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Early Years Newsletter

16 February 2024





Welcome to the Provider Update 24 (2023/24)

Following this weekend, the sun will be rising before 7am, how exciting to look forward to the brighter mornings to come!

This week we have some information about the Little Moments Together campaign, further updates for childminders, and we congratulate providers who have successfully gained their Dingley's Promise Mark of Achievement.

We hope you all have a great week.

The Early Education and Child Development Team

Leaders and Managers meeting

We had a great turn out on Wednesday afternoon at this term's Leaders and Managers meeting, with some excellent conversations held about a range of topics.

If you'd like to join us at the next meeting, it will be taking place on Wednesday 15 June at Gloucester Farmers Club, [book now](#) to reserve your place.

Local network meetings

Do you attend a local provider network meeting? If so, we would love to hear about any existing groups across Gloucestershire. If you are not already aware of any groups running nearby but would be interested in being part of a network of providers in your local area, then please get in touch with our Quality team and we would be happy to help! Email the [EY Admin team](#).

Every Child a Talker (ECAT)

Due to popular demand we have added two further short training sessions (1.5 hours) to support you with understanding and using the Every Child a Talker (ECAT) monitoring tool.

The ECAT monitoring tool supports practitioners to assess the developmental level of children's speech, language and communication.

Although the training is being delivered by a new trainer – **Heather Price**, please note that this training is the same training that was delivered in November 2020, November 2021, January & February 2022, June 2022, November 2022 & February 2023.

For more information - see [poster](#).

[New date added! ECAT Profile Training booking link](#) - 17 April 2024 - 16:00-17:30 - Virtual via Zoom

[New date added! ECAT Profile Training booking link](#) - 24 April 2024 - 16:00-17:30 - Virtual via Zoom

Launch of Little Moments Together campaign

The new national Start for Life [Little Moments Together](#) campaign launched on 10 January, providing free resources and advice to help parents further their child's development.

National Recruitment campaign

The [Be part of something big](#) campaign provides a platform to encourage new practitioners to join the unique and rewarding workforce of early years. Providers can create a free account on the [find a job](#) platform, where current vacancies can be advertised for free.

Dingley's Promise Mark of Achievement

This week we are celebrating 3 further Gloucestershire providers achieving the Dingley's Promise Mark of Achievement, reflecting their passion and commitment to inclusive practice in the early years.

Elaina Davis Butterflies Childminding Services

Parkend Playgroup

Yorkley Playgroup

The [Early Years Inclusion Programme](#) training has been specifically designed to provide practical skills and knowledge to help practitioners support the growing numbers of children

with SEND. The [Mark of Achievement](#) is recognition for embracing this training and as such the dedication to transforming the lives of children with SEND through inclusive practice.

Training opportunities in February/March 2024

Don't miss these training and meeting opportunities between now and Easter 2024!

[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](#) - 27 February 2024 - 16:00-18:00 - Cheltenham

[ECAT Profile Training booking link](#) - 9 March 2024 - 10:00-11:30 - Virtual via Zoom (ONE PLACE REMAINING)

[Recruitment and Retention booking link](#) - 11 March 2024 12:30-16:00 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button

[SENCo Training for Early Years booking link](#) (Day 1 of 2) - 14 March 2024 09:00-16:00 - Gloucester

Childminder Pre-Registration Information Briefing - 18 March 2024 18:45-21:00 - book via email to [EY Admin Team](#).

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

[Self Update Provider Portal Training booking link](#) - 20 March 2024 - 10:00-12:00 - Gloucester

[Childminder Network Teams Meeting - Spring/Summer 2024 booking link](#) - 20 March 2024 - 19:00-20:00 - Virtual via the Big Blue Button

[Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training booking link](#)- 21 March 2024 - 16:00-18:00 - Stonehouse

[New date added! ECAT Profile Training booking link](#) - 17 April 2024 - 16:00-17:30 - Virtual via Zoom

[New date added! ECAT Profile Training booking link](#) - 24 April 2024 - 16:00-17:30 - Virtual via Zoom

Childminder Updates

Secure your place now to attend the [EY Childminder conference](#) on Saturday 18 May at The Cheltenham Chase hotel.

Join us to hear from a range of experts and network with other childminders.

There are only 60 places available so book today to avoid missing this exciting opportunity!

Last opportunity for free mentoring from the [Childminder mentor programme](#)

Calling all Stroud Childminders! We host a childminding group every other Thursday, 9:30am to 11:30am at The Pavilion in the Park, Victory Park, Stroud, GL5 4JE.

Costs £1.50 per child. Please bring snacks for little ones. Tea and coffee will be available.

Upcoming dates: 7 March 2024 and 21 March 2024.

The Stronger Practice Hub are hosting a free online session [Identifying and supporting speech, language and communication needs for childminders](#) on Wednesday 28 February, 6:30pm to 9pm.



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

✉ eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk ✉

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