

12 September 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years Provider update

Provider Update 85 - 12 September 2025



Dear provider,

It's been lovely to see lots of new little ones being settled into your provisions this week with so much professional love, care and nurture.

This week's newsletter shares an important update from Ofsted, some

information about ICON week 2025, and many exciting training opportunities.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Early Education and Child Development team

Updates to the way Ofsted will inspect Early Years Education

This week Ofsted published their [new guidance](#) for inspectors and providers on inspecting registered early years settings in England under the renewed education inspection framework. This guidance will replace the Early Years Inspection Handbook from 10th November 2025.

Publications include:

[Early years inspection toolkit](#) – what inspectors and early years providers use to discuss the quality of provision on inspection

[Early years inspection operating guide](#) – a step-by-step guide for inspectors on how to inspect a registered early years setting

[Information about early years inspections](#) – for staff and leaders, parents and carers and the wider public

To support with understanding the changes we will be hosting OFSTED's Early Years Senior Officer, Champa Miah, later this month who will deliver the following online sessions:

[Click here to book for Ofsted updates and changes to the EYFS 2025 - 23rd September 2025 \(10:00-11:30\)](#)

[Click here to book for Ofsted updates and changes to the EYFS 2025 - 23rd September 2025 \(19:00-20:30\)](#)

The Early Years Quality team are also available to support providers to familiarise with this new documentation; you can get in touch to request support via EarlyYearsQuality@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Letter from the Prime Minister

To mark this week's childcare expansion milestone, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has written to parents reaffirming his Plan for Change promise to give children the best possible start with 75% of five-year-olds reaching a good level of development by 2028.

The DfE would be grateful for your support in helping this letter reach as many parents as possible by sharing it widely.

You can [read the Prime Minister's letter to parents](#) on the DfE's Education Hub.

Early Years Conference – SOLD OUT

Well that may just be a new 'sell out' record! All 150 places for our annual Early Years Conference are now booked.

We are so excited to welcome many of you to a day full of inspirational speakers, exciting workshops, information stands and networking opportunities.

If you missed out on a place, you can still be added to the waiting list by selecting ['Book now'](#) and entering your details.

CON Week 2025 – Supporting Parents, Protecting Babies

"Babies cry, you can cope!"

This September, NHS services, local authorities, charities and healthcare organisations across the country will join together once again to share important messages with parents and carers during **ICON Week 2025 - 22nd to 26th September**.

Now in its fourth year, ICON Week will focus on *mental health and staying calm*. The campaign reminds parents that infant crying is normal, provides practical coping strategies, and raises awareness of the dangers of shaking a baby. This year, ICON Week is also highlighting that coping with crying is an issue for **both men and women**.

The ICON programme is built around a simple, evidence-based message:

- I** – Infant crying is normal and will stop
- C** – Comfort methods can sometimes soothe the baby
- O** – It's OK to walk away for a few minutes if the baby is safe and the crying feels overwhelming
- N** – Never shake or hurt a baby

For more information to share with your families, visit [ICON Week 2025 - ICON Cope](#)

Early Screening & Intervention Pack training

The Educational Psychology Service are hosting a session on Tuesday 7th October to provide an [introduction to EaSI PAC for Early Years Educators](#).



The EaSI PAC resource is used for identifying developmental needs, creating early interventions and writing outcomes and support plans. You will receive one pack per setting for attending the training.

How Martyn's Law will affect Early Years

settings

The [Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Act 2025](#), also known as Martyn's Law became law on 3rd April 2025.

The Government has published this [guidance for education settings](#), to provide information on how education settings including early years settings will be affected when this law is implemented.

We will also be joined by Robbie Foran, Education Safeguarding Lead, at our next [Leaders and Manager network meeting](#) to discuss this further.



Facts4Life

Facts4Life supports everyone working with children and young people. Their Early Years resources can help you to support children to build resilience and self-regulation skills. They provide opportunities to develop speaking skills, emotional confidence and understand the normal ups and downs of health.

[A subscription to Facts4Life resources and training film is FREE thanks to funding from NHS Gloucestershire.](#)

Subscriptions include hard copies of their EY poster, EY pack and children's book 'Oh Flo!' - all mapped against the Early Learning Goals.

Health Protection Webinar

The Southwest Health Protection Team will continue to run free Health Protection webinars aimed at providing early years and education colleagues with information about how to prevent and manage cases and outbreaks.

The next webinar will take place on Thursday 9th October 4-5pm. You

can book your place [here](#).

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Support Hubs

The next DSL Support Hub meeting is at 8.30am on Wednesday 17th September 2025.

Log in details:

Microsoft Teams

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

Meeting ID: 331 965 298 918 2

Passcode: r64C8Qx

Training & Meetings

The following training & meetings are now available to book:

Childminder Network Meeting (Teams)- 15/09/2025 7:00 - 8:00pm - Online via TEAMS - Links will be sent the day before the meeting. An opportunity for **Childminders** to **network** and share experiences. At this session we will discuss climate action plan. [**Book here**](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT) - Play to Ignite Development - 18/09/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Longford Park Primary Academy, Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP [**Book here**](#)

Ofsted updates and changes to the EYFS - 2025 (via TEAMS) - 23/09/2025 10:00 - 11:30am | Online via TEAMS. [**Book here**](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 25/09/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Alderman Knight School, 46 Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury, England, GL20 8JJ. [**Book here**](#)

Childminder Play Session - 25/09/2025 - 9:30 - 11:30am - The Beacon Children's Centre (Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 02/10/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD. [Book here](#)

SENDCO in the Early Years - (2 days) **Day 1** - 02/10/2025 9:15 - 3:00pm - **Day 2** 09/10/2025 - 9:15 - 3:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 09/10/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Kingsway Primary School (Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR. [Book here](#)

Welcome to the Early Years - 10/10/2025 - 9:30am - 12:30pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG. [Book here](#)

Childminder Network Meeting - 14/10/2025 - 7:00 - 8:00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 16/10/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Great Oldbury Primary Academy, Great Oldbury Primary Academy Veterans Way, Stonehouse, England, GL10 3WH - [Book here](#)

Creating Your Early Years Curriculum - 17/10/2025 - 10:00am - 12:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG [Book here](#)

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

Getting It Right for Boys - 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](#)

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.

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

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 and we will consider your request on a

case-by-case basis.



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