

13 June 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years
Provider update

Provider Update 78 - 13 June 2025



Dear provider,

This term is often one of the busiest, with sports day, parent meetings, annual trips out and graduation days to mention just a few, all whilst we are also deciding what to wear each day as the weather is so unpredictable!

Thank you for all the hard work you do, it doesn't go unnoticed.

Best wishes,

Early Years and Childcare Service

**EARLY YEARS FUNDING PAYMENT
ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR
2025/26**

In April 2024 we moved to monthly instalment payments whilst remaining at one submission of an Actual task at the beginning of the term and the opportunity to amend these claims later in the term with the final amendment payment.

It was agreed that we would review this arrangement after the initial 12-month period. As we approach the end of this academic year, 2024/25, we would like to take this opportunity to conduct that review.

We will report the outcome of this consultation and a timetable for the Early Years funding claims tasks and payment dates, based on the results as soon as possible and before the end of the Summer term, in preparation for September 2025.

CLOSING DATE OF CONSULTATION: 30th JUNE 2025

To access the document please click here: [Consultation Document](#)

Education Inspection Reform

Ofsted confirms September publication for consultation response, ahead of new-look education inspections from November - GOV.UK

You will be aware of Ofsted's consultation regarding Inspection Reforms, the response to the reforms will be published in September 2025. The link above provides information how inspections will be delivered in 2025/26.

Total Communication Training for Childminders

We are running a Total Communication training session specifically for Childminders at Gloucester Farmers Club on 9 July 2025, from 7.00 - 8.30pm.

The training will help you to develop skills by exploring:

- How children develop their communication skills
- How to provide good quality adult:child interactions
- How to provide a communication friendly environment, using a range of communication methods including signs
- Why and how to use visuals

This session will also enable you to add resources to your practitioner communication tool kit and each delegate will receive a certificate for their CPD. [Click here to book](#)

This session will sadly be cancelled if there are low numbers of bookings.

Dingley's Promise Mark of Achievement

Another 22 Early Years Providers have recently been awarded the Dingley's Promise Mark of Achievement. This means we now have 45 providers in Gloucestershire with this mark, making us the 2nd highest local authority in England.

Congratulations go out to:

- **Bambi's Childcare**
- **Banana Moon Day Nursery**
- **Berkhampstead Day Nursery**
- **Charlton Kings**
- **Best Friends Day Nurseries Ltd**
- **Bo-Peeps**
- **Brockworth Pre-school**
- **Chipmunks Day Nursery**
- **Foxcubs Day Nursery**
- **Gardner's Lane Early Years**
- **Gloucester Road Nursery**
- **Greenwoods Nursery Ltd**

- **Coalway**
- **Hilltop Children's Centre Pre-school**
- **Kingsholm C of E Primary School Nursery**
- **Kingsway Early Years**
- **Mighty Oaks Little Acorns Ltd**
- **Pebbles Nursery**
- **Severnbanks Starlets**
- **St Gregorys Child Care Trust**
- **Stonehouse Park Infant School and Nursery**
- **Thrupp School Nursery**

[Dingley's Promise](#) Mark of Achievement Award continues to be free so if you haven't yet signed up to it there is still time

Gloucestershire's Guide to Good Transitions

Don't forget to make use of our [Gloucestershire's Guide to Good Transitions](#) It gives simple advice and guidance for providers, schools and parents of children through their pre-school year and into their first term in reception.

Please share with parents of your pre-school children as this document is intended for children on the graduated pathway as well as those who do not require any additional support. For children with EHCPs, please signpost parents to their child's Case Co-ordinator in the EHCP Team for information about transitions.

If you have any questions about using our 'Gloucestershire's Guide to Good Transitions' document, please contact the Early Years Advice Line on 01452 425959 (Monday and Wednesday 12pm-5pm) or email us on eyadviseline@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Ready for Learning (RFL) Time to submit your pre-school spreadsheet

Please find below links to the spreadsheet master and the guidance on how to complete the RFL spreadsheet. Please note that all scores must be submitted using the spreadsheet as we are unable to process handwritten documents.

[RFL spreadsheet](#)

[RFL guidance](#)

If you have already prepared your data, please email your completed RFL spreadsheet to eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Once the data for all settings has been submitted and the county average has been calculated, you will receive a short, personalised data report specific to your setting, together with Gloucestershire's average scores. If you are not yet familiar with the Ready for Learning (RFL) toolkit, please do join one of the information sessions run by our Inclusion Advisors, you don't need to book in advance. To receive a RFL spreadsheet for your September cohort of children please email EYadviceline@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Please submit your RFL data by June 27th 2025

Practice Spotlight

Supporting Children's Behaviour

'The provider has high expectations for children's behaviour and conduct, These expectations are commonly understood and applied consistently and fairly....they are beginning to manage their own feelings and behaviour and to understand how these have an impact on others'

This is a grade descriptor for 'Good' within Behaviour and attitudes of the current Early Years Inspection Handbook. When thinking about how children's behaviour is supported in your provision consider:

- Do your behaviour expectations meet the developmental stages of the children
- Have suitable boundaries been established and do children understand these
- Do all staff understand your behaviour policy and how to positively support children's behaviour
- Are staff consistent when applying or reminding children of the boundaries
- Do staff explain why certain behaviours are not acceptable and provide them with ways to manage their behaviour in the future

The following links provide further information and training:

[PSED Network: Emotion Coaching_\(Term 6\) - Bristol Early Years](#)

[Teaching Hub](#)

[Behaviours That Challenge Training Course - Dingley's Promise](#) (this is currently free for providers in Gloucestershire)

[Help for early years providers : Emotions](#)

CPD spotlight

Early Childhood Maths Group have recently published [Spatial reasoning toolkit – ECMG](#), this free to download resource describes how children develop spatial reasoning in early childhood and also provides practical ideas to enhance

Training & Meetings

The following training & meetings will be taking place during June and July - Book now!

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) –

Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years – 19/06/2025 (Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will be held within Stroud locality.

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 23/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5:30pm -

Hesters Way Children Centre (Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 0ES) (Elliott Building) [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 24/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm -

Longford Park Primary Academy (Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP) [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 25/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm -

Stow Nursery, Stow on The Wold Primary School (St Edwards Drive, Stow-On-The-Wold, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 1AW) – [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 1)

- 26/06/2025 - 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1SS [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) -**Practical Strategies: Sensory Processing in the Early Years -**

03/07/2025 - 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Severnbanks Primary School, Naas Lane, Lydney, Gloucestershire, GL15 5AU - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training - Play to Ignite

Development – 10/07/2025 (Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will be held within Cotswolds locality.

Childminder Network Meeting - 16/07/2025 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm - Online

via Teams [Book here](#)

Total Communication Training for Childminders - 09/07/2025 - 7.00 -

8.30pm - Gloucester Farmers Club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG [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@goucestershire.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@goucestershire.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 and we will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.



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