: Inspiring Children's Storytelling Through Small World Play	Inspiring children's storytelling through small world play with ideas to encourage children to develop their own stories using a range of open-ended resources. Story is central to the development of children's communication, language and literacy. Small world play allows children to explore, experiment with and reflect on feelings and events and to develop creative thinking. This session will look at ways of creating a stimulating environment where children are given time to develop their ideas through small world provision – supported by adults who are skilled at extending learning and developing authors. This session will include opportunities for delegates to develop their own stories through hands on activities with small world and a range of open-ended resources.	EY/22/121
Exploring Self-Regulation	Self-regulation has been identified as a key competent in child development; powerfully strengthening both learning and well-being. Now also highlighted within the revised EYFS, this session will explore what self-regulation is and how it connects to what we know about how young children learn. In this session, we will consider how we can effectively support children in developing their self-regulation skills, reflecting on the implications for practice and provision.	EY/22/133
How to Secure Effective Interactions	How good are your interactions with children? High quality interactions are central to effective early years practice and ensuring all children make progress. For these to be successful requires skilled adults. This session will demonstrate how engaging in effective conversations during child-initiated activities helps children absorb new vocabulary, expand their knowledge and extend their thinking. Delegates will come away with ways to successfully improve the quality of their adult: child interactions; improving outcomes across the curriculum for all children.	EY/22/134
Sustained Shared Thinking	Central to effective Early Childhood Education is the skilful adult. The ability to interact sensitively and appropriately, supporting and extending learning is a complex process built on a deep understanding of how young children learn and our knowledge of each unique child. In this session we will explore the concept of Sustained Shared Thinking, the evidence supporting its use and unpick how we as practitioners can use it as a core element of our practice to improve the quality of our interactions and outcomes for all our children.	EY/22/135

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Rachael Oakley, Training Coordinator on 01905 844 420 or email workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

An Introduction to Birth to 5 Matters

This training will provide an introduction to the Birth to 5 Matters non-statutory guidance and help practitioners from across the Early Years sector to think about how to actually use it in practice. Donna Gaywood, the Birth to 5 Matters coordinator from Early Education, will lead this session and offer practical advice so that you can make the most of the guidance, particularly in response to the current challenges facing the Early Years. Please bring any thoughts, comments and questions as time will be given for ongoing discussion.

Audience: Anyone who works within the Early Years sector, 0 to 5 years.

Cost: £10 + VAT per delegate

Virtual delivery – joining instructions will be attached as part of your CPD confirmation.

- 27 April 2022, 9.30am to 11am, course code: EY/22/150
- 4 May 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm, course code: EY/22/151
- 4 May 2022, 6.30pm to 8pm, course code: EY/22/152
- 11 May 2022, 9.30am to 11am, course code: EY/22/153
- 14 May 2022, 10am to 11.30am, course code: EY/22/154

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Individual risk assessments and health care plans for children with SEND within early years settings

A 1-hour introductory course to support practitioners with writing individual risk assessments for children with SEND within Early Years settings.
Cost: £12 + VAT

- 14 June 2022, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/110
- 17 November 2022, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/111
- 15 February 2023, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/112

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Effective early identification for SEND

To support the early identification of children with additional needs including tools available to support practitioners, guidance on observations and how to record progress, communicating your observations to parents / carers, individual planning guidance and the graduated response. The second session will look at provision mapping as a way of organising your information about children in a readily accessible and easy to manage format that supports your planning

Cost: £35 + VAT

Virtual delivery

- 22 and 29 September 2022, 6.30pm to 8pm, course code: EY/22/108
- 7 and 14 March 2023, 6.30pm to 8pm, course code: EY/22/109

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

SENCo forum / clusters

From April 2022 the SENCo Forum / clusters will now be labelled as North or South and then from Autumn term there will be a choice of either North/ South per term to book, please book to attend the best date to suit you.

North Clusters

- 7 June 2022, 6.15pm to 7.45pm, course code: EY/22/041
- 9 June 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm, course code: EY/22/094
- 19 October 2022, 4.15pm to 5.45pm, course code: EY/22/042
- 1 March 2023, 6pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/043

South Clusters

- 10 May 2022, 6pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/095
- 11 May 2022, 5pm to 6.30pm, course code: EY/22/096
- 17 May 2022, 6pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/097
- 18 October 2022, 5pm to 6.30pm, course code: EY/22/098
- 28 February 2023, 5pm to 6.30pm, course code: EY/22/099

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

SEND Childminder Cluster

Specifically for Childminders, the Early Years Inclusion Team will share relevant news and updates from the SEND sector with Worcestershire's childminders, take questions and will speak about a range of subject matter specific to supporting children with SEND within Worcestershire.

Cost: Free

- 3 May 2022, 7pm to 9, course code: EY/22/037

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly

Effective individual provision map (IPM) writing

This course will enable you to deliver the Graduated Response completely. It will provide guidance on the appropriate paperwork required to demonstrate the 'additional and/or different' work you provide for children known to outside specialist agencies. IPM's will provide your team with a way of demonstrating the child's progress as a direct result of your interventions. New SENCOs will find this an essential course; however, it is also relevant for key people who will contribute to the writing of IPMs.

Cost: £25 + VAT

Virtual delivery

- 21 June 2022, 5pm to 7pm, course code: EY/22/089
- 8 November 2022, 4pm to 6pm, course code: EY/22/090
- 7 February 2023, 6pm to 8pm, course code: EY/22/091

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Promoting Positive Behaviour Management

All behaviour has a reason and is a form of communication. This course helps you to understand behaviour and be able to deal effectively and appropriately with it within your setting.

