

23 May 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years
Provider update

Provider Update 76 - 23 May 2025



Dear Provider,

Another bank holiday weekend is upon us (with the traditional weather to go with it) this week has flown by again. Do try to steal a moment for yourself and put your feet up, even just for a couple of minutes, a cup of

tea in one hand and a good book in the other, is my idea of heaven. However you spend the next few days have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Early Years and Childcare Service

Children Starting School in September

The Starting Reception website is a great resource for parents and practitioners/childminders. It has a downloadable booklet and some useful links ranging from self-care and independence to health routines.

If you have children starting school with SEND – The Advisory Teaching Service are accepting requests for transition support, however these requests must be received by 6th June, any received after this date will be returned.

[Starting Reception](#)

[About the Advisory Teaching Service](#)

Check an Early Years Qualification Service

Early years managers can now use the new Check an Early Years Qualification digital service to quickly verify whether staff qualifications meet the requirements for staff:child ratios in England.

This tool allows managers to check a qualification's approval status by entering key details such as:

- course start date
- level
- awarding organisation

All other user groups (for example practitioners) should continue to use

the Early Years Qualifications List (EYQL) to check qualifications, and contact our supplier, Ecctis if they are unable to find the qualification on the EYQL.

[Check an Early Years Qualification](#)

[Early Years Qualifications List \(EYQL\)](#)

[Ecctis](#)

Preventing and Managing Common Childhood Illnesses May 2025 Update

Here is a reminder of useful information and guidance from the South West Health Protection team to help schools prevent and manage cases and outbreaks of common childhood illnesses over the coming months.

Preventing Outbreaks:

[Should I Keep my Child off School Checklist poster - GOV.UK](#)

[Preventing and Controlling Infections - GOV.UK](#)

[E-Bug: Gloucestershire Health Living and Learning](#)

Responding to Outbreaks:

If you believe your setting has an outbreak the Government guidance on how to respond is below.

If you need advice or need to report an outbreak our South West UKHSA Health Protection Team contact details are: **0300 303 8162** or swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk

[Managing Outbreaks and Incidents - GOV.UK](#)

Immunisations and Exclusion Policy:

The UK Health Security Agency has had several notifications that some early years providers have policies excluding children post vaccination. Dr Mary Ramsey, Director of public health programmes at the UK HSA says

'While some children may experience mild side effects after vaccination, there is absolutely no medical reason to exclude a vaccinated child from a setting if they are feeling well. This practice could potentially discourage parents from getting their children vaccinated and therefore increase the risk of having outbreaks in nurseries and schools'

Please do take some time to review your current policy if it does have an exclusion period post vaccination.

Practice Spotlight

Each week we will share an area of practice that has been highlighted as a theme from inspection reports published in England during the previous term. This weeks practice spotlight is:

Effective Adult Interactions

We must never underestimate the importance of ensuring children receive high quality adult interactions. Having skilled and sensitive adults, who are responsive and knowledgeable is key to supporting children's learning and development. However, in order to ensure our interactions with children are effective we need to ensure:

- We know the child, what they can do, what their interests are
- Our knowledge of child development is sound
- Our wellbeing is good
- We have a clear understanding of our roles and responsibilities
- We prioritise the children and their needs:

- Group times are not interrupted
- The routine is purposeful, and transitions are not too long
- Tasks such as cleaning, admin are not prioritised over children

The following resources are useful when considering how effective adult interactions are within your provision.

[Help for Early Years Providers: Interactions](#)

[EEF Blog: The ShREC Approach](#)

CPD Spotlight



Following on from our practice spotlight our CPD spotlight is 'Quality interactions for Early Years' and comes from Bristol and Beyond stronger practice hub.

These sessions will explore the basics of effective, authentic, meaningful interactions with children in the early years. It covers what makes for quality interactions: the way we use our body and voice, how we listen, pause, and reflect on children's learning with them, how we can deepen their thinking, provoke new learning, and delight in the children's fascinations. They will use a quality interaction checklist to support you to further your good practice and share guidance from the EEF Evidence store" so it's all written from our perspective.

