

28 March 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years Provider update

Provider Update 69 - 28 March 2025



Dear provider,

Mothering Sunday can bring along lots of joy and inspiration in your settings. We've seen lots of creative ideas out and about on our visits this week.

We watched children's motor skills being developed whilst using cut vegetables to create floral prints on cards. We observed children decorating flowerpots and planting seeds whilst talking about growth and decay. We also had the pleasure of hearing children telling their own stories about their Mums. One group of preschool children had baked cakes to share at a special 'Mother's Day Afternoon Tea' they were hosting for their relatives.

Please remember the Early Years team are always available to support you with ideas (and with taste-testing baking activities!)

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Early Education and Child Development team

Local offer to Early Years providers

Our updated Local offer to early years providers has been in place for over a year now and it has been such a pleasure to work with so many of you in that time.

We would love to hear from you if you would like a visit from one of the team. Please email EarlyYearsQuality@gloucestershire.gov.uk for support around quality practice and provision, complete a [referral form](#) to request Inclusion support or contact the [Early Years Advice line](#) to discuss your query.

Charging Guidance 25/26 for Early Years Providers

Thank you to those who joined us for our information session regarding guidance for charging. For those who were unable to attend please find the link to the recorded session here: [Charging Guidance 25/26 in Early Years Settings 24 March](#).

Consultation – Improving the way Ofsted inspects education

The consultation period regarding how Ofsted inspects education, closes on 28th April at 23.59. This [webinar for Early Years Providers](#) produced by Ofstednews shares everything you need to know about their plans to improve the way Ofsted inspects education. We encourage you all to look at the [Early Years Inspection Toolkit](#) and [respond to the consultation](#).

Credit card payments

As mentioned in a previous update GCC Plus is now able to take payments for training/events via a credit card function. For further information please read [how to use the credit card function](#).

Checking Early Years Qualifications

The DfE has recently updated guidance and information regarding checking qualifications:

[Check an early years qualification](#)

[Early years qualifications list: UK only](#)

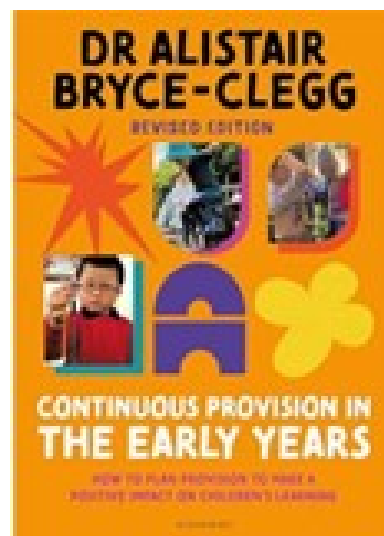
[Early years qualifications achieved outside the UK](#)

Designated Safeguarding Leads Hub

Please find a link to the [recording](#) and [notes](#) from Wednesday 26 March DSL Support Hub.

Book Corner

This week's book recommendation is Dr Alistair Bryce-Clegg's 'Continuous Provision in the early years'. The resource provides lots of useful ideas about how to plan provision to make a positive impact on children's learning. You could also use our helpful ['Continuous Provision' handout](#) to support your reflections.



CPD Spotlight



We are very excited to welcome Ben Kingston-Hughes back to Gloucestershire in May. Those of you who listened to Ben at our conference last year, and attended his Maths workshop will know just how inspiring (and hilarious!) Ben is.

Come along in May to his 'Mathtastics' workshop where Ben will share motivating ideas for your maths curriculum through joyful discovery of a child's world. Ideal for all practitioners but especially useful for anyone who finds maths to be daunting or anxiety making.

You can book your place now for either the [morning session](#) or [afternoon session](#).

Training and other opportunities!

Early Years SENCO Cluster Meeting - 2 April 2025 - 16:00 - 17:30pm - Steam Mills Primary School , Steam Mills, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3JD - [Book here](#)

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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