



**Gloucestershire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

## Early Years Provider update

### Provider Update 90 - 17 October 2025



Dear Provider,

We have been out and about this week visiting providers and have seen an array of autumn activities on offer! We have seen some wonderful tuff trays filled with conkers, leaves and twigs, sensory bottles depicting all the colours of autumn and listening to children singing 'Incey Wincey Spider' and 'It's raining, its pouring'.

Early Education and Child Development team.

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## Bristol Ofsted

This week our quality leads Katherine and Caroline attended an Ofsted workshop around the new toolkit and inspections. The new documents for these can be found here: [Early years inspection: toolkit, operating](#)

There was lots of really good guidance and informative conversations around the new toolkit, we will put this information together to share with providers over the next few weeks. There are upcoming provider webinars being held by Ofsted later in the year and we will share these dates with you in future newsletters.

The [Early Years inspection operating guide for inspectors](#) runs alongside the new toolkit and is full of helpful information about how the inspections will be conducted. When printing out your new toolkit make sure you print a copy of the operating guide too as they go hand in hand!

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## A visit to the University of Gloucestershire

The Quality Leads were lucky enough to visit the new University of Gloucestershire site in Gloucester city centre this week.

We all loved playing with the large immersive board!

Thank you to Dr Clare Harris who is a senior lecturer in Early Years for giving us a tour.

If you have not visited the new library on the ground floor, please do, and share the information with your families so they can make use of this wonderful facility.





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## Leaders and Managers

**SPACES STILL AVAILABALE** - If you have been trying to book onto the upcoming leaders and managers meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> November, unfortunately there has been an IT glitch and it has said the meeting is full - this is not the case! We have now rectified the issue as we know many practitioners have tried to book on and been unable to do so. There are still plenty of spaces available and we would love to see you! If you tried to book on and the meeting said 'full' please now try again to book a space! [Book here](#)

**(Please note** - Due to the high numbers of attendees, parking will be limited so please try & car share or park in the surrounding streets where possible).

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## Ready For Learning (RFL)

It's time to score the Ready for Learning Questionnaires for your pre-school children!

Mid-October is the ideal time to start this process as your children have had time to settle and key workers have got to know them.

We have had to make some changes to the questionnaire and spreadsheet so please ensure you download the latest versions from our new webpage as detailed below: [Ready for Learning \(RFL\) | Early Years Service](#).

For those of you who have received copies prior to now, please delete these and use the updated versions only.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact your Inclusion Advisor or the Advice Line (01452 425959 or

[eyesadvice@goucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyesadvice@goucestershire.gov.uk)) or you can **join our RFL Drop-in Sessions below;**

### **RFL Drop-in Sessions**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 4:00pm**

**[Join the meeting now](#)**

Meeting ID: 380 122 273 799 7

Passcode: nA3UP6ZK

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 10am**

**[Join the meeting now](#)**

Meeting ID: 389 675 747 755 1

Passcode: N9Ft3J6u

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 6:00pm**

**[Join the meeting now](#)**

Meeting ID: 314 290 424 087 3

Passcode: LW2eD6Dp

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## **Dingley's promise**

Dingley's promise has a whole range of courses available, and some new courses starting from October, please see the attached poster [here](#)

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## **Resources to share with parents**

The Early Years Alliance has a ['family corner'](#) dedicated to free training for parents covering various aspects of parenting and child development. There are courses available, articles to read and ideas of activities that can be done at home to support children's learning

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## **Invitation to Webinar – Introducing Gloucestershire Family Hubs and Virtual**

# Family Hub

We are pleased to invite you to an upcoming webinar designed for professionals who support children and families. This session will introduce the newly launched **Gloucestershire Family Hubs**, including the **Virtual Family Hub**, and provide an opportunity to learn more about how these services can support your work.

To book a place, click on the link below:

- 10<sup>th</sup> November at 14:00 – 16:00 - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)
- 11<sup>th</sup> November at 09:30 – 11:30 - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)
- 12<sup>th</sup> November at 09:30 – 11:30 - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

## What are Family Hubs?

Family Hubs offer a place-based approach to coordinating the planning and delivery of universal, early help, and targeted family support services. They aim to:

- Improve access to services
- Strengthen connections between families, professionals, and providers
- Place relationships at the heart of family support

## Introducing the Virtual Family Hub

To complement the physical hubs, we have launched the **Gloucestershire Virtual Family Hub** – a digital platform designed to make it easier for families to access information and resources online, whenever they need it.

