



Early Years Childminder Newsletter - November 2025



Dear Childminders,

Welcome to your November Newsletter, I hope those of you who got a break over half term had a lovely rest, and to everyone – don't forget the value in taking a break when you get the opportunity. You can't look after everyone else with an 'empty cup'. Never forget how important your own well-being is.

In this newsletter there is a link to our new website – please check out the 'childminder' page and let me know about anything that needs to be added. There is an online session, myself and the Business team are running about Charging Information in the evening for childminders, they are also offering to answer any questions in their newsletter. You can book on for the next free childminder play session, our future network meetings and Ofsted are delivering a free online session on the new inspection framework. The Childcare works website has a range of free

resources for childminders and the latest offer from the Bristol and Beyond Stronger Practice Hub. There are some guest speakers coming along to the Network sessions so do have a look and book on if you are interested.

Early Years & Childcare Service - new website launched

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website, which can be viewed here: [Early Years and Childcare Service | Early Years Service](#)

Business Team Charging Information Evening

11 November 2025, 7.00-8.30pm

All childminders have now been contacted about their Compliance Checks for charging by the business team. The checks are nothing to worry about and the team are happy to work with you to help you comply. They are very happy to answer any questions and chat over any concerns so please come to this free evening session on the TEAMS link below.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 379 035 921 124 0

Passcode: jd6iW93s

Let's talk business: A space for your questions

This month the Business team are launching their **Let's talk business: A space for your questions**. They know that many of the questions we get asked are not just relevant to one provider.

This section of the bulletin has been put in so that they can answer questions and share the responses with everyone to help you all with business queries.

Please send in any questions you want answered to:

Ebusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk - include the words 'Lets talk business' in your email so we know that you are happy for us to share them.

Childminder Play Session (Free to attend)

The next Childminder Network play session is available to [book now.](#)

The perfect opportunity to meet up with other local childminders, share tips and socialise in a relaxed and friendly environment. Please bring your own snacks and drinks.

Venue: The Oaks Children and Family Centre

Address: Holmleigh Road, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 0RN

Date: 19 November 2025, 9:30 - 11:30am

After you have booked your place on GCC Plus, please email me at caroline.vans@gloucestershire.gov.uk to let me know how many adults and children you will be bringing in total so that we can let the venue know how many to expect - Thank you.

Childminder Network Meetings (Teams)

Please use the opportunity to attend the Network meetings, which are all free, or they may drop to termly events. We discuss a different topic at each event, please see below for the upcoming dates and topic areas.

19 November 2025, 7.00-8.00pm, online via TEAMS (Free) - Adult Education (GCC). Emma is coming to talk to anyone interested in gaining qualifications

Book: 19 November - Adult Education (GCC)

11 December 2025, 7.00-8.00pm, online via TEAMS (free). Join the Business Support Services who will be looking at safeguarding policies

Book: 11 December - Safeguarding Policies

19 January 2026, 7.00-8.00pm, online via TEAMS (free). Early Help are coming to explain what they offer and how you can refer to them.

Book: 19th January - Early Help

If the links above don't take you straight to the training page please login to GCC Plus, click on the Training tab and search for it.

New Ofsted Inspection Framework

Join the [Ofsted Education Inspection Framework Briefing](#) for a briefing for early years providers, focusing on the revised Education Inspection Framework (EIF) and how these apply to childminders and early years settings.

The session will cover:

- Ofsted's judgement areas within the EIF
- What inspectors look for in practice and provision
- Key updates and what they mean for your day-to-day work with children

This is a valuable opportunity to hear directly from Ofsted and ensure you are fully informed about the new inspection framework.

Information for Childminders - childcareworks.org.uk

Childcare Works have brought together the most relevant resources for childminders into easy to use collections - one focused on [wraparound](#) provision and another all about [early years](#).

There is lots of free support and information available to them via the [Childcare Works HUB](#).

The free courses includes - Thinking about Transitions?

Effective Transitions – A recorded presentation created by Nasen which explores strategies to support positive transitions for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), particularly in the context of wraparound provision.

Strategies – A short video from Dingley's Promise which focuses on strategies to support children with SEND - including home visits, social stories, visual timetables, now and next, sustained shared thinking and turn taking. This video is part of a series created to equip local authorities and providers with the confidence to foster meaningful inclusion throughout their early years settings.

There are many more resources available to support [early years](#) and [wraparound childcare](#) providers in the 'SEND and Inclusive Practice' section of the Childcare Works HUB.



Stronger Practice Hub Events - Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub

Free training sessions for Gloucestershire childminders;

[Music in the early years for Childminders](#) 4 November, 7-8.30pm

[Emotion coaching for childminders and settings](#) 11 November, 6-8pm

[Identifying and supporting speech language and communication](#) 17

November, 6-7.30pm

[Physical Development-Gross Motor Skills to PE-with Helen Battelley](#) 3

December, 6-8pm

[Ofsted Education Inspection Framework Briefing](#) 8 December, 6.30-7.30

Thank you for reading and I hope you find the Childminder Newsletters informative and useful. Please email [Caroline Vans](#) with any questions. Alternatively, if you need something more urgent, please email the [Early Years Quality Team](#)

Please note; Some GCC+ training and 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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