[Quality Interactions for Early Years Settings/Schools](#)

[Quality Interactions for Early Years Childminders and Settings](#)



The Early Years Book Club

A collaborative initiative with Bristol Early Years And Bristol and Beyond Stronger Practice, The Early Years Book Club, brings together professionals to share ideas, develop practice and celebrate the joy of reading, there is a theme each month, with a featured book list, a poem and '5 books we love.'

For more information check out their webpage and links below.

[The Early Years Book Club](#)

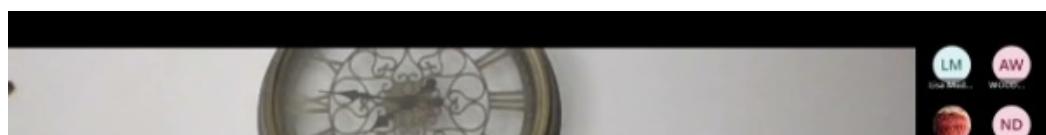
[Bristol Early Years Book Club: Nurturing a Community of Readers](#)

[May 2025 Book Club](#)

DSL Support Hub

Please find attached the minutes and recording from the DSL Support Hub held on Wednesday.

[DSL Support Hub Meeting Minutes - 21.05.25](#)





Training & Meetings

The following training & meetings will be taking place during June and July - Book now!

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 04/06/2025 - 6.00pm - 8.00pm - Slimbridge Primary School, St John's Road, Slimbridge GL2 7DD - [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 05/06/2025 - 6:30pm - 8:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, (Aspley Road, Cirencester, GL7 1SS) - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) – Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years - 05/06/2025 - 16:00 - 18:00pm - Oakwood Primary, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD – [Book here](#).

Creating Your Early Years Curriculum - 06/06/2025 10:00am - noon - Gloucester Farmers club, Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#).

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 10/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Mary P's Day Nursery (Ashchurch Parkway, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8TU) (Training Room) – [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 11/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Steam Mills Primary School (Steam Mills, Cinderford, Gloucestershire,

GL14 3JD) - [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 12/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Great Oldbury Primary Academy (Great Oldbury Primary Academy Veterans Way, Stonehouse, England, GL10 3WH) – [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) – Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years – 12/06/2025(Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will be held within Gloucester locality.

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) – Practical Strategies: sensory processing in the Early Years – 19/06/2025 (Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will be held within Stroud locality.

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 23/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5:30pm - Hesters Way Children Centre (Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 0ES) (Elliott Building) [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 24/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Longford Park Primary Academy (Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP) [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCo Cluster Meeting - 25/06/2025 - 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Stow Nursery, Stow on The Wold Primary School (St Edwards Drive, Stow-On-The-Wold, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 1AW) – [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 1) - 26/06/2025 - 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1SS [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT Level 2) - Practical Strategies: Sensory Processing in the Early Years - 03/07/2025 - 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Severnbanks Primary School, Naas Lane, Lydney, Gloucestershire, GL15 5AU - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training - Play to Ignite Development – 10/07/2025 (Awaiting venue to be confirmed), booking not yet available. Training will be held within Cotswolds locality.

Childminder Network Meeting - 16/07/2025 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm - Online
via Teams [Book here](#)

Total Communication Training in the Early Years - This training is provided in house at your setting.

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.

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

Please refer to the cancellation policy for your event, as charges may apply.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- 2 weeks before the training course is due to take place – 100% refund
- Less than 2 weeks before the training course is due to take place – 0% refund
- If GCC cancels a training course, we will issue a refund automatically. If you paid by credit card, the refund will be paid back to the same card. If you paid by invoice, you will receive a credit note.

If you need to cancel your place on a training course within two weeks of the course and there are special circumstances, please contact

eyeservice@goucestershire.gov.uk and we will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.



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