

31 January 2025



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Early Years Provider update

Provider Update 61 - 30 January 2025



Dear Provider,

It's been a lovely week of visiting providers and observing the magic of turning a miserable spell of wet weather into wonderful learning opportunities! We've seen jumping in muddy puddles, joined in with making some footprints with the rain and wet soil, and saw some little ones mixing up some 'rain soup'!

We hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend.

Early Education and Child Development team

Calling all Leaders and Managers...

Don't forget to book on to this term's [Leaders and Managers Network Meeting](#). We will be covering a range of topics, including local and national updates, as well as providing opportunities for attendees to share good practice with each other.

You'll notice this term's meeting isn't at our usual venue, the **University of Gloucestershire Oxstalls Campus** are kindly hosting us instead, so it's a great opportunity to come along and widen your early years network even further!

Dingley's Promise 'Mark of Achievement'

It's been a little while since we've done an update on the Gloucestershire providers who have achieved their Dingley's Promise 'Mark of Achievement' for Inclusion Friendly Settings. The Early Education and Child Development Team would like to say a **huge** congratulations to another 9 Early Years providers who have enhanced their inclusive practice through completion of this award and achieved their Dingley's Promise 'Mark of Achievement'. Gloucestershire now have a total of 24 providers who have achieved this award, putting us 2nd highest out of the 32 Local Authorities that Dingley's Promise are working with! Congratulations to...

- **The Forest of Dean Children's Opportunity Centre**
- **Chesterton Nursery**
- **Cirencester Opportunity Group**
- **Hester's Way Early Years**
- **Little Lambs Day Nursery**
- **Cherry Blossoms Pre-School**
- **Oakwood Early Years**
- **Little Stars Nursery**
- **Abbeydale Playgroup**

We look forward to seeing who will be on the next update, find out more now... [Dingley's Promise 'Mark of Achievement' Award](#). Let's see if together we can make Gloucestershire first place!

DSL Support hub

Please find the [notes](#) and [recording](#) for this week's meeting.

Experience-based route for early years staff

This week the DfE announced an 'experience-based route' for staff with a level 3 qualification that doesn't meet the full and relevant criteria to be included in ratios from September 2025. Read more about the changes here: [Experience-based route for early years staff](#).

Toy and resource recalls

Do you ensure part of your risk assessments involve checking for [product recalls and alerts](#)? This Gov.uk website shares information on the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) product safety alerts, reports and recalls for unsafe products.

Toilet training guidance

The Department for Education has published new toilet training guidance on the Help for Early Years Providers website. Your team will play an important role in supporting children and their parents with toilet training and this guidance may support you with information and resources on:

- When to start toilet training
- How to toilet train
- Common toilet training challenges
- Supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Working in partnership with parents and carers

You can read the guidance here: [Help for early years providers : Toilet training](#)

Childhood immunisations Early Years Project

You have a vital role to play in supporting the routine immunisation programme through sharing of information with parents/carers. The Improving Immunisation Uptake Team (IIUT) are providing training on behalf of NHS England starting from the 4th February. This training will be free of charge and aims to support Early Years providers to raise awareness of the importance of routine childhood immunisations in their settings.

Book your place [here](#) and take a look at the [introductory slides](#).

CPD Spotlight

[The Education Endowment Foundation – Early Years Evidence store](#) was developed to support the DfE's Stronger Practice Hubs programme but it is available to be used by everyone working in the early years. It provides evidence informed approaches across six key themes for young children's learning and development for you to put into practice in your setting.



Learn how to support children's oral health!

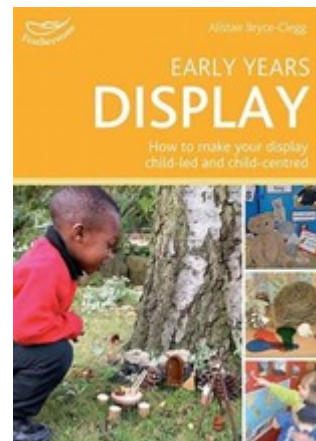
The [Big Brush Club](#) are hosting Oral Health webinars for EY Providers and parents. Led by dental professionals from 'At Home Dental', the providers session will cover the main causes of tooth decay and other common oral

problems that occur in childhood, plus simple actions that can be taken to prevent these. By the end of the session, attendees will have developed their knowledge of oral health and be more confident in providing children's oral health advice.

[Click here to register](#) for the event on **Tuesday 11th March at 7pm** and please share the 'Oral health webinar for parents and guardians' information with your families too! *Admin please link 'Oral health webinar information' word document to 'click here to register'.*

Book Corner

Lots of providers have been asking for our advice on their displays whilst out and about on our visits this month. 'Early Years Display' by Alistair Bryce-Clegg is one of the resources we often suggest using to inspire you. This book focuses on making your displays child-led and child-centred and contains some lovely ideas of how to use displays to teach, celebrate and document the learning journeys taking place in your setting!



Training and other opportunities!

SIOT Level 1 - 30 January 2025 16:00 - 18:00 - Oakwood Primary School, Cotswold Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5HD [Book here](#)

Behavioural Change in Early Years: Supporting Children with Additional Needs - 5 February 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 - 5 February 13:00 - 15:00, Gloucester Farmers club (FAR01 / Main reception) , Agricultural House, Greville Close, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 9RG - [Book here](#)

SIOT Level 2 - 13 February 2025 - 16:00 - 18:00 - Chesterton Primary School, Apsley Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1SS [Book here](#)

Childminder Network Meeting (Teams) - 25 February 7.00 - 8.00pm (via Teams) [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCO Cluster Meeting - 4 March 4.00 - 5.30pm - Mary P's Day Nursery (Ashchurch Parkway, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8TU) [Book here](#)

Leaders and Managers Network Meeting - 5 March 1.00pm - 3.30pm - University of Gloucestershire Oxstalls Campus, Oxstalls Lane, Longlevens GL2 9HW [Book here](#)

Early Years SENCO Cluster Meeting - 6 March 6.30pm - 8.00pm - Chesterton Primary School, (Aspley Road, Cirencester, GL7 1SS) [Book here.](#)

Mathtastics in Early Years - Wednesday 14th May - Gloucester Farmers Club. 10am - 12noon - [Book here](#) or 1pm - 3pm - [Book here](#)

Total Communication Training in the Early Years

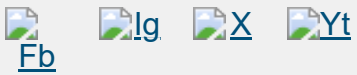
You can book Total Communication in the Early Years training through GCC+. To do this you will need to log into your setting's GCC+ account and then type Total Communications into the search bar. You will then see the link for this service.

Once you have booked and checked out, please contact eyesadvice@goucestershire.gov.uk to arrange a date and time for delivery of the course.

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 eyeservice@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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