

16 May 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years
Provider update

Provider Update 75 - 16 May 2025



Dear Provider,

What a jam-packed week we have all had during this super short term! From welcoming our newest educators into the sector at our 'Welcome to the early years' session last Friday, to Ben Kingston-Hughes spending the day in Gloucestershire with us delivering his 'Mathtastics' workshop on Wednesday, and all the various meetings and visits to your lovely settings in between, it's been a busy time in the early years sector!

Have a restful weekend and enjoy your next week of fun with your little people.

Best wishes

Early Years and Childcare Service

Ready for Learning (RFL) Time to submit your pre-school spreadsheet

Please find below links to the spreadsheet master and the guidance on how to complete the RFL spreadsheet. Please note that all scores must be submitted using the spreadsheet as we are unable to process handwritten documents.

[RFL spreadsheet](#)

[RFL guidance](#)

If you have already prepared your data, please email your completed RFL spreadsheet to eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Once the data for all settings has been submitted and the county average has been calculated, you will receive a short, personalised data report specific to your setting, together with Gloucestershire's average scores.

If you are not yet familiar with the Ready For Learning (RFL) toolkit, please do join one of the information sessions run by our Inclusion Advisors, you don't need to book in advance. To receive a RFL spreadsheet for your September cohort of children please email EYSadviceline@gloucestershire.gov.uk

[Monday 19/05 9am-10am](#)

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 337 429 678 375 5

Passcode: 3id6mA7h

[Tuesday 20/05 12pm-1pm](#)

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 324 002 727 753 0

Passcode: wP7eM3ed

Ofsted Big Conversation Southwest - 20 May 2025

[The Ofsted Big Conversation](#) is a grassroots movement of Early Years Providers working together to liaise with Ofsted and bring the sector together. They are facilitating two online sessions at 3.00pm and 7.00pm, so please [register for this free event](#) and join this conversation. Timings as follows:

- 15 mins – Welcome from Cheryl Hadland, Chair of the OBC SW
- 30 mins – Local Authority break out rooms
- 10 mins – Questions from Local Authority break out rooms to be addressed
- 1 hour – Presentation from Jane Burchall, Ofsted Inspector, and Q&A session
- 5 mins – AOB

Mathtastics



This week we were joined by the wonderful trainer and author, Ben Kingston-Hughes, from [Inspired Children](#) to deliver an interactive workshop all about maths.

As you can see, the session was jam-packed with fun activities and full of mathematical inspiration!

Ben is joining us again at our Early Years Conference on Friday 7 November, so look out for booking availability early in the Autumn term if you don't want to miss his next trip to Gloucestershire.

Early Years indoor space requirements

The DfE are seeking views on options for amending the indoor space requirements in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory frameworks.

You can complete the online survey [here](#).

Health Protection update

Please find below useful reminders to help prevent infections spreading in your setting this summer term:

- If you're **visiting farms** this summer, there are some simple hygiene steps to help reduce risk of catching infection from animals or the environment listed [here](#).
- **Ticks** can carry infections, including Lyme disease and tick-borne encephalitis. People may get bitten by ticks wherever they spend time outdoors. The safest way to remove a tick is using fine-tipped tweezers or a tick removal tool. If you become unwell within a few weeks of being bitten by a tick, contact your GP or NHS 111. Posters and leaflets can be ordered for free [here](#).
- Some of your families may be planning **trips abroad** this summer, The [NaTHNaC Travel health pro website](#) website, supported by the UKHSA has information on health risks in countries across the world and is a one-stop shop for information to help people plan their trip abroad.
- UKHSA has launched a campaign to raise awareness and understanding of **antibiotic resistance** to help keep antibiotics working, [e-Bug](#) has some fantastic resources and activity ideas to support early years children to understand how infections spread, all about marvellous microbes, and looking after our oral health.

CPD spotlight



This week our spotlight is on 'Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy' sessions, delivered by Highly Specialist Occupational Therapist, Anthea Bailey.

The Level 1 session focuses on the basic vestibular, proprioceptive and tactile systems and helps practitioners to understand what each system does, and how child development is impacted by the interplay of these systems.

