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Early Years Newsletter

20 September 2024





Welcome to the Provider Update 44 (2024/25)

Dear Provider

Hasn't the weather been lovely this week, let's hope our warm spell will continue for another few weeks yet!

Please do have a good look at the CPD opportunities coming up this term, and don't forget to explore the Bristol and Beyond, Stronger Practice Hub. I attended 'Musical Creativity in the Baby Room' session this morning and was totally inspired by it.

We hope you have a good week and don't forget to contact our advice line if you have any questions or queries

Early Education and Child Development Team

Ready for Learning (RFL) Toolkit

We would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who has sent RFL data to us over the past year. This data shows the importance of early identification and how well you are helping children to make good progress in their pre-school year! Thank you for the positive feedback you have given us about this tool, and we have had great feedback from reception teachers who said it gave a clear picture of the child in key areas.

As a result of your feedback, we have streamlined the process so that you can now track the progress of individual children and the cohort throughout the year by using the new RFL spreadsheet. It really is very simple to use and will be great evidence to showcase the progress children make in your setting during their pre-school year. More good news is that we will only ask you for the information once a year – in May! After submission, you will receive a short, personalised data report specific to your setting, together with Gloucestershire's average scores.

As usual, we will be running drop-in sessions for anyone who is new to the RFL or has any questions, so please note the dates and times below. There is no need to book.

If you are already confidently using the RFL and would like to sign up to receive the new spreadsheet and guidance, please contact EYSadviceline@gloucestershire.gov.uk

RFL Drop-ins

Friday 27 th September 9.30am- 10.30am	Thursday 3 rd October 3.30pm- 4.30pm	Wednesday 9 th October 11.30am- 12.30pm
Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now	Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now	Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 373 981 875 973 Passcode: JoNCf6	Meeting ID: 318 879 007 67 Passcode: qN4BiH	Meeting ID: 399 570 440 990 Passcode: znKNGV

Ofsted Early Years FAQs

During the summer break, Ofsted updated their videos on their Ofstednews platform to include a new range of topics including [what inspectors want to know about ratios](#) and [how inspectors gain the views of parents](#).

They have also shared some useful information about [how the inspector will provide feedback during your inspection](#) and [what to do if you have concerns about your inspection](#).

Speech and Language UK

If your role is working with parents, or you support early years children in a Family Hub, then Speech and Language UK are [offering free workshops](#) including 'An introduction to speech, language and communication skills in the early years', 'Speech and language challenges in the early years: identifying needs and supporting children and their families' and 'Supporting and understanding the needs of children with complex speech and language challenges'.

Building Confidence using Music in Early Childhood

There are 20 free places available for this practical and interactive online six-week course for EY practitioners and childminders who want to improve their skills and knowledge in early years music. Early Childhood Music Practitioners Rosie Walton and Kate Comberty will join Jane Parker and Jennie Loader from Take Art to bring you this popular course. This is a partnership training event between The Gloucestershire Songscape Project and SoundWaves Network SW, both funded by Youth Music.

The course will cover - confidence in delivering simple singing games, rhymes and instrumental work; musical play and how to support it through adult interaction, and identifying and celebrating children's musical achievement

Training Dates - Tuesdays on 15th October | 22nd October | 5th November | 12th November | 19th November | 3rd December 2024 – All at 7:30pm

Click here [To Book Your Free Place](#) and enter the password **songscape** when prompted, or here for [to book a paid place](#). (£35 per person once all free places have been allocated).

Any questions? Contact Gloucestershire Music on 01452 427242 or at glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk

DSL Hub Meeting

The Safeguarding in Education team will be delivering the first DSL support hub of this new academic year on Wednesday 25th September 2024. These 30 minute sessions run every other Wednesday throughout the academic year (term time only) – there will be input from GHLL, Early Help, Community Social Workers and Police decision makers within the MASH, who alongside the GSEP team will be passing on current information, guidance and policies.

The next DSL Support Hub meeting is at 8.30am on Wednesday 25th September 2024. Log in details below.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 370 572 300 844

Passcode: BLozNB

Join on a video conferencing device

Tenant key: gloucestershire@m.webex.com

Video ID: 123 889 287 7

[More info](#)

CPD Spotlight

SGS College have partnered with The Skills Network and Learning Curve to offer a wide range of [online Level 2 Qualifications](#) which you may be able to study free of charge. The courses on offer would be particularly beneficial to those who work in the Early Years sector to support their continuing professional development.



Gloucestershire Early Years conference – ONLY 20 PLACES LEFT

This event has been very popular since booking opened last week. There are only 20 places left, so if you are keen to attend please book asap through GCC+.

During the day at The Cheltenham Chase hotel you will have the opportunity to listen to educational experts, including Adam Marycz and Ben Kingstone-Hughes. There is also a morning workshop.

To book, or to see more details, including the agenda - [Book here](#).



Training Opportunities!

Getting It Right for Boys - 7 October 2024 10am to noon - Gloucester Farmer's Club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#).

Getting It Right for Boys - 7 October 2024 1pm to 3pm - Gloucester Farmer's Club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#).

Early Years Conference - 15 November 2024 - 9.00am to 4.00pm - [Book here](#).

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

 eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk 

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