

Early Years Newsletter

2 February 2024





Welcome to the Provider Update 21 (2023/24)

Dear Provider

A glimpse of sunshine at the weekend gave us a taste of brighter days to come! We hope you've all had a lovely week.

This week's provider email includes an important message from public health, a request from our Inclusion team about the 'Ready for Learning' tool, an invitation to visit the MASH, and a new section for local Childminders including an exciting update about the Early Years Childminder Conference we're hosting this May!

We hope you all enjoy a restful weekend when it arrives.

The Early Education and Child Development Team

FINAL CALL! Early Years Expanded Entitlements 2024 - SURVEY CLOSSES AT 5PM ON FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2024

If you have not already done so, please complete [Survey](#).

Many thanks for your input which will enable us to support the Early Years Sector in Gloucestershire to introduce these new entitlements.

Ready for Learning

It's now time to complete RFL scores for all Pre-School children!

Please input scores for all pre-school children in your setting using the [RFL Questionnaire](#). Once you have completed the questionnaire for each child, please use the [RFL Comparison Sheet](#) that you previously completed with the September scores, to now input the January scores and then email to [EYS AdviceLine](#) by Friday 8 March 2024.

Please note: Due to GDPR when returning your RFL comparison score sheet please remove the children's names.

Thank you to everyone who is participating in this work – your data will help us to evidence whether the RFL is successful in supporting early identification and that children are making good progress in their pre-school year.

If you have any queries about the RFL, please contact the Advice Line or attend one of the drop-in sessions below. There is no need to book.

Friday 23 February 9.30am Monday 26 February 2pm Wednesday 6 March 3.30pm

Microsoft Teams meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#) [Click here to join the meeting](#) [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 398 032 536 69

Meeting ID: 349 314 527 59

Meeting ID: 312 890 211 137

Passcode: n4rUZo

Passcode: yxKebb

Passcode: fzDezT

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Message from Public Health

The UKHSA has declared a national incident due to measles outbreaks in West Midlands. There have been over 300 confirmed cases, mainly in primary school aged children.

Gloucestershire County Council is urging anyone, particularly those who are in contact with children, to make sure they have had both MMR jabs.

Please encourage staff to make sure they have had both MMR vaccines. If you aren't sure about your vaccination status, check with your GP today. It is never too late to get immunised.

DSL visits to the MASH 2024

The MASH Team in Shire Hall are offering Early Years safeguarding leads and their deputies the opportunity to visit the team at Shire Hall. To book a place for one of the dates below, please email [Halah Shams El-Din](#) or [MASH Education](#). Places are limited to 8 per date and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Wednesday 31 January 2024 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday 28 February 2024 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Thursday 14 March 2024 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Training opportunities in February 2024

Don't miss these exciting training opportunities!

[Self Update Provider Portal Training booking link](#) - 7 February 2024 - 10:00-12:00 - Shire Hall

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 8 February 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Coleford

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 19 February 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Cheltenham

[Nursery Funding Portal Training booking link](#) - 21 February 2024 - 10:00-12:00 - Shire Hall

[Leaders and Managers Meeting booking link](#) - 21 February 2024 - 13:00-15:30 - Gloucester

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 21 February - 18:15-20:15 - Cirencester

[SENCo Training for Early Years \(Day 1 of 2\) booking link](#) - 22 February 2024 09:00-16:00 - Shire Hall

Childminder Pre-Registration Briefing - 23 February 2024 - 09:45-12:00 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button. Book via email to [EYService Admin Team](#)

[Managing your Team Effectively booking link](#) - 26 February 2024 - 09:30-12:30 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button.

[Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training booking link](#) - 27 February 2024 - 16:00-18:00 - Cheltenham



Childminder Network Sessions

Hi, I'm Caroline Vans and I have recently joined the Quality Team with a focus on supporting childminders.

We all know childminding is rewarding and fun, but it can also be isolating. I have therefore arranged the following dates to meet you all to share practice, discuss current issues and make time for professional conversations. Please come along for a chat and let me know what themed sessions would be useful in the future.

Please email [me](#) with any questions.

Sign-up to our free on-line Childminder network sessions:

Tuesday 20 February 7.00-8.00pm

Wednesday 20 March 7.00-8.00pm

Thursday 25 April 7.00-8.00pm

Monday 20 May 7.30-8.30pm - please note change of time

Tuesday 25 June 7.00-8.00pm

Booking will be available next week via GCCPlus, so register for your account now: [New Account Request](#)

Childminder Conference

Join us for this fantastic opportunity to celebrate Childminding within our local area.

Gloucestershire Early Years Childminder Conference

Saturday 18 May 2024

Cheltenham Chase Hotel – Brockworth

The event will run from 9:15am to 3:45pm. We will be joined by the inspirational Keynote speaker, Neil Griffiths, and will have some fantastic workshops being delivered by Sensory Integration Occupational Therapist Anthea Bailey, Speech and Language Therapist Rebecca Skinner, Mindy from Badgerwood Adventures Forest School and Thriving Language sharing a session on schema play. Lunch is included, and there will also be plenty of networking opportunities and time to visit a range of stands, all at a bargain price of £40 per attendee!

Booking will be available next week via GCCPlus.

Last chance to sign up to the DFE Childminder Mentor Programme

The programme will provide you with support from an experienced Childminder who will offer sessions to suit you.

More details on : [COVID-19 Recovery Childminders | Hempsalls](#)



If you have queries about any of the above, please email

✉ eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk ✉

Please do not reply to this email as it will go to a mailbox that is not monitored. If you wish to get in touch with Gloucestershire County Council, [please see our contact us page](#).

This email was sent to bethany.walby@gloucestershire.gov.uk using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Gloucestershire County Council · Shire Hall · Westgate Street · Gloucestershire · GL1 2TG · United Kingdom

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