

Early Years Newsletter

25 January 2024



Welcome to the Provider Update 20 (2023/24)

Dear Provider

Wow! what a windy week we've had. It is definitely 'hold onto your hats season'! (and we all know what happens to the children when it is windy ...)

This week's provider email includes updates from Ofsted, a Speech and Language Therapy Survey, an invite to a Health Protection Webinar, Childminding Network Group and some great information from Bristol and Beyond – Stronger Practice Hubs

Have a great weekend!

The Early Education and Child Development Team

Free Webinar: Health Protection in Early Years and Education Settings 1 Feb at 4pm (ARI and Measles)

This free webinar, run by the UKHSA SW Health Protection Team, give attendees the opportunity to learn about childhood infections in early years and educational settings. The focus of this session will be acute respiratory infections (colds, covid and flu) and measles (we will also cover scarlet fever and whooping cough).

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and will also receive the informative slide pack.

Any early years practitioner can attend the session – book a slot here [Health Protection in Education and Early Years settings Webinar](#)

Early Years Speech & Language Therapy Survey

Health are currently reviewing the speech, language and communication support provided to children across Gloucestershire. They are keen to hear views of practitioners about what works well and what could be done differently to support children and their families.

Please share with your staff and encourage them to complete the survey on the hyperlink below.

[Early Years Speech & Language Therapy Survey](#)

Early Years Inspection handbook

On January 19th, Ofsted published updates to the Early Years inspection handbook. You can read the updated EY inspection handbook, as well as the summary of changes [here](#).

Bristol and Beyond – Stronger Practice Hub

Have you signed up to Stronger Practice Hub yet? If not we highly recommend you do. Here is a brief snap shop of some of the online courses available (there are lots!)

- Identifying and Supporting Speech, Language and Communication Needs for Childminders ,
- Leadership Sessions
- Let's Get Moving

Please do follow this link for more information [Stronger Practice Hub Events - Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub \(beyth.co.uk\)](#)

Training opportunities in January/February 2024

Childminder Pre-Registration Briefing - 30 January 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button. Book via email to [EYService Admin Team](#)

[Safeguarding Module for EY Practitioners booking link](#) - 30 January 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Gloucester

[Self Update Provider Portal Training booking link](#) - 7 February 2024 - 10:00-12:00 - Shire Hall

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 8 February 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Coleford

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 19 February 2024 - 18:15-20:15 - Cheltenham

[Nursery Funding Portal Training booking link](#) - 21 February 2024 - 10:00-12:00 - Shire Hall

[Leaders and Managers Meeting booking link](#) - 21 February 2024 - 13:00-15:30 - Gloucester

[Safeguarding Module for Early Years Practitioners booking link](#) - 21 February - 18:15-20:15 - Cirencester

[SENCo Training for Early Years \(Day 1 of 2\) booking link](#) - 22 February 2024 09:00-16:00 - Shire Hall

Childminder Pre-Registration Briefing - 23 February 2024 - 09:45-12:00 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button. Book via email to [EYService Admin Team](#)

[Managing your Team Effectively booking link](#) - 26 February 2024 - 09:30-12:30 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button.

[Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training booking link](#) - 16:00-18:00 - Cheltenham

Provider Funding Rates - Supplementary Information

Following feedback, we recognise that the funding rate consultation contains very comprehensive information to support the 2 options. LA's were advised to make sure their consultations were transparent about the use of the whole funding rate and this was set out in the original table.

Please find below a summary of the 2 options for you to consider.

NB: Basic rate is the hourly rate passed to providers for children claiming their funded entitlement

3 & 4 year olds	Current	Option 1	Option 2
Basic rate	£4.50	£5.09	£5.07
Deprivation	£0.17	£0.12	£0.14
2 year olds	Current	Option 1	Option 2
Basic rate	£5.36	£7.14	£7.12
Deprivation		£0.12	£0.14
9 – 24 months	Current	Option 1	Option 2
Basic rate		£9.76	£9.74
Deprivation		£0.12	£0.14

The deprivation payments will be added to that basic rate where applicable.

In Autumn term 2023 and Spring term 2024 a supplementary grant was added to the hourly rate, for these 2 terms only.

The basic rates for 2024/25 should therefore be compared with the basic rate for 2023/24, not the rate including the supplementary grant.

The closing date for the Consultation is 31 January 2024.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please click to take survey [here](#).

Early Help Webinar - 20th February 2024

You are invited you to attend an online webinar being delivered by Sophie Gilbert (Community Social Worker) and Ian Morgan (Senior Early Help Coordinator).

As you know Early Help is about getting timely and effective support to children, young people and their families who need it, and also focuses on how families can be supported to do things for themselves and build on their strengths.

Ian and Sophie will be talking through the services and support offered directly to families or other practitioners who are supporting them, alongside a range of targeted services where more help is needed.

This will be a valuable session for all Headteachers, DSLs and any other staff that wish to attend. There is no need to book, simply turn up 😊 This session will be recorded and the recording will be made available on the GCC Plus Subscriber Page for Traded Services for Safeguarding.

Date: Tuesday 20th February 2024

Time: 11:00 to 12:00 noon

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 339 786 538 869 Passcode: mBr8YC

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Designated Safeguarding Leads Support Hub - 24 January 2024

You can read [here](#) the information from the latest Designated Safeguarding Leads Support Hub meeting, and listen to the recording of the meeting on [Playback \(gccplustraining.org\)](#).



If you have queries about any of the above, please email

✉ eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk ✉

Please do not reply to this email as it will go to a mailbox that is not monitored. If you wish to get in touch with Gloucestershire County Council, [please see our contact us page](#).

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