

Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

In what turned out to be a month of meetings, it was wonderful to see so many of you at the recent NEF Briefings, EY's Update Meetings and EY's DSL Forums. A copy of the slides for each can be found below.

Please remember, if you have any good practice to share, email an article to the Early Years Team for inclusion in an upcoming Bulletin. You will notice below that we have specifically requested articles to support the National Day for Play, but we're also happy to share any good practice you feel would benefit other providers.

If you need any advice or support, please email the team on EYCC@worcestershire.gov.uk or submit a request via the [website](#).

Regards,

The Early Years Team

Contents

Early Years Bulletin: Worcestershire News and Reminders	4
Nursery Education Funding.....	4
Recent Provider Meetings.....	4
Severn Arts	4
Engaging Fathers – Updated Guidance	5
Reminder: Worcestershire Early Years Community Hub	5
Recruitment Reminder	5
Early Years Bulletin: National News and Reminders	6
Unnecessary temporary exclusion of recently vaccinated children	6
HEART Midlands Stronger Practice Hub	6
Education Endowment Foundation: PSED	7
Getting it right from the start: How early years practitioners work with babies and toddlers	7
New online HUB of free resources for childcare providers	7
Early Years Qualification Checking Service	8
Reminder: DfE Consultation: Space Requirements in Early Years Childcare Settings	8
Early Years Bulletin: Out of School Provision	9
Summer Term Out of School Update Meeting	9
Everything to Play For: A Plan to Ensure Every Child in England Can Play, June 2025	9
Wraparound Funding	9
National Day for Play.....	10
Early Years Bulletin: Early Help	10
Better Health – Start for Life	10
What’s on for families	10
Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding	11
Splash Safety at Your Pad.....	11
Drowning Prevention Week: Stay Safe Around Water This Summer!.....	11
Early Years Bulletin: Inclusion	12
SEND Services Restructure	12
Self-Evaluation Tool for Inclusion in the Early Years	12
SENDIASS- Tips for Transition	12
SENDIASS- Leaflets	13
Speech, Language and Communication	13
Do you support prematurely born children appropriately?	13
ADHD Foundation Trust	13
CAMHS and under 5’s referral	14

Inclusion Surgeries:	14
Early Years Inclusion Training 2025/2026	15
Early Years Inclusion Supplement Funding	15
SENCO Cluster Meetings	16
Early Years Bulletin: Training	17
Communication Champion Training – Attention and Listening	17
Level 3 Award: Transition in Playwork	17

Early Years Bulletin: Worcestershire News and Reminders

Nursery Education Funding

Summer Term Adjustment Claims

The [Online Provider Portal](#) is currently open for any Summer Term adjustments to be submitted. Claims entered by 27th June will be included in the Summer Term Actual Payment, which is due to be received by Friday 11th July. Any claims submitted after 27th June will be paid in August.

Working Family Funding from September 2025

At you receive Eligibility Codes for children due to start accessing the 30 Hour Working Family Entitlement from September 2025, please ensure that you use the Eligibility Checker on the Online Provider Portal to confirm it is a valid Code, with a Start Date of 31st August or earlier **and** an End Date of 1st September or later.

Statutory Guidance Changes

Following the recent changes to the [NEF Statutory Guidance](#), we are continuing to offer 1:1 support sessions to discuss your plans and answer any questions you may have. Additional dates are being offered across the Summer Term: [NEF Support Sessions](#).

Recent Provider Meetings

As promised at the recent provider meetings, please find attached copies of the slides from each:

- [EY's DSL Forum](#)
- [NEF Provider Briefing](#)
- [Early Years Update Meeting – Childminders](#)
- [Early Years Update Meeting – Group Based Settings](#)

Severn Arts

[Severn Arts](#) are a large arts and music charity who, amongst other things, provide musical learning opportunities for young people in Worcestershire. Thank you to those who attended the Early Years providers meetings last week where we shared a bit more about what we do. We are now seeking your views on Early Years music provision to help us plan out what we can offer. We are applying for funding for an Early Years project and would love the application to be shaped by your needs.

We would be really grateful if you could complete this [short survey](#) by 30th June. All responses are anonymous and will be collated by Severn Arts. Thank you!

Engaging Fathers – Updated Guidance

The [Engaging Fathers Guidance](#) has been updated as of March 2025 and is now available via the [Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership](#) website. This revised document reflects current best practice and aligns with national priorities around inclusive, whole-family approaches. It reinforces the importance of proactively engaging fathers and father figures in safeguarding, early help, and family support interventions. We encourage all professionals across the partnership to familiarise themselves with the guidance and consider how it can inform service delivery, planning, and reflective practice.