Cost: £25 + VAT

Virtual delivery

- 27 September 2022, 4pm to 6pm, course code: EY/22/038
- 14 March 2023, 6.30pm to 8.30pm, course code: EY/22/092

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Training for new SENCOs

This course is a combined workshop covering role of SENCo and SEND code of practice.

Session 1: To become confident in understanding the SEND code of practice and putting the principles into use – this includes the graduated response. Session 2: Become confident in the role of the SENCo, including supporting the identification of SEND within an early year's setting. An essential course for all named SENCo's, new SENCo's, Managers and Room Supervisors.

Cost: £45 + VAT (£54 inc VAT)

Virtual Delivery

- 20 September and 04 October 20322, 6.30pm to 8.30pm, course code: EY/21/093
- 21 and 28 March 2023, 4pm to 6pm, course code: EY/22/038

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

How to write support plans workshop

A 1-hour introductory course to support practitioners with writing individual support plans (ISP) for children with SEND within early years settings.

Cost: £12+ VAT

- 12 May 2022, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/105
- 11 October 2022, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/22/106
- 8 February 2023, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, course code: EY/11/107

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Early Years Inclusion Funding workshop

Based on specific requests from schools, we have organised a daytime Early Years Inclusion Funding workshop.

26 April 2022, 2pm to 3pm, virtual delivery, £12 + VAT per delegate

Aimed at SENCOs, Childminders, setting managers and anyone involved with claiming funding

An overview of how to claim inclusion funding for children with additional needs. The one hour workshop will provide insights into:

- The different levels of funding and the expectation of support and interventions at each stage
- Guidance on when and how to claim the funding
- Explain the funding available for each age group
- How to predict the funding you will receive and plan appropriate spend
- Provide guidance on how to record appropriate spend, and record impact of the funding
- Guidance on discussing the funding with parents/carers

Book via CPD Online using your specific setting login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD, please ensure they are forwarded to the delegate. If the training is virtual then confirmations will include a word document which have the specific joining instructions, please ensure they are shared with the delegate accordingly.

Reducing Parental Conflict (Harmony at home)

Further to our recent article regarding Reducing Parental Conflict (Harmony at Home) we have received feedback that there was not an evening option available to suit Childminders / Nurseries. As such we have taken this on board and organised one evening course to take place in May. If you have already secured a place on a different course date and wish to move, please contact the training so we can transfer your place accordingly

Virtual delivery: will be via Microsoft teams and joining instructions will be issued along with CPD confirmation

- 15 March 2022, 3.30pm to 6.30pm, course code: SCH/21/620
- 26 May 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, course code: SCH/21/646 *** NEW DATE RELEASED**
- 15 June 2022, 3.30pm to 6.30pm, course code: SCH/21/621

The training is for DSL/ Deputy DSLs to attend and is being offered free to all Early Years and Childcare Settings within the county.

Aims and objectives:

- What is Parental Conflict?
- The difference between parental conflict and domestic abuse
- Risks and factors
- Child's voice
- What is Harmony at Home?
- Digital Toolkit and resources
- Role of the Practitioner (DSL)
- Practitioner resources

Cost: Free to all PVI Early Years Settings

Virtual delivery: will be via Microsoft teams and joining instructions will be issued along with CPD confirmation.

- 15 March 2022, 3.30pm to 6.30pm, course code: SCH/21/620
- 26 May 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, course code: SCH/21/646 *** NEW DATE RELEASED**
- 15 June 2022, 3.30pm to 6.30pm, course code: SCH/21/621

Book via CPD Online using your CPD leader login details. Confirmations will be issued from CPD which will have the joining instructions and supporting information attached, when forwarding please ensure all attachments are also shared.

If you require any support with booking or to check course availability it is essential that you contact the training team directly by emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

Early Years Career Progression Pathways

What is Your Understanding of Early Years Leadership & Management?

A Reflective Session

[Book Here: Monday 4th April | 13:00 - 14:00](#)

Explore Your Employability Skills

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by the Careers+ Team, this session will provide you with an understanding of 'soft' skills, personal qualities, and how to frame your experiences.

[Book Here: Wednesday 20th April | 10:00 - 11:00](#)

Leadership & Management in Early Years: Basic Context & Concepts

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by our Early Years Academic Team, this session will explore Early Years Leadership & Management roles and responsibilities by examining job specifications.

[Book Here: Wednesday 27th April | 14:00 - 15:00](#)

Skills for Success in the Early Years Sector

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by the Careers+ Team, this session will provide an opportunity for you to recognise the sector specific skills needed to achieve your career aspirations.

[Book Here: Friday 29th April | 15:00 - 16:00](#)

Qualities of an Early Years Leader & Manager

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by our Early Years Academic Team, this session will analyse the range of knowledge and skills needed across a range of Early Years disciplines.

[Book Here: Wednesday 4th May | 10:00 - 11:00](#)

Importance of Leadership & Management in an Early Years Setting

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by our Early Years Academic Team, this session will examine the range of values, visions and ethos behind Early Years Leadership & Management.

Book Here: Tuesday 10th May | 14:00 - 15:00

Impact of a Leader and a Manager in an Early Years Setting

MS Teams, Birmingham City University

Delivered by our Early Years Academic Team, this session will explore the influence leaders and managers have on their team, children and families.

Book Here: Monday 16th May | 13:00 - 14:00

Best regards,

Ian Morris
Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager