



Early Years & Childcare Provider Bulletin

EY and Childcare Provider Bulletin; Business & Funding Focus 16 January 2026



Dear provider,

Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a restful time during the festive break. We are looking forward to continuing to work with you and support you in 2026.

As always, if you have any questions or need any support please don't hesitate to reach out via email:

eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk ,
eyfunding@gloucestershire.gov.uk ,
wraparound2@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Business and Funding team colleagues

Wraparound Funding Grant for Childminders

We've introduced a new guide and process to help childminders apply for the National Wraparound Care Grant.

If you're a childminder looking to set up wraparound provision, expand the number of places, or extend your operating hours, this grant could support you.

Check out our [FAQs](#) to see if you're eligible and get in touch with us to request the application forms.

Email us: wraparound2@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Expansion and Wraparound Updates

The next Grant Panel for the Early Years Expansion Capital Grant and the Wraparound Revenue Grant is February 27th 2026. We are currently accepting applications and will be accepting them up until 30th January 2026.

For more information on the grants please visit:

[Early Years](#)

and

[Wraparound](#)

Please do be in touch if you have any

questions: eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Spring 2026 MI – Key Dates for funded wraparound providers

As we look forward into the new year, we would like to take this opportunity to share the roadmap and milestones to the Spring MI.

Below you will find the deadlines. We acknowledge these timescales have been brought forward, which is to allow sufficient time for all the activities prior to end March:

· **Monday 19th January to Friday 23rd January** – Spring term 2026 reporting week.

· **Monday 26th January to Friday 30th January** – Recommended provider reporting window.

Charging Compliance

If we haven't been in contact with you already, please can you share with the Business Team any policies, procedures, website information and invoices.

Please send this information to the Business Inbox:

eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk

REMINDER: All settings must be compliant by January 2026.

Charging Information on Glosfamilies

Please see the [attached PDF](#) with the details of how to add your Charging Information on Glosfamilies.

We are recommending that all settings publish their updated Charging

Information on Glosfamilies.

Those setting with more than 10 children who don't have a website must publish this information on Glosfamilies by January 2026.

E-Bug Pilot Programme

The e-Bug team at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) are looking for wraparound care providers to participate in a small pilot programme to test a newly developed Germ Busters Academy activity pack for after-school settings.

These resources and activities will be free to access and aim to improve children's knowledge of infection prevention and control, antimicrobial resistance, and climate change topics.

The sessions have been designed and developed with the help of after-school club facilitators and involve fun activities like using play dough to create microbes, top trumps cards and so on.

The pilot will involve carrying out the activities during one of your usual sessions and asking the children relevant questions before and after to see what they have understood and learnt from the activities.

You will also be asked about your experience of using the activity pack. Your insights and feedback will be crucial in ensuring that the resource is effective and engaging.

Benefits for your setting

- Influence on the development and implementation of an activity pack for after-school clubs in England
- Opportunity to be the first to test new after-school resource.

Benefits for the student

- Improvement in knowledge [on infection prevention and control, antimicrobial resistance, and climate change topics](#)
- Certificate of participation afterwards

We hope you will consider this opportunity to become part of the pilot programme.

If you would like to be involved, please email the e-Bug team at e-bug@ukhsa.gov.uk before 28th January.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Workshop for Gloucestershire

Tuesday January 27th 9.30-12pm - Free

Venue: Gloucester Farmers Club, Agriculture House, Greville Close, Sandhurst Road

Gloucester, Gloucestershire GL2 9RG

This workshop provides an opportunity for Early Years educators in Gloucestershire to reflect on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

In a supportive space, we'll explore how our own values and experiences shape our practice, how we understand the identities of the unique child and their families, and how we can use this awareness to create more inclusive, equitable environments where every child feels they truly belong.

To book a place: [Bristol & Beyond Stronger Practice Hub - Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub](#)

'Language that Cares' Webinar

On Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 11.30am please join a webinar to talk about the "Language that Cares" initiative in Gloucestershire which aims to improve the language used by professionals to better support children and young people, promoting understanding and reducing stigma.

Log in details: **Microsoft Teams**

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

Meeting ID: 394 962 227 814 7

Passcode: Lm9Bq7t2

This webinar will be beneficial for all staff members in any educational settings. This webinar will be recorded and following the session will be made available on GCC Plus for traded service schools and circulated by the Early Years to colleagues working within EY settings.

Do Something Big Early Years Recruitment Campaign

The Early Years & Childcare Workforce Recruitment Team are currently looking for early years apprentices who would be willing to share their experiences as part of National Apprenticeship Week 2026.

They are keen to showcase stories that highlight how great the early years apprenticeship route is.

Alongside this, they would also welcome introductions to non-apprentice early years professionals across all roles and levels of experience.

They are keen to build a bank of case studies of people who are willing to support the campaign by sharing their career journeys.

There are different ways to get involved – from media interviews and social media content to simply providing a quote.

The team are also keen to hear from practitioners working in local, independent settings, including smaller providers and childminders, as well as those in larger organisations.

Interested apprentices and wider staff can complete our short [case study form](#) (attached), or are welcome to contact the team directly via: luke.prescott@education.gov.uk

Training & Meetings - Book now!

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT) – Play to Ignite Development - 15/01/2026 - 4:00 -6:00pm - Kingsway Primary

School, Valley Gardens, Gloucester, GL2 2AR [Book here](#)

Childminder Network Meeting - 19/01/2026 - 7:00 - 8:00pm - Online
via TEAMS [Book here](#)

Childminder Play Session - 20/01/2026 - 9:30am - 12:00noon - The
Beacon Children's Centre, Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire,
GL2 2AR [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) –
22/01/2026 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Longford Park Primary Academy, Clock
Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP [Book here](#)

SENCO in the Early Years - 22/01/2026 & 29/01/2025 (2 day course) -
9:15am - 3:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG
[Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) –
29/01/2026 - 4:00 - 6:00pm | Scheduled | WIN26SIOTL1-04 | Early
Years | Severnbanks Primary School (Naas Lane, Lydney,
Gloucestershire, GL15 5A [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 2) –
Practical strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years
02/02/2026 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Kingsway Primary School, Valley Gardens,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR. [Book here](#)

Every Child a Talker (ECAT) 'how to use the ECAT monitoring tool'
training - online - 03/02/2026 - 4:00 - 5:30pm - [Book here](#)

Leaders and Managers Network meeting - 04/02/2026 - 1:00 - 3:30pm
- Gloucester Farmers Club, Agriculture House, Greville Cl, Sandhurst Rd,
Gloucester GL2 9RG [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) –
05/02/2026 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Kingsway Primary School (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.

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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