Reminder: Worcestershire Early Years Community Hub

Worcestershire Early Years Community Hub is a networking and peer support session for early years leaders, childminders, practitioners, and EY teacher's working with children within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). It's a collaboration between University Worcester colleagues enhancing practice for UW students, WCC early years team and **YOU** our Early Years providers.

The next meeting is taking place on **Thursday 26th June 18:30-20:30** at the University of Worcester, St John's Campus, Henwick Grove, St John's, Worcester, WR2 6AJ.

By request, our discussion for the evening will focus on **working towards cultural humility in early years settings**. Cultural humility is a practice of self-reflection combined with an openness to understanding other cultures.

Book via [CPD](#) online, Course Code **10529**

Recruitment Reminder

Please don't forget that we can include any staff vacancies you are currently advertising via the WCF Facebook and LinkedIn pages. Please ensure the information is written in a way that is suitable for social media – we can't use PDF attachments of job descriptions, or include long lists of information. Please email ChSComms@worcestershire.gov.uk with the following information if you wish to make use of this service:

- **Job title**
- **Location**
- **Hours**
- **Brief description of role**
- **Link to your setting for more information and/or details of how to apply**
- **Closing date**

Early Years Bulletin: National News and Reminders

Unnecessary temporary exclusion of recently vaccinated children

The Department for Education and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have become aware that some early education settings are temporarily excluding children who have recently been vaccinated, even if they feel well enough to attend. This statement from a UKHSA health protection expert explains why such policies are unnecessary and can have serious unintended consequences for children and the early years settings they attend.

Dr Mary Ramsay, Director of Public Health Programmes at the UK Health Security Agency, said:

“Vaccinations are vital for protecting children against serious and potentially life-threatening diseases. With measles outbreaks occurring in areas of the UK and cases of whooping cough being reported, it's more important than ever that children receive their routine immunisations on schedule.

While some children may experience mild side effects after vaccination, there is absolutely no medical reason to exclude a vaccinated child from a setting if they are feeling well. This practice could potentially discourage parents from getting their children vaccinated and therefore increase the risk of having outbreaks in nurseries and schools.

All medicines can cause side effects, but global health authorities agree that immunisation is the safest way to protect children's health. If a parent or carer feels their child is well enough to attend nursery or school after vaccination, they should be welcomed as normal.

There is no reason to exclude children who have been recently vaccinated as vaccine viruses cannot spread to others.

By supporting childhood vaccination and maintaining inclusive and evidence-led policies, early years and education settings play a crucial role in protecting not just individual children, but entire communities from preventable diseases.”

DfE and UKHSA encourage you to help protect the health of children, members of staff and your wider community by checking that your attendance policy does not unnecessarily exclude children who have recently been vaccinated.

HEART Midlands Stronger Practice Hub

The Heart Midlands Early Years Stronger Practice Hub continues to provide support for providers within the Midlands, including settings based in Worcestershire.

They have a range of resources available, including free webinars and workshops, along with networking opportunities with fellow early years practitioners. For further information, please visit: [HEART – Midlands Early Years Stronger Practice Hub | Stronger Practice Hubs](#)



Education Endowment Foundation: PSED

The [Education Endowment Foundation](#) (EEF) have updated information in the [Evidence Store](#) about how to support Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), highlighting:

- Evidence consistently shows that educators can implement approaches that benefit young children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED).
- Using multiple approaches together is likely to aid the development of young children's PSED.
- There is a growing body of evidence to suggest that individual approaches, such as teaching and modelling managing emotions and maintaining positive relationships can also have a positive impact. However, more research is needed.

A downloadable summary of the evidence on Personal, Social and Emotional Development can be found [here](#).

Getting it right from the start: How early years practitioners work with babies and toddlers

Ofsted have published a research report which looks at how early years practitioners care for and education babies and toddlers; [Getting it right from the start: how early years practitioners work with babies and toddlers](#).

This research explores how early years (EY) practitioners understand the early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework and apply it to the education and care of babies and toddlers (from birth to 2 years). It draws on a series of visits to early years settings, a survey, inspector focus groups and a literature review.

The report has been produced to support leaders and practitioners in refining their approaches to best support our youngest learners.