The brand new Level 2 session – Practical Strategies - explores how sensory differences in children can significantly impact their daily functioning, leading to difficulties in learning, social interaction, focus, emotional regulation, sleep, transitions and managing adult led expectations as well as impacting their physical abilities such as coordination, balance, and body awareness.

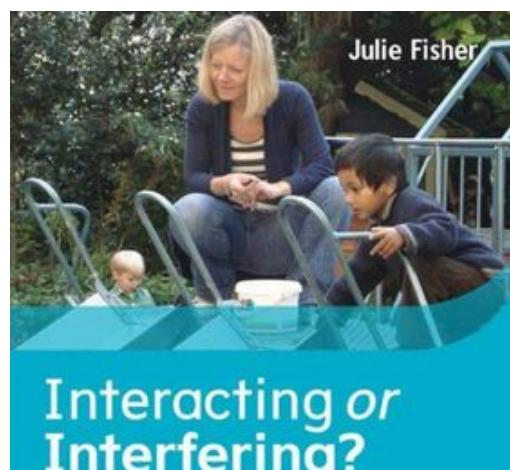
Finally, the 'Play to Ignite' session explores how relationships drive children's development. Children with special educational needs require us to be skilled play partners as they can often present with actions/behaviours that confuse/challenge, and which impact their ability to engage in play with others.

[Book your space now on GCC+.](#)

Book Corner

The early years team have a few 'well-loved' copies of this one between us!

Dr Julie's Fisher 'Interacting or Interfering' encourages you to reflect deeply on the quality and



impact of interactions in your setting. It identifies the key components to effective interactions and provides prompts to support you to analyse and progress your own practice to improve the quality of children's learning.



Training & Meetings

The following training & meetings will be taking place during May & June
- Book now!

Childminder Network Meeting (Teams) - 19 May 2025 -7.00pm - 8.00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

Leaders and Managers Network Meeting - 21 May 2025 1.00pm - 3.30pm - Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 04/06/2025 - 6.00pm - 8.00pm - Slimbridge Primary School, St John's Road, Slimbridge GL2 7DD - [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 05/06/2025 - 6:30pm - 8:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, (Aspley Road, Cirencester, GL7 1SS) - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) – Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years - 05/06/2025 - 16:00 - 18:00pm - Oakwood Primary, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD – [Book here](#).

Creating Your Early Years Curriculum - 06/06/2025 10:00am - noon - Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#).

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 10/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Mary P's Day Nursery (Ashchurch Parkway, Tewkesbury,

Gloucestershire, GL20 8TU) (Training Room) – [**Book here**](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 11/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm -
Steam Mills Primary School (Steam Mills, Cinderford, Gloucestershire,
GL14 3JD) - [**Book here**](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 12/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm -
Great Oldbury Primary Academy (Great Oldbury Primary Academy
Veterans Way, Stonehouse, England, GL10 3WH) – [**Book here**](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) –
Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years –
12/06/2025(Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet
available. Training will be held within Gloucester locality.

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) –
Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years – 19/06/2025
(Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will
be held within Stroud locality.

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 23/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5:30pm -
Hesters Way Children Centre (Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
GL51 0ES) (Elliott Building) [**Book here**](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 24/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm -
Longford Park Primary Academy (Clock Tower Road, Gloucester,
Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP) [**Book here**](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 25/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 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 (SIOT Level 1) -
26/06/2025 - 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road
Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1SS [**Book here**](#)

Total Communication Training in the Early Years - This training is
provided in house at your setting.

You can now book Total Communication in the Early Years through
GCC+. To do this you will need to log into your setting's GCC+
account. Go to the **search bar** on the **home page**, and type in Total

Communications and **press the search key**.

You will then see the link for the Total Communications for you to book.

(Please note – if you search in the ‘training section’ or the ‘services’ section, you won’t find it. It must be searched for in the home page search and the search key pressed). NB - If you just press enter, it won’t find it.

Once you have booked and checked out your training, you will be contacted by an EY Inclusion Advisor to arrange the date and time for the delivery of your course. If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks, please contact the EY Admin Team: eyservice@goucestershire.gov.uk.

Please note; Most training and all events (excluding some meetings) are subject to a charge. Please check the price when you make your booking. If you are in any doubt, please email eyservice@goucestershire.gov.uk

Please refer to the cancellation policy for your event, as charges may apply.



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