

21 March 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years
Provider update

Provider Update 68 - 21 March 2025



Dear provider,

How is it mid-March already? It feels as though the new academic year was only 5 minutes ago, not the 6 months it has really been. Children's development rapidly progresses over a 6-month period, and it is easy to forget how far they have come from their first day. Our babies are now walking and saying words, and our pre-schoolers are getting ready to fly the nest to go to big school. With only a few more months of the academic year left, there will be even more milestones met, tears and noses wiped, and belly laughs had (and that's just the adults 😊).

Have a good weekend... when it comes.

Early Education and Child Development team

DfE Childminder Roadshow

Join DfE's Early Years Team for an online roadshow event for Childminders working in the early education and childcare sector on Wednesday 26 March at 18:30 - 20:00.

This event is a great opportunity to help shape this government's plan for change and hear about the strategy and activity underway to meet the pillar in its Opportunity Mission to give children the Best Start in Life. You will have a chance to engage with DfE colleagues on the work they are doing to meet the expanded childcare entitlements from September 2025 and share your ideas, concerns, and challenges.

The event will include an overview and update from the Department for Education and give those joining the opportunity to share experiences and views in virtual roundtable discussions. [Register for the event here](#).

Designated Safeguarding Leads Hub

A recording of the previous DSL Hub meeting can be found [here](#).

Minutes from the session can be found [here](#).

The next DSL Support Hub meeting is at 8.30am on Wednesday 26 March 2025. Log in details below.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 370 572 300 844

Passcode: BLozNB

Help BBC Tiny Happy People provide valuable support for Early Years speech and language needs

BBC Tiny Happy People are collaborating with Sherbet Research. The aim of this survey is to gather information on whether you are using BBC

Tiny Happy People resources with families, which resources you are using, when, and how. They would also like to hear whether there are any barriers and your suggestions for improvement.

Please complete their quick survey (under 10 minutes).

All responses are anonymous and will be combined with the views of Early Years Professionals across the UK. [Share your views here.](#)

GETTING IT RIGHT IN THE BABY ROOM – free conference

The Nuffield Foundation project 'Achieving high-quality provision in the baby room of English nurseries' aims to bring together evidence on what high quality provision looks like for babies (i.e., children aged 0-2 years old) in nurseries in England. You can learn more about the project [here](#) As part of this research project, they are putting on 6 free conferences across the country for baby room educators working in group-based provision.

There will be inspiring speakers, including our Network leads Cassie Holland and Simone Barnes, as well as many others.

Read More and Book on: www.thebabyrrom.blog

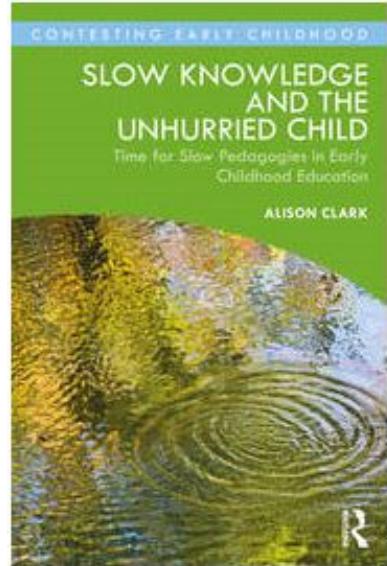
[**DOWNLOAD AND SHARE A POSTER HERE**](#)



Book Corner

Anyone who has had a bespoke baby room CPD session will have heard us talk about 'slow pedagogy' Alison Clarke encapsulates this within her book 'slow knowledge and the unhurried child'.

A snapshot of this Froebelian approach can be seen in practice by accessing this link [Froebel Trust | Slow pedagogy](#)



CPD Spotlight – All about our babies

[Responding to Babies' Cries – A Guide for Early Years Educators - Foundation Years](#)

[The Importance of Positive Interactions on Baby Brain Development - Foundation Years](#)
[Webinars - Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub](#) – access previous webinars regarding 0-2s by visiting this link and completing an online form (all free) Musical Creativity in the Baby room is one of my favourites

Training and other opportunities!

Guidance 25/26 in Early Years Settings (Teams) - 24th March - 12.30pm-1.30pm - Online via TEAMS - Links will be sent out the day before the meeting. [Book here](#)

SIOT Level 1 - 27 March - 16:00 - 18:00pm - Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD [Book here](#)

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](#)

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@goucestershire.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@goucestershire.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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