New online HUB of free resources for childcare providers

If you're looking for practical guidance and expert advice to develop or expand your early years and wraparound childcare provision, then the Childcare Works online HUB is for you.

The expansion of early years entitlements and wraparound childcare is an exciting opportunity to support more families with high-quality childcare and education. On the HUB, you'll find a bank of good practice guidance, practical resources, business development advice, case studies, templates and training - all in one open access, free to use online HUB. Available to all providers, whether you are a childminder, nursery, play scheme, club or school, the Childcare Works online HUB is designed for you. The resources are created by experts and backed by the Department for Education.

Explore the HUB today: [Childcareworks.org.uk](https://childcareworks.org.uk)

Early Years Qualification Checking Service

Early years managers can now use the new [Check an early years qualification digital service](#) to quickly verify whether staff qualifications meet the requirements for staff:child ratios in England.

This free GOV.UK tool allows managers to check a qualification's approval status by entering key details such as:

- Course start date
- Level
- Awarding organisation

At the end of the process, a clear outcome is provided, which can be printed for your records.

Why use the new service?

Using the new Check an Early Years Qualification service:

- saves time during recruitment and HR processes
- supports workforce planning, ahead of the September 2025 expansion of funded childcare entitlements
- reduces confusion when checking qualifications

The service is tailored specifically for early years managers. All other user groups (for example practitioners) should continue to use the [Early Years Qualifications List \(EYQL\)](#) to check qualifications, and contact our supplier [Ecctis](#) if they are unable to find the qualification on the EYQL.

The Check an early years qualification service is for qualifications achieved in the UK. Holders of non-UK qualifications should continue to contact our supplier Ecctis for an assessment. If you need help using the service you can contact [DfE](#).

Reminder: DfE Consultation: Space Requirements in Early Years Childcare Settings

The DfE are consulting on potential options for amending the EYFS indoor space requirements to support childcare provision to expand. The options they are considering are to:

- Include free-flow outdoor space in the EYFS space requirements (without a cap)
- Include free-flow outdoor space in the EYFS space requirements (but with a cap on numbers to prevent overcrowding).

The deadline for responses is Friday 11th July 2025.

[Space requirements in early years childcare settings in England - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#)

Early Years Bulletin: Out of School Provision

Summer Term Out of School Update Meeting

A huge thank you to Evesham Adventure Playground for hosting our Summer Term Out of School Update Meeting. It was a beautiful summer's evening, which provided the ideal opportunity to look around this unique provision. Some of us even reverted to our childhoods, as we climbed the various structures, slid down slides and envied over huge tractor tyres and wooden pallets as good playworkers do!

Find out more about Evesham Adventure Playground here [Evesham Adventure Playground](#)

If you were unable to attend the meeting you can access a [handout containing the notes here](#). Look out for dates for our Autumn Term meeting, coming soon.

Everything to Play For: A Plan to Ensure Every Child in England Can Play, June 2025



The Raising the Nation Play Commission, a year-long independent inquiry into why play is critical to the wellbeing of children published its final report, **“Everything to Play For: A Plan to Ensure Every Child in England Can Play”** on Wednesday 11th June 2025.

This report puts forward a positive vision of a country where Children’s play is at the heart of government strategy and our public spaces, and where it is embedded across education, health, local government and beyond. It argues for the restoration of play into early learning and our schools, for communities where safe parks, playgrounds, streets and housing developments are alive with the shouts and laughter of children, and for a broader, cultural shift in attitudes towards risk, childhood independence and play.

Read the full report [Everything to Play For — Raising the Nation Play Commission.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Wraparound Funding

Are you a PVI provider, Childminder or School with a growing demand for wraparound? Do you need financial support to help you to grow your business, for example to help with the costs of staffing, resources or staff training to support children with SEND?

If the answer is **yes**, then I would love to hear from you, please drop an email to Sharon Jones at wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk.

You can also check out our [website](#) for full details on how to apply for wraparound funding and to access the online application form.

National Day for Play

Playday is the national day for play, celebrated each year across the UK in the first Wednesday in August. Playday will be celebrated **on Wednesday 6th August**.

Playday



The theme for this year's playday is **Spaces for Play**.

How are you going to maximise opportunities for children to play and celebrate Playday in your setting?

A great starting point would be to gather the views of your children and young people.

If you have any ideas to share in the next EY's Bulletin, please email them to Sharon Jones at wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk

For the latest updates on this year's campaign follow [Facebook](#) and [X](#) and get involved using the hashtags #Playday2025 and #SpacesForPlay.

