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Early Years Newsletter

27 September 2024





Welcome to the Provider Update 45 (2024/25)

Dear Provider

We hope everyone is well and managing to stay dry. The rain does not look like it's going away anytime soon! We are sure the children don't mind splashing in the puddles!

We hope you find this week's updates helpful.

Early Education and Child Development Team

Gloucestershire Early Years Conference – NOW FULLY BOOKED

This event has been very popular this year and is now fully booked. I am sorry if you missed out securing a place. Please can you make sure you have checked out your booking as this confirms your place.

If you are still interested, please add your name to the waiting list as a place may become available nearer the time. Showing your interest will also give us an idea of how many places we need to offer in the future.

Weekly emails to all providers

As you are aware the team send out these weekly provider updates to share information we think you may find useful.

These updates are then placed onto our web page. If you think you may have missed an email, please do check the [EY Service web page](#).

DSL hub meeting minutes 11.9.24

Take a minute to read the [minutes](#) from the meeting which took place on Wednesday 11 September.

You can also find the recording [here](#).

Product Safety Alert: water beads

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) has issued a Safety Alert to warn of the risks that water beads pose to children and vulnerable adults.

The Safety Alert advises that water beads should be kept away from children under five, and only used with older children or vulnerable adults under close supervision

Water beads can expand up to 400 times when exposed to liquid. They are marketed for various purposes, including for use as toys and in crafting. When swallowed, they expand and can block the gastrointestinal passage, potentially requiring surgery. They can also cause choking and have harmed children in the UK, with reports linking them to deaths overseas. If it is suspected that a water bead has been swallowed, medical help should be sought immediately.

Read this [Product Safety Alert: Water Beads](#) for more information.

Public Health update

The next free UKHSA webinar on Health Protection in Education and Early Years Settings is on **Thursday 3 October 4-5pm** – [Book here](#)

Preventing outbreaks:

- [Should I keep my child off school?](#)
- [Preventing and controlling infections](#)
- [E-Bug : Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning](#)
- [UKHSA Infection Protection and Winter Readiness and Control Toolkit for Early Years](#)
- [NHS vaccinations and when to have them](#)

Responding to outbreaks:

- [Managing outbreaks and incidents](#)

- If you need advice or need to report an outbreak our South West UKHSA Health Protection Team contact details are **0300 303 8162** or swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk

Health protection updates:

- [Whooping cough - NHS](#)
- [RSV vaccine and pregnancy](#)

Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education

The DfE have updated the [sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education](#) information. The strategy states that “by 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan”. This includes early years settings and could be led by a group of people or an individual in your setting.

A climate action plan is a detailed plan to enable your setting to progress or commence sustainability initiatives.

Wherever you are on your sustainability journey, this non-statutory guidance and the support now available can help you get started or take the next step!

CPD Spotlight

As an extension of his website [ABC Does](#), Dr Alistair Bryce-Clegg now has a new platform, [The PLAYlist from ABC Does...](#) which you can subscribe to for free to access all articles and blog posts. It has a range of content including practical tips, thought-provoking ideas, and the latest in early years education.



Training and other opportunities!

NEW!! Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (Level 2) - 17 October 2024 - 4pm to 6pm - Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD - [Book here](#).

Childminder Network Teams Meeting - 22 October 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - Online via Teams - [Book here](#).

Getting It Right for Boys - 7 October 2024 - 10am to noon - Gloucester Farmer's Club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - **Now full!**

Getting It Right for Boys (FINAL CALL!) - 7 October 2024 - 1pm to 3pm - Gloucester Farmer's Club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here.](#)

Early Years Conference - 15 November 2024 - 9.00am to 4.00pm - The Cheltenham Chase Hotel Shurdington Road Brockworth Gloucester GL3 4PB - **Now full!**

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 7 November 2024 - 4pm to 5.30pm - Ashchurch Parkway, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8TU - [Book here.](#)

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 7 November 2024 - 6.30pm to 8.00pm - Chesterton Primary School, (Aspley Road, Cirencester, GL7 1SS) - [Book here.](#)

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 11 November 2024 - 4pm to 5.30pm - Hesters Way Children Centre (Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 0ES) (Elliott Building) - [Book here.](#)

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 12 November 2024 - 4pm to 5.30pm - Longford Park Primary Academy (Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP) - [Book here.](#)

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 13 November 2024 - 4pm to 5.30pm - Steam Mills Primary School (Steam Mills, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3JD) - [Book here.](#)

SENCo Cluster Meeting - 13 November 2024 - 4pm to 5.30pm - Stow Nursery, Stow on The Wold Primary School (St Edwards Drive, Stow-On-The-Wold, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 1AW) - [Book here.](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (Level 1) - 14 November 2024 - 4pm to 6pm - Great Oldbury Primary Academy (Great Oldbury Primary Academy Veterans Way, Stonehouse, England, GL10 3WH) - [Book here.](#)



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

 eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk 

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