

Early Years Team

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Our Ref: EYB198

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Dear Colleagues,

We hope you have been able to enjoy a summer break and taken some time to relax.

We would like to begin the year with some fantastic news about our Early Years some of the most eminent figures in the Early Years sector to be our guest speakers.

After the difficult last year or so we have all experienced (for a variety of reasons) we believe that this special event will provide the perfect opportunity to be inspired for the year ahead and to remind us why working in Early Years is so precious to us all. We really hope that you can join us on Friday 14

th or Saturday 15th October.

Of course, the recruitment and retention crisis continues to challenge us all and has recently made national headlines. Our bulletin provides information about how you can advertise your posts through our council channels as well as details about our new Traineeships initiative.

Our Early Years conference this year is entitled 'Reflect and Renew - Translating Theory into Practice' and will take place at Worcester Cricket Club on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th October.

We have brought together an exciting programme of Early Years experts and professionals to cover a wide range of important topics, providing a platform to reflect multiple perspectives to improve early childhood development that enables every child to reach their full potential.

This is the event where we move away from ideology, trend and whim and are brought together by harnessing sound evidence provided by neuroscience, translating this into great, achievable

Are you an early years' provider with challenges in recruiting staff, looking for ways to grow people into your organisation? Traineeships can help...

Worcestershire County Council is proud to announce the new traineeship program. This is a chance for young people to gain experience and broaden their skillset before heading into an apprenticeship or workplace and at the same time supporting our early years sector to a wider pool of young people to recruit from.

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This can lead onto working in an early years' setting and undertaking an apprenticeship and therefore support more young people entering the early years sector.

The National Children's Bureau (NCB) is the national delivery partner for the Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs programme, working on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). The programme aims to support early years settings to address the impact of the pandemic on young children, by sharing effective practice and building lasting local networks.

Existing, well-established early years settings can apply to become Stronger Practice Hubs from today and will support other settings in their area to adopt evidence-based practice improvements. Applications will be open to settings until 23 September 2022. NCB welcomes early applications (although these will not be considered any differently) and the recruitment and selection process will begin on first receipt of the first applications. All applications submitted by the deadline will be considered.

Successful settings will be selected by mid-October and those settings will begin operating as Hubs in November.

For any other queries about Stronger Practice Hubs, please email [NCB's Stronger Practice Hubs team](#). To nominate your local authority contact, please use the Early Years inbox eycc@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk and state FAO EY Improvement Advisers.

The Department for Education is seeking views to

The next Ofsted Big Conversation will be held at the Childcare Expo in Coventry on Saturday 24th September 2022. It provides an opportunity to hear about all the latest Ofsted updates and news. It will also be live streamed for those who can't make it in person. Please see attached flyer.

The event link is <https://wmobcexpo22.eventbrite.co.uk/>

EYFS Reform: One year on, lessons learned and future directions.

Thursday 6 October 2022 9.30-12.30

A year after the revised EYFS was implemented, let us all consider:

- What we have we learned?
- How do we consolidate and embed effective and impactful practice as a result?
- What has been the impact on practice and provision?
- Where do we go next? EYFS and shaping a new future

Speakers:

- **Julian Grenier** (Headteacher Sheringham Nursery School & Children's Centre, Director East London Research School)
- **Jan Dubiel** (ECEC adviser, consultant, trainer, writer & thinker)
- **Gill Jones** (Ofsted)
- **Alison Hughes** (Primary Director, Inspiration Trust MAT)
- **Louisa Archer Hill, Lorna Davies** (Warrington Council)
- **Susie Owen**, DfE Early Years and Schools Group

Who is the conference for?

- LA EY and childcare teams
- Schools
- Early years and childcare providers and practitioners of all types
- Stakeholder, partner and membership organisations

Book your FREE place now: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/eyfs-reform-one-year-on-lessons-learned-and-future-directions-tickets-395781712757>

Providers, partners and stakeholders – all are welcome.

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When did you last check your details on the [Worcestershire Childcare Search](#)? Are the details still accurate or do they need updating?

If you can't find your setting on a search in your locality, we don't currently have consent to advertise you.

To update your details and to give consent for us to provide them to parents and carers:

- Log onto the [Provider Portal](#)
- Click on **ME** (top left of the screen) and select **CH / PD**
- Click on **Form** and select **My Details**

This Introduction to the role of the Early Years & Childcare Designated Safeguarding Lead has been specifically developed to support DSL and Deputy DSL's who are **new to the role** or have stepped up to undertake this responsibility **within the last 12 months**.

This course should be completed before undertaking the full 6 hour DSL course; however we appreciate this may not be possible so should be completed within the first 12 months of stepping up to become the DSL or Deputy DSL. This course only needs to be completed once whereas the 6 hour DSL course is undertaken yearly.

During the three-hour session delegates will gain:

- An overview of the legislation and statutory guidance relating specifically to the role of the DSL, and to safeguarding and child protection more broadly.
- Information on different forms of abuse that may be encountered, and their possible signs and causes.
- An understanding of information sharing, consent and record keeping.
- An introduction to the processes and procedures used within safeguarding and child protection, including the Worcestershire Levels of Need document.

Cost: FREE

- 28 September 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code TBC
- 15 December 2022, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code TBC
- 20 March 2023, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code TBC

How to book

- Due to the transition to