Early Years Bulletin: Early Help

Better Health – Start for Life

Following the recent Panorama programme on baby food pouches, [BBC One - Panorama, The Truth about Baby Food Pouches](#) the attached [information for parents](#) is a really good resource.

Additionally, the **Better Health - Start for Life** webpage on weaning has been updated with new guidance on shop-bought infant foods, including pouches. This update was developed with input from **First Steps Nutrition**. You can view the updated content [here](#).

We also have Best Start in Life local pages [Feeding, weaning, and healthy eating | Worcestershire County Council](#)

What's on for families

The What's on for families has been updated to include loads of activities over the summer in Worcestershire (with lots of free events too!)

Family Fun and Support Worcestershire is a large directory of activities, events and sessions for families with children aged 0-16 years as well as support and classes for expectant parents.

Visit the website and follow the Facebook page to find out more:

<https://familyfunandsupport.com/>

[Facebook - familyfunandsupportworcestershire](#)

Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding

Splash Safety at Your Pad

A recent Child Drowning Update report by the Royal Life Saving Society highlighted that on average, one child a month drowns at home in England, with those aged under 5 being most at risk. These findings build on earlier reports that the number of children drowning has tragically doubled over the last four years.

Drowning is preventable, and their toad-ily awesome campaign, [Splash Safety at your Pad](#), has been created to help provide young families with advice, hints and tips around how to enjoy water safely at home.

Can you please share this information with families along with the following additional resources:

[Drowning Prevention Week: Resources for Families | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)
[Water Safety on Holiday | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)

Drowning Prevention Week: Stay Safe Around Water This Summer!

As the weather gets warmer, many families head to pools, lakes, rivers, and the seaside to cool off and have fun. **While water activities can be a great way to enjoy the summer, it's important to remember that water can also be dangerous—especially for children.**

Drowning Prevention Week (17–24 June) is a vital time to raise awareness about water safety and help prevent tragic accidents. Please take a moment to talk with children, families, carers and colleagues about the following key messages:

Why Water Safety Matters:

- Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death in children.
- It can happen quickly and silently—even in shallow water.
- Hot weather increases the temptation to swim in unsafe places like rivers, canals, and reservoirs, which can have hidden dangers like strong currents, cold water shock, and underwater obstacles.

Top Tips for Staying Safe:

- **Always supervise children** near water—no matter their swimming ability.
- **Swim in safe, lifeguarded areas** whenever possible.
- **Avoid open water** like rivers and lakes unless you're trained and equipped.
- **Learn basic swimming and water safety skills**—they can save lives.
- **Talk about cold water shock**—even on hot days, water can be dangerously cold.

Let's work together to keep our children and families safe this summer. Please share these messages widely and encourage families to learn more via the links below:

[Royal Life Saving Society UK's Drowning Prevention Week](#)

Early Years Bulletin: Inclusion

SEND Services Restructure

We are making some changes to the structure of our SEND Services team. These changes are aimed at improving the way we manage the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) process.

Families and professionals have told us that they can't get in contact with workers when they need to; assessments, plans and reviews are not always completed quickly enough (including within the statutory timescales); and the quality of EHCPs is not good enough.

Key changes that will help us to make improvements are:

- We have an additional 4 EHCP Co-ordinators, 1 Team Manager, 1 Senior EHCP Co-ordinator, 2 Initial Screening and Contact Officers (ISCOs) and a second Complaints Officer.
- We have split the teams into 'Pre-14' and 'Post-14' in different areas of the county - so children and young people will be allocated to a team and EHCP Co-ordinator based on how old they are and where they live.
- Each team will have its own email address and phone number, so if an EHCP Co-ordinator changes or is hard to reach, you can still contact the team for support.
- Casework Officers are now going to be called 'EHCP Co-ordinators' as families reported back to us that they didn't like children being referred to as a 'case'.

We will be moving children and young people to their new teams during June and July. Families can continue to contact their current EHCP Co-ordinator and the SEND Services Team via the usual channels and will be updated as and when things change. The new team structure will be fully in place from 1st September 2025.

You can download more information in our [SEND Services Restructure Briefing Sheet](#).

Self-Evaluation Tool for Inclusion in the Early Years

Are you as inclusive as you think you are?

