

5 August 2025



Gloucestershire  
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years  
Business News Tuesday

## Business News Tuesday - 5 August 2025

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## Welcome

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We hope you are all enjoying your Summer.

We appreciate that lots of you are preparing for your new intake in September and we are still around if you need any help during August.

If you have any questions please email [EY Business Support](#), [EYfunding@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:EYfunding@gloucestershire.gov.uk) or [Wraparound Team](#)

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### Business and Finance News

We are sharing this on behalf of Winchcombe Town Council who are opening a tender process for the Winchcombe playgroup building – if you are interested in applying, please use the form below.

**NB if you have any queries about this please go direct to Winchcombe Town Council.**

**Winchcombe Town Council: Early Years Provision Tender Specification - Expression of Interest**

## **Grant Applications**

**Opening soon – 1 September 2025**

**Early Years Expansion and Wraparound childcare grants application window**

The next round of applications for providers who wish to create or expand their Early Years or wraparound provision is opening soon. Or if you have already had funding but you need more money due to the demand for places then you can use this opportunity to re-apply.

This application window is open from 1 September to 30 September 2025 with the Grant panel meeting on 30 October 2025 to determine the awarding of the monies.

Wraparound application forms and guidance can be found here:

**Wraparound Application Form**

Early Years application forms and guidance can be found here:

**Early Years Capital Grant Application Form**

## **Charging Guidance and Support**

We are continuing to work with providers to get their charging policies and processes in place as quickly as possible.

The Business and Finance teams are starting the audit processes for providers and will look at whether provider policies and procedures, as

well as invoicing systems are compliant with the DfE voluntary charging guidance in time for the January 2026 deadline.

If you haven't already done so, please look at the video that is on the Childcareworks site, as this has been created by provider Lucy Lewin to share how she has gone about looking at her processes for charging to ensure they are compliant.

Invoicing, Consumables, and Charging Structures -  
[childcareworks.org.uk](http://childcareworks.org.uk)

Here are links to the DfE documents as well:

Early Education and childcare - GOV.UK

We are continually consulting with DfE and others to check the guidance to ensure that we can support you to have compliant policies and procedures.

07 March Entitlements Statutory Guidance Charging FAQs

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### Farewell and Good Luck

We are saying goodbye to another long-standing team member - Deborah Robinson who will be retiring at the end of August 2025.

Deborah has been with the local authority since she came across from her post with the NDNA and has worked tirelessly with providers across the county to improve and sustain them. She is a graduate in Business and Management and has used her extensive knowledge gathered over many years to support many early years and childcare providers across the county.

We are going to miss her when she goes but we wish her well in her retirement.

If you would like to send a message to Deborah to be included in her leaving card, please email to [eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

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# Training

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**Thursday 18 September & Thursday 2 October**

**9:30am - 2:15pm**

**Gloucester Community Church**

[Inclusion Needs You - 18th September and 2nd October 2025 Tickets.](#)

[Thu 18 Sep 2025 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

This practical course is designed to boost your confidence and equip you with the skills to welcome and include disabled children in your Wraparound Care setting – including those with physical, sensory, or cognitive conditions, neurodiversity, SEN, and additional needs.

Delivered across two days by a team of two experienced trainers with lived experience, including disabled and neurodivergent professionals and parent carers, this course offers real insight and practical tips.

All participating settings will receive a fantastic sensory resource kit worth £200, including a blackout tent, sensory toys, and foam mats.

Limited spaces are reserved for providers in the GCC DfE-funded pilot – once these are filled, you can still access general tickets.

**Important Information:**

Each participant must book individually so they receive all the advance information to their inbox. If booking on behalf of your team, please make separate bookings using each attendee's email address so they receive the course information directly.

**Each Inclusion Needs You is a two day course. Please ensure you can attend both days listed before booking a place.**

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**The following training & meetings will be taking place during August - Book now!**

**Baby Room Network Meeting** - 06/08/2025 - 6:00 - 7:30pm - Partou Longlevens Day Nursery & Pre-School, 82 Church Road, Gloucester, GL2 0AA - [Book here](#)

## Childminder Network Meeting (online)

14/8/25 - 7:00 - 8:00pm - [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).

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**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@goucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyservice@goucestershire.gov.uk) and we will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.

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