

Business News Tuesday - 2 September 2025



Welcome

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you are all looking forward to working with us over the coming year.

We know you are going to be really busy settling new children and getting funding claims sorted so please reach out if you need any help.

If you have any questions please email [EY Business Support](mailto:EYBusinessSupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk),
EYfunding@gloucestershire.gov.uk or [Wraparound Team](#)

Expansion funding for Wraparound

We have a Grant Panel on 11 September for those who have applied for funding during Round 5.

We will be in touch with successful applicants shortly after that to let them know amounts of funding.

Please note that we may use the remaining capital funding for early years expansion after the grant panel in September. If this is the case we will inform providers as soon as possible after that date.

We have plenty of funding for wraparound projects so please feel free to apply for the next round which is open now. See details below

Funding Application - Round 6

Open from 1 September 2025 to 30 September 2025 with the Grant Panel on 30 October 2025.

Please make sure that you do not miss your chance to apply for funding.

Information on how to apply and the link to the application forms can be found here:

[Application form | Gloucestershire County Council](#) - for wraparound project funding

[Expanded entitlement | Early Years Service](#) - for Early Years expansion schemes

If you are a current wraparound provider and need more funding, you can apply for further revenue funding.

If you would like support with your applications or anything connected with business planning for Early Years or wraparound please do not hesitate to contact us.

Expressions of Interest (EOI)

We are asking for EOI for providers looking to expand or open new provision at Treetops Children Centre, Dursley. This would be to start up January 2026.

The closing date for this is Friday 10 October 2025.

We will arrange site visits week commencing 22 September and 6 October.

Please complete the attached EOI and return to us by emailing it to eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Further update about voluntary charges compliance checks

We will have more comprehensive guidance and FAQ documents for providers about the voluntary charges which is being checked with our legal department and should be available from the end of September. We are working with some providers currently checking fees, policies and procedures to make sure they are compliant with the guidance. This will continue over the next few months to ensure everyone can get the information onto websites and /or Glosfamilies for January 2026.

Are you looking for more staff? Would you be willing to offer someone an apprenticeship with support from Gloscol, JCP and our business team in GCC?

Please take a look at the information from JCP about the new training opportunities that are looking to put in place. They are seeking providers who would like to offer apprentices the chance to train and gain qualifications in early years and childcare with a view to a permanent position being available at the end of the training. JCP are putting on some information sessions for providers who can attend via Teams to hear how they can become involved.

If you would like more information, please see the poster below or send your details into us via the business email.



EARLY YEARS

FIND OUT MORE, JOIN OUR CALL

The need for qualified staff in the early years sector will rise from September 2025 with the increased demand for childcare places

Support is available for filling your vacancies and converting interested local jobseekers into qualified team members

Could you spare 20 minutes to hear about an innovative recruitment solution?

DWP have collaborated with Gloucestershire College and Gloucestershire County Council to deliver a streamlined routeway. Its success will rely on the involvement of childcare providers

A number of short Teams calls are scheduled, open to all childcare providers

Please email: swap.asg@dp.gov.uk for dial-in details

 Gloucestershire College

 Department for Work & Pensions

 Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact details for the team:

EYExpansionCapitalFundingApplications@gloucestershire.gov.uk
wraparound2@gloucestershire.gov.uk
eybusinesssupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Eyfundingsupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Funding Team phone number – 01452 328668

A few reminders

GloSFamilies - If you're a childcare provider or part of the Early Years team, you can update your listing on the GloSFamilies Directory by:

1. **Registering as a user** (if you haven't already).
2. **Signing in** with your registered email and password.

3. **Editing your provider entry** directly through the portal.

Please remember to update Glosfamilies regularly to ensure parents and others have current information and contact details for your setting.

Safeguarding updates from Ofsted

Changes to the EYFS and Keeping Children Safe in Education KCSiE come into effect this term. Please make sure you have read and understand these.

We have been working with GSCP and have made sure that all our providers, including those new to wraparound have got access to the safeguarding audit.

Providers can login by clicking the forgot your password link on the login form on the home page and getting a new password emailed to them:

<https://www.gscpaudit.org.uk/>

- Primary schools that provide wraparound are additionally shown the EY Assurances to complete
- EY settings/Childminders that provide wraparound are additionally shown KSCiE Assurance Declaration to complete

Surveys

We are working to understand the changes and things affecting providers in the county, so we will be circulating some surveys to gather information to help us.

In the first instance this will be a quick poll survey to assess whether there are any places across the county where parents are struggling to find childcare places. This could be early years and/or wraparound. When you see it please complete it as this can help us target support to create or expand provision.

Here's the first quick poll survey template tailored for gathering vacancy information from our early years providers. Thank you for completing it for us.

Training

Thursday 18 September 2025 & Thursday 2 October 2025

9:30am - 2:15pm

Gloucester Community Church

[Inclusion Needs You - 18th September and 2nd October 2025 Tickets,](#)
[Thu 18 Sep 2025 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

This practical course is designed to boost your confidence and equip you with the skills to welcome and include disabled children in your Wraparound Care setting – including those with physical, sensory, or cognitive conditions, neurodiversity, SEN, and additional needs.

Delivered across two days by a team of two experienced trainers with lived experience, including disabled and neurodivergent professionals and parent carers, this course offers real insight and practical tips.

All participating settings will receive a fantastic sensory resource kit worth £200, including a blackout tent, sensory toys, and foam mats.

Limited spaces are reserved for providers in the GCC DfE-funded pilot – once these are filled, you can still access general tickets.

Important Information:

Each participant must book individually so they receive all the advance information to their inbox. If booking on behalf of your team, please make separate bookings using each attendee's email address so they receive the course information directly.

Each Inclusion Needs You is a two day course. Please ensure you can attend both days listed before booking a place.

The following training & meetings will be taking from September - Book now!

Childminder Network Meeting (Teams)- 15/09/2025 7:00 - 8:00pm -

Online via TEAMS - Links will be sent the day before the meeting. An opportunity for **Childminders** to **network** and share experiences. At this session we will discuss climate action plan. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy Training (SIOT) - Play to Ignite Development - 18/09/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Longford Park Primary Academy, Clock Tower Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9FP [Book here](#)

Ofsted updates and changes to the EYFS - 2025 (via TEAMS) - 23/09/2025 10:00 - 11:30am | Online via TEAMS. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 25/09/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Alderman Knight School, 46 Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury, England, GL20 8JJ. [Book here](#)

Childminder Play Session - 25/09/2025 - 9:30 - 11:30am - The Beacon Children's Centre (Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 02/10/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD. [Book here](#)

SENDCO in the Early Years - (2 days) **Day 1** - 02/10/2025 9:15 - 3:00pm - **Day 2** 09/10/2025 - 9:15 - 3:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG. [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 09/10/2025 4:00 - 6:00pm - Kingsway Primary School (Valley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AR. [Book here](#)

Welcome to the Early Years - 10/10/2025 - 9:30am - 12:30pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG. [Book here](#)

Childminder Network Meeting - 14/10/2025 - 7:00 - 8:00pm - Online via TEAMS - [Book here](#)

Sensory Integration Occupational Therapy training (SIOT Level 1) - 16/10/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Great Oldbury Primary Academy, Great Oldbury Primary Academy Veterans Way, Stonehouse, England, GL10 3WH - [Book here](#)

Creating Your Early Years Curriculum - 17/10/2025 - 10:00am - 12:00pm - Shire Hall, Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2TG [Book here](#)

Getting it Right for Boys - 21/10/2025 - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. [Book here](#)

Getting It Right for Boys - 21/10/2025 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. [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 eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk and we will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.



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

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