Check out our new tool to identify where you can become the best version of Inclusive Practice:

[Self-Evaluation Tool for Inclusion in Early Years | Worcestershire County Council](#)

SENDIASS- Tips for Transition

Do you have children in your setting due to transition to Reception in September?

Do your families have questions around how best to support their child through this transition?

You can signpost your families to the [SENDIASS Tips for Transition](#) webpage where they will find practical advice to help them prepare their child for their move in to school.

SENDIASS- Leaflets

The Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) provides **FREE, impartial and confidential** information, advice and support to families and professionals, on all matters relating to children and young people (**0-25**) who have or may have SEND.

Contact:

Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:00pm

Call: 01905 768153

(24 hour answering machine service is available)

Email: SENDIASS@worcestershire.gov.uk

www.hwsendaiss.co.uk

If you would like some free copies of SENDIASS leaflets and posters to display in your setting, distribute to your families, or include in your new starters packs, please contact

SENDIASS@worcestershire.gov.uk

We have also the below digital copies for use in newsletters and emails:

[SENDIASS A4 leaflet](#)

[SENDIASS poster](#)

[SENDIASS training leaflet](#)

Speech, Language and Communication

Are you supporting a child with speech, language and/or communication difficulties? Have you checked out the SLCN pathway / Balanced system?

Parents and professionals can access this website. There are many useful links and ideas for creating a communication environment, early identification, links to develop your practice and to resources and interventions for children with identified speech, language and communication needs.

[SLCN Pathway | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust](#)

[The Balanced System® speech, language and communication pathway](#)

Do you support prematurely born children appropriately?

Check out these resources to support best practice with preterm babies:

[Prem Aware Award — The Smallest Things](#)

[Preterm Birth Information for Education Professionals](#)

[Supporting prematurely born children and their families in the preschool years'](#)

ADHD Foundation Trust

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire and the ADHD Foundation have a series of free webinars and flyers to help parents and carers support a child pre-diagnosis.

[Download the pre-diagnosis workshop flyer here](#)

CAMHS and under 5's referral

The Under-Fives' Clinic is part of CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service). It has been set up for families where there are young children who have difficulties that have not been improved by the strategies and advice offered by primary health care professionals.

These children may suffer from difficulties around sleeping or eating, or have problems in relationships with parents or siblings. They may have experienced trauma around the time of gestation or birth and difficulties in bonding with their mother, or been very ill as a baby or toddler. For some children their troubles are linked to parental conflict or separation, or they are fostered/adopted.

Contact Details

Referral process: online at: www.hacw.nhs.uk/specialist-camhs

You can contact CAMHS prior to a referral to check it is suitable by making contact with your district below on:

Worcester Under-Fives' Clinic Aconbury North, Charles Hastings Way, Worcester Royal Hospital, Worcester WR5 1JG
Tel: 01905 681961
Email: whcnhs.worcestershirecamhs@nhs.net

Redditch and Bromsgrove Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch B98 8AH Tel: 01527 488650
Email: whcnhs.worcestershirecamhs@nhs.net
Wyre Forest Under-Fives' Clinic Kidderminster Health Centre, Bromsgrove Street, Kidderminster, DY10 1PG
Tel: 01562 514549
Email: whcnhs.worcestershirecamhs@nhs.net

The service operates Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Inclusion Surgeries:

Last surgery dates for the summer term:

- 24th June for Nurseries appointments available from 13:30pm
- 25th June for Childminders appointments available 6.00pm – 7.15pm

Please book on using the following link. The Area SENCO will contact you at the time you have booked.

[Inclusion Surgery List 24.01.24 - Google Docs](#)

Early Years Inclusion Training 2025/2026

Look out for the new training directory – we are currently changing some of our training from virtual events to Webcasts which can be accessed at any time of the year.

The Code of Practice will remain as a virtual training event and will be offered twice a year. The government is currently reviewing the SEND code of Practice and a new version is expected to be published soon. Any changes to the SEND CoP will be covered in this training.

We will also have three new training events on offer in the next year:

- Reasonable Adjustments in the Early Years – virtual delivery
- Visual support in the Early Years - this will be a live, face to face event CPD
- Strategies and Resources to Support Interaction with SEND children – another live, face to face event

All dates, times and venues will be confirmed on the [Training and CPD web page](#) and in the Early Years Training directory.

