

4 April 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years
Provider update

Provider Update 70 - 4 April 2025



Dear provider,

Isn't it great to see the lighter nights here now the clocks have changed.

The sunshine is also an added bonus.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Early Years and Childcare Service

National Walking Day

This week many of us celebrated National Walking Day. We spoke to



many providers who were encouraging their children to walk to their settings.

Sue also celebrated on Mother's Day by walking the Caminito del Rey trail in Spain. Known for its heights, narrow footpaths, and a wobbly bridge to cross. For anyone who likes a challenge.....

Early Years Alliance – Environmental sustainability support

The Department for Education (DfE) has [set a target](#) for all education settings to have a sustainability lead and a climate action plan in place by 2025, to "help embed sustainability in all they do".

This includes an expectation that all education settings, including early years settings, will "nominate a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan".

As part of this work, Sustainability Support for Education – part of a set of projects commissioned by the DfE – is running a series of free online events on putting Climate Action Plans in place, including a number of events aimed specifically at early years providers. You can find out more about these events [here](#).

To help early years providers to meet these new expectations, the Early Years Alliance is preparing to release a new Environmental Sustainability toolkit later this summer, which will include comprehensive guidance on how to operate in an environmentally sustainable way, create an effective Climate Action Plan, and support children to learn how to care for the environment.

If you'd like to be among the first to hear about the release of the new toolkit, you can [register your interest](#)

DSL hub meeting – Wednesday 9th April

The Safeguarding in Education team will be delivering the next DSL support hub on Wednesday 9th April 2025. 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 9th April 2025. Log in details:

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 370 572 300 844

Passcode: BLozNB

Safeguarding support for providers

Safeguarding support for providers – Thursday 1st May – 11am-12 noon – This session will be recorded.

Karen Goulding, one of our Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) has very kindly agreed to deliver an hour session to those in senior positions who are involved in the response to, management of and/or investigation of concerns/allegations about people in a position of trust- this may be through paid or voluntary employment.

The aims of this session are as follows: -

1. Understanding your safeguarding responsibility for managing allegations.
2. The role of the LADO and allegations management processes.
3. Thresholds and outcomes of allegations – and how to get advice

and support

This webinar will be recorded, and the recording will be available on the Safeguarding in Education GCC Plus subscriber page under webinars shortly after the session has finished.

Log in details:

Microsoft Teams

[**Join the meeting now**](#)

Meeting ID: 340 574 965 194

Passcode: 6SA9za3g

Safeguarding support for providers – Wednesday 30th April – 1pm-3pm. This session will be recorded.

Keira Shortman, Team Manager from Forest Community Social Work team has agreed to come and deliver a webinar for you on Wednesday 30th April 2025 from 1pm to 3pm.

During this 2-hour webinar Keira will explain what a multi-agency referral form (MARF) is, why it is important and how to complete a MARF to refer your safeguarding concerns about a child/young person. It will also set out, what you need to do before you decide to make a safeguarding referral and how important the quality of your referral is.

This webinar is aimed at Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

This webinar will be recorded, and the recording will be available on the Safeguarding in Education GCC Plus subscriber page under webinars shortly after the session has finished.

Log in details:

Microsoft Teams

[**Join the meeting now**](#)

Meeting ID: 376 468 711 809

Passcode: Pp9jkL

PATA Summer training schedule

Please find the PATA Summer Term Training Schedule [here](#).

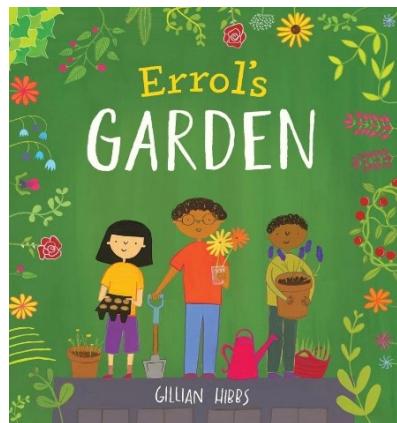
PATA offer a variety of courses both online and face to face. There is a discounted price for PATA members so do take a look.

Next term PATA are running a session 'The Challenges of Leading in the Early Years and How to Overcome Them' next term. This is a two part in person and online session – 11th June (in person daytime training) and 7th July (online twilight training). Further information can be found [here](#). Places are limited.

Book Corner

Booklist – Growth and New Life - Click [HERE](#)

This week in Alistar Bryce-Clegg's 'Welcome to the playlist-April' he shared some great reading material to support children. This list is full of thoughtful, beautifully chosen texts to support conversations around growing, changing, and noticing the world around us coming to life again. There's something here for all age groups – and some real treasures to spark that lovely cross-curricular magic we love.



Training and other opportunities!

Childminder Network Meeting(Teams) - 23 April 2025 -19:00- 20.00pm.
Online via TEAMS - Links will be sent out the day before the meeting.

[Book here](#)

Welcome to the Early Years - 9 May 2025 - 09:30am - 12:30pm -

Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG. [Book here](#)

Mathtastics in Early Years - Wednesday 14th May - Gloucester Farmers Club. 10am - 12noon - [Book here](#) or 1pm - 3pm - [Book here](#)

SENCO Training for Early Years - 15 May 2025 (Day 1) and 22 May 2025 (Day 2) 09:00am - 15:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG - [Book here](#)

Childminder Network Meeting (Teams) - 19 May 2025 -19:00 - 20:00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

Leaders and Managers Network Meeting - 21 May 2025 13:00 - 15:30pm - Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

Creating Your Early Years Curriculum - 6 June 2025 10:00 - 12:00 - Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

Total Communication Training in the Early Years

Exciting news to all providers! 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.**

The training will help your staff to develop their 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.

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@gloucestershire.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@gloucestershire.gov.uk

The standard GCC Cancellation Policy will apply:

- *100% refund 10 days or more before the course starts.*
- *50% refund between 9 and 5 days before the course starts.*
- *0% refund between 4 and 2 days before the course starts.*
- *0% refund between 1 day or fewer before the course starts.*





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