

06 December 2024



Gloucestershire  
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years  
Provider update

## Provider Update 55 - 6th December 2024

---



### Welcome to our new look Provider Update

Dear provider,

We are officially in the month of December so feel it's safe to now mention the big C word 'Christmas' We hope everyone is enjoying festive activities with their children.

Have a lovely weekend!

**Early Education and Child Development team**

---

**Childminding Conference**

Calling all childminders! Thank you to all the childminders that have booked a place on this event in February. We would like to see more bookings to allow this conference to go ahead. Please [secure your place](#) before the 10<sup>th</sup> December

---

## **REMINDER: Guidance for completing your Safeguarding Audit**

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership has produced guidance for childminders and group based providers to use when completing the Safeguarding Audit. This can be found here [Early Years Foundation Stage Section 3 Safeguarding Assurance Declaration Procedure](#)

To access the audit <https://www.gscpaudit.org.uk/>

---

## **FREE copy of The ABC to nursery management.**

Would you like some free information to support you in a management role. Please see the poster, and code to scan to download.

The poster features a blue and white design. On the left, the 'connect childcare' logo is at the top, followed by the title 'The ABC of NURSERY MANAGEMENT' and a call to action 'Download your free copy today'. Below this, a text box states: 'Brings together insights from 26 expert voices. Each letter of the alphabet covers a key topic in early years education.' On the right, the 'thriving Language' logo is shown above a grid of 26 small portraits, one for each letter of the alphabet. At the bottom right is a photo of two women smiling.



---

## SPRING TERM 2025 – CLAIMS FOR EY FUNDED HOURS

As per the published timetable, the pre-populated Parent Declaration Forms for the Spring term will be available in your Portal accounts by the end of the day on **9<sup>th</sup> December**. The forms are not made available before the amendment task closes for the previous term to avoid incorrect claims being submitted.

If you need a blank form before then, you can find them on our webpage at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/early-years-service/information-for-providers/early-years-business-marketing-finance-support/nursery-education-funding-nef/](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/early-years-service/information-for-providers/early-years-business-marketing-finance-support/nursery-education-funding-nef/)

---

### Information from the Funding Team - FUNDING LOOP

We would like to make you aware that Gloucestershire County Council does not endorse this software as there are some limitations to the system that effects your commitment to be compliant with the Local Provider Agreement. As such, if your setting decides to use this software it is necessary for a supplementary agreement to be signed to continue claiming the Early Years Funded Entitlement for under 5's. The supplementary agreement asks the following:

- We will ensure our parents continue to complete the amendment form for any changes to their hours and we will use the Average Hours

calculator to re-calculate funded hours claim in the amendment task. Amendment forms will then be stored for 6 years plus the current financial year (**see sections 13.15, 13.16 and 14.2 of the Local Provider Agreement**).

- We recognise that we will still be subject to an audit by Gloucestershire County Council at any time and will be able to produce all the necessary supporting documentation when requested (**see sections 13.9, 13.10 and 14.1 of the Local Provider Agreement**).
- We will continue to validate the Working Parents Entitlement eligibility codes in the funding portal and use the Expiration Dashboard to support our parents with their reconfirmation dates (**see sections 5.9, 5.10 and 6.5 of the Local Provider Agreement**).
- We will ensure we see confirmation of funding eligibility for a disadvantaged 2 year old before adding the claim to the funding portal (**see section 5.2, 12.10 and 12.11 of the Local Provider Agreement**).
- It will be our responsibility to ensure we submit our funding claims on time in line with the published timetables. We accept that Gloucestershire County Council cannot delay payment to other early years settings if we miss the deadline date for a funding task. Payment will then be made as part of the amendment payment (**see section 13.5 of the Local Provider Agreement**).

---

## Bristol and beyond Stronger practice hubs

It's your last chance to book onto some great CPD in December. See the posters for what's coming up.

We would recommend [Relationship Mapping](#) with Jacqui Lewis. You can read case studies from others who have attended this and been inspired [HERE](#)

There are also courses on Communication strategies for Two-year-olds, Sensory Processing, and Literacy for Under 5s. We also have some monthly Speech and Language sessions starting in January and a session on [Evidence Informed Practice for Physical Development from Helen Battelley](#).

If you have not engaged with the Hub previously and would like to find out more, then pop along to our [Intro Session](#) on 14th January, 5-6pm online.

Read more and book on the [SPH website](#). Read our latest [Newsletter](#)

We also have arranged, specifically for Gloucestershire early years settings and childminders:

- Working with Babies Training for Gloucestershire - 28th Jan
- Gloucestershire Birth-3 network Meeting - 21st Jan

---

## DSL Support Hub

Please find attached a [link](#) to the recording from this weeks meeting.

---

## PEEP information for resources to share with families.

NEW digital LTP resources to share with families - let us know what you think!

We've created short videos for 8 of our Peep Learning Together Programme topics, which show real-life examples of family interactions. These were a pilot, so we would love to know if you and your families find them useful.



If you're doing any of the following topics in the next few weeks, please share the relevant Padlet links with parents - links below, with a short survey in each Padlet. The surveys are slightly different, so please complete one for each of the topic videos you watch.





The videos are part of a Peeple project with Learning with Parents and Reulo, funded by the Ardian Foundation.

Any questions or comments? Please contact [katy.baker@peeple.org.uk](mailto:katy.baker@peeple.org.uk)



Click to link to the videos and padlets for the following topics:

[Nature](#), [Movement](#), [Routines](#), [Treasure baskets](#), [Sounds](#),  
[Mark making](#), [Sharing books](#), [Shapes](#)

---

## Training and other opportunities!

**Childminder Network Teams Meeting** - 19 December 2024, 19:00

- 20:00, Online via TEAMS [Book here](#)

**SIOT Level 1** - 16 January 2025 -16:00 - 18:00, Chesterton

Primary School (Apsley Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1SS). [Book here](#)

**SENCo Training for Early Years** (previously New to SENCO Training for Early Years) **Day 1** - 23 January 2025 09:00 - 15:00 & **Day 2** - 30 January 2025 09:00 - 15:00. Shire Hall (SHI01 / Main reception), Clearwell Room, Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG [Book here](#)

**Behavioural Change in Early Years: Supporting Children with Additional Needs** - 05 Feb 2025 10:00 - 12:00, Gloucester Farmers club (FAR01 / Main reception) , Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

**Behavioural Change in Early Years: Supporting Children with Additional Needs** - 05 Feb 2025 13:00 - 15:00, Gloucester Farmers club (FAR01 / Main reception) , Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

**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](mailto: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.*



Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester GL1 2TJ

[Manage preferences](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)