Early Years Inclusion Supplement Funding

Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline, for any new children for **Autumn Term 25/26 applications, is Monday 14th July 25**. If you miss this, please do not worry. Please continue to submit up until 22nd September 2025. We aim to give you confirmation of any funding awarded in advance of the term as soon as possible following your applications.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PROVIDERS MUST COMPLETE A NEW FUNDING APPLICATION FOR ALL CHILDREN WHO REQUIRE ANY GR4 + Challenge funding and/or Exceptional funding for the next academic year 25/26. Funding will not be carried over from this academic year without a new application.

- Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline, for any new children for **Autumn Term 25/26 applications, is 14th July 25** for advance funding confirmation to be received and then 22nd September 25 for any applications to be confirmed during the Autumn Term.
- Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline, for any new children for **Spring Term 25/26 applications, is 21st November 25** for advance funding confirmation to be received and then 20th January 26 for any applications to be confirmed during the Spring Term.
- Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline, for any new children for **Summer Term 25/26 applications, is 13th March 26** for advance funding confirmation to be received and then 27th April for any applications to be confirmed during the Summer Term.

All Inclusion Supplement Applications are online and can be found at:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/early-years-inclusion/funding-application-process>

This funding is applied for once per academic year for children who receive NEF and once a term for any children who are too young/not eligible to receive NEF. Payments received begin the term which you have applied for, and will continue for subsequent terms, until the end of that same academic year (unless you are completing the termly application).

Payments will be received at the end of each term, in line with your Actual Funding payments for each term, and will be shown on your NEF statements.

Criteria is available in the '[Inclusion Funding Criteria](#)'.

For both GR4 Challenge and Exceptional funding applications, providers must:

- **Return the termly** Inclusion Supplement Monitoring form. There is no exception.
 - The document is an online forms document only. No other version will be accepted without prior authorisation.
 - These forms are **only available within a window each academic year**.
 - Autumn Term: 1st – 15th November
 - Spring Term: 1st – 15th February
 - Summer Term: 1st – 15th June
 - These forms are available at: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/early-years-inclusion/funding-application-process>
 - The aim of the monitoring process is to monitor the impact of the funding upon the child's progress in the **same term** of which you are completing it.

Failure to submit your monitoring form will result in funding being withheld.

Exceptional Funding

Please note: We have had an increased number of providers choosing 'Exceptional Funding' when submitting their NEF 'Actuals', who have not applied and / or met criteria for Exceptional funding. Please be aware that exceptional funding requires an application form and criteria must be met. There are no exceptions. Failure to do so will result in no funding being awarded.

SENCO Cluster Meetings

If you missed our Summer SENCO Cluster Meeting, you can catch up here:

[Summer SENCo Cluster Meeting - 10 June 2025](#)

This is what we covered in our very busy meeting:

- Jill Hughes: Local Offer
- Jenna White & Tricia Griffiths: from SENDIASS
- Lorraine and Liz: Cornmeadow – Home Visits
- Kimberley Turnbull: Developing relationships with pre-verbal autistic children
- Kara Gledsdale: CAMHS under fives service
- Early Years Inclusion Team updates/reminders/ELSA
- While you are waiting - Health Link
- New Self Evaluation Tool for Inclusion for Early Years Providers

Early Years Bulletin: Training

If you encounter any issues when booking courses via CPD, please contact the Training Team directly via 01905 844420 or workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Communication Champion Training – Attention and Listening

Delivered by Worcestershire NHS Speech and Language Therapy Team, this training aims to help you understand the difficulties children in your setting may present with, and practical strategies and activities that can be delivered in your setting to support them.

[See the attached Communication Champion flyer for further information.](#)

Audience: All early years settings

Date: 25 June 2025, 3:30pm – 4:30pm, virtual delivery

Cost: Free

To book: Email WHCNHS.SLTBromsgrove@nhs.net to register.

Level 3 Award: Transition in Playwork

This course is beneficial for individuals looking to work in playwork settings or embrace The Playwork Principles in their current role, as it provides an understanding of playwork theories and practices. Designed to help learners develop their understanding of playwork, especially those with prior experience in early years or childcare when working in playwork settings.

[For further details, please see the attached Playwork flyer.](#)

Audience: Practitioners must be at least 19 years old and have a full Level 3 competency-based qualification in Childcare or Education and a minimum 2 years' experience working in a childcare or education setting.

Cost: Free

Dates: September 2025 – February 2026 (4 hours per week for 16 weeks), virtual delivery, course code: 10588

To book: via [CPD](#) using your setting CPD leader login details and course code.
Confirmations will go to the delegate email provided and include the relevant MS teams joining information.