Over the summer, we've collaborated with families, voluntary and community sector partners, and system partners such as Health to shape this virtual offer.

We look forward to sharing this work with you and exploring how we can make it easier for you to support families in your role.

 Visit the Virtual Family Hub: <https://familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk/>

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## Training & Meetings

The following training & meetings are now available to book:

**Getting it Right for Boys (FULL)** - 21/10/2025 - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. [Book here](#)

**Getting It Right for Boys (FULL)** - 21/10/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. [Book here](#)

**Baby Room Network meeting** - 27/10/2025 - 6:15 - 7:45pm - All My Friends Childcare (Barnwood), 87 Barnwood Nursery, Barnwood Road, Gloucester GL2 0SF [Book here](#)

**Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT) – Play to Ignite Development** - 03/11/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Severnbanks Primary School, Naas Lane, Lydney, Gloucestershire, GL15 5AU - [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 04/11/2025 - 4:00 - 5:30pm - Mary P's Day Nursery Old Dowty Clubhouse, Ashchurch Pkwy, Tewkesbury, GL20 8TU - [Book here](#)

**SIOT Level 2 - Practical strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years** - 06/11/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1SS - [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 06/11/2025 - 6:30pm - 8.00pm - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1SS - [Book here](#)

**Early Years Confernce 2025 (FULL)** - 07/11/2025 - 9:00am - 4.00pm - The Cheltenham Chase Hotel, Shurdington Road, Brockworth,

Gloucester GL3 4PB - [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 10/11/2025 - 4:00 - 5:30pm -  
Hesters Way Children Centre, Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, GL51 0ES -  
[Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 11/11/2025 - 4:00 - 5:30pm -  
Steam Mills Primary School, Steam Mills, Cinderford, GL14 3JD [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 12/11/2025 - 6:00 - 8.00pm -  
Slimbridge Primary School, St John's Road, Slimbridge, Gloucester, GL2 7DD [Book here](#)

**Leaders and Managers Network Meeting (Gloucester Farmers Club)** - 12/11/2025 - 1:00 - 3:30pm - Gloucester Farmers club ,  
Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

**SIOT Level 2 - Practical strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years** - 13/11/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Alderman Knight School, 46  
Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8JJ - [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 13/11/2025 - 4:30 - 6:00pm -  
Kings Stanley Playgroup, Kings Stanley Village Hall, Broad Street, Kings Stanley, Stonehouse GL10 3PN - [Book here](#)

**Childminder Play Session** - 18/11/2025 - 9:30 - 12.00pm - The Beacon  
Children's Centre, Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR - [Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 18/11/2025 - 4:00 - 5:30pm -  
Longford Primary Academy, Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, GL2 9FP -  
[Book here](#)

**Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting** - 19/11/2025 - 4:00 - 5:30pm -  
The Rissington School (Upper Rissington Site) Mitchell Way, Upper Rissington, Cheltenham, GL54 2PL - [Book here](#)

**Childminder Network Meeting - Adult Education (GCC)** - 19/11/2025 -  
7:00 - 8:00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

**SIOT Level 2 - Practical strategies: sensory processing in the Early**



**Years (FULL)** - 20/11/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Great Oldbury Primary Academy, Veterans Way, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3WH. -

[Book here](#)

**SIOT Level 2 - Practical strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years (FULL)** - 27/11/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm -

Kingsway Primary School, Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR - [Book here](#)

**Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT) – Play to Ignite Development** - 04/12/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm -

Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD - [Book here](#)

**Childminder Network Meeting** - 11/12/2025 - 7:00 - 8:00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

**Childminder Play Session** - 16/12/2025 - 9:30 - 12:00pm - The Beacon Children's Centre, Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR - [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@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyservice@gloucestershire.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@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

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

## CANCELLATION POLICY

- 2 weeks before the training course is due to take place – 100% refund
- Less than 2 weeks before the training course is due to take place – 0% refund
- If GCC cancels a training course, we will issue a refund automatically. If you paid by credit card, the refund will be paid back to the same card. If you paid by invoice, you will receive a credit note.

If you need to cancel your place on a training course within two weeks of the course and there are special circumstances, please contact [eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk) and we will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.



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