

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

✉ eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk ✉

Early Years Newsletter Childminder Edition

1 November 2024



Welcome to the November childminder newsletter

I hope you have enjoyed half-term and have lots of lovely autumn activities planned. Sorry, there is a lot of information this month!

Please email [Caroline Vans](#) with any questions. Alternatively, if you need something more urgent, please email the [Early Years Quality Team](#).

Changes to the Childminder Registration rules and a new EYFS from November 1st.

[Newsflash – New Flexibilities for Childminders - Foundation Years](#)

The new flexibilities will:

- Create a new category of childminder (childminder without domestic premises) who work entirely from non-domestic premises
- Increase, from 3 to 4, the total number of people that can work together under a childminder's registration (including the childminder)
- Give childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises (CODPs) more flexibility, allowing them to spend more time operating outside of domestic premises, such as a community hall or school
- Increase the number of people needed for CODPs to operate from 4 or more, to 5 or more people providing care (CODPs that were registered, or applied to register, before 1 November can continue operating with 4 or more people)

[New EYFS – effective from November 1st](#)

Self-Assessment Audit (previously known as Safeguarding Audit)

All providers need to complete the [Safeguarding Audit](#)

We know many of you have been asking about the safeguarding audit as you are keen to complete it and use your findings to improve your setting.

You may be aware from previous communications that there is now a new platform to complete safeguarding training, and this is a new process to complete the audit. Please see [Communications and Roll Out Plan](#).

Childminding Conference

SAVE THE DATE – Saturday 8th February 2025 at Cheltenham Chase Hotel, Full day with lunch £50.

The conference is a full-day event with refreshments and lunch included. It will be a great opportunity to network with other childminders, listen to experts in the field of childcare, and chat to stands about different services. The day will start with keynote speaker Neil Farmer, an expert in Early Years Education who will be offering a session 'Getting it right for Boys.' A choice of workshops from Neil Farmer, GCC Inclusion team, Zelpher

Ferguson discussing supporting emotional development and behaviour and Anthea Bailey (Occupational therapist) will be available to attend throughout the day.

Stronger Practice Hub

The Bristol and Beyond Stronger Practice Hub offer a range of free training opportunities to Gloucestershire childminders including the following....

[Stronger Practice Hub Events - Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub](#)

[Brain Development – A Session for Childminders with Sarah Neville](#)

In this session, we will talk about typical brain development and how it impacts children's play and learning. We learn how to feed the brain through our positive interactions with children and reference relevant research and guidance to support our practice.

November 14 @ 7.00 pm - 8:30 pm

[**Exploring and Growing Fresh Produce in a Childminding Setting \(for Childminders\)**](#)

This session is for Childminding settings who would like to improve their understanding of food, in particular vegetables, herbs, spices and fruits. The session is led by Jo Ingleby, the Director of The Children's Kitchen, a Feeding Bristol project focused on encouraging young children and families to explore, cook and grow fresh produce. The project focuses on the areas of Bristol with the highest levels of food insecurity. Settings working with The Children's Kitchen are encouraged to move away from traditional baking on cakes and towards child-led food sessions led by curiosity and creativity.

November 19 @ 6.30-8.30pm

Network meeting – focus on Characteristics of Effective Learning

Informal sessions to chat with other childminders. The next one is on [20 November 19:00 - 20:00 pm](#) and is focused on the Characteristics of Effective Learning.

Safer Feeding and Choking First Aid Training (Free Training) 28th November 7pm

Tigerlily Training has partnered with [The Oliver Steeper Foundation](#) to provide a **FREE Essential Two-Hour Course**. **This course is available to all** nursery staff across the UK. The training will be delivered virtually via Zoom with our leading First Aid Training; the course will focus on **Safe Feeding Practices** and how to give **First Aid Treatment to a Choking Infant or Child** and answer any questions you may have. For further information do explore [Safer Feeding & Choking First Aid Training 28th November 2024](#)

National Wraparound Childcare Grant

National Wraparound childcare Grant funding – are you a childminder who provides care for children before and after school, or would you like to? There is funding available from the Department of Education to support childminders as well as schools, private voluntary and independent providers to help provide more wraparound places for children from reception to Yr6.

Wraparound care is defined as care from 8am to 6pm that wraps around the normal school day Monday to Friday, term time only.

The Local Authority has £152,000 capital funding and £1.2M revenue funding still available for those providers who may wish to offer wraparound care.

Delivery model that could be used – childminders need to make sure that they are liaising with the school or schools to show how they are working in partnership with them to provide wraparound care.

Childminders

Provision delivered by childminders (registered with Ofsted or a childminder agency), which schools and local authorities signpost to. This could consist of a group of childminders working together on a single site or childminders working individually from their homes or childminders working under the new registrations of 100% from places other than homes.

What the funding can be used for;

Capital grant funding

What it can be used for: (a limited amount is available – not sufficient to build new settings)

- Building modifications to enable use of space outside main school/setting operating hours, e.g., secure external access, outside lighting to enable outdoor space to be used year-round.
- Building modifications to adapt space for use to deliver inclusive wraparound childcare
- Improvements to storage

- New physical assets such as minibus purchase (to support a hub model of wraparound provision), play equipment (including outdoor play equipment), similar.

What it cannot be used for- This funding grant is for capital purposes only and cannot be used for revenue expenditure of any kind, such as training or staff costs, resources/assets that do not meet the definition of capital expenditure given above (such as toys, books, clothing), etc. in addition it cannot be used for routine maintenance or refurbishment of premises; capital works to maintain and improve the condition of the school estate, which should continue to be covered by Devolved Formula Capital funding (DFC), the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) or School Condition Allocations (SCA); childcare providers not providing wraparound care.

Revenue(delivery) grant funding

What it can be used for;

- Staffing
- Training – including for SEND support
- Transport costs e.g. minibus hire
- Resources – except where the equipment or supplies have an expected shelf life of more than one year where either the purchase price is more than £500 or is a group of lower value items where the combined value is in excess of £500 (Capital funding must be used for such purchases)- i.e. Revenue funding CAN be used up to the threshold of £500 for equipment or supplies which can last more than a year
- Contribute to running costs while demand builds (provision will need to be self-sustaining by September 2026)
- New providers – contribute to Ofsted registration*

What it cannot be used for– this funding grant should not be used to subsidise the cost of places which should be paid for by parents nor should it be used to subsidise the running costs of existing provision except as above where the provision is expanding up to 2026.

*New childminder registrations may be able to use the New to childminding Grant funding to pay for registration with Ofsted.

Final planned application window for wraparound

Application round 3: Opens 2 Jan 2025 to 31 Jan 2025 with the Grant Panel 14 Feb 2025

There is no further application windows planned due to changes in the wraparound programme. So please make sure that you do not miss your chance to apply for funding.

If you need support in getting applications into us, please contact the team (Anita, Roxy and Lisa) on wraparound2@gloucestershire.gov.uk

As before we are offering online support for providers wanting to apply for funding in this round;

Tuesday 19 November 2024 9.30am to 10.30am - [Book here](#).

Thursday 21 November 2024 2pm to 3pm - [Book here](#).

Thursday 9 January 2025 9.30am to 10.30am - [Book here](#).

Monday 13 January 2025 2pm to 3pm - [Book here](#).

You can also find out more information on the GCC wraparound webpages [Wraparound care childcare](#) | [Gloucestershire County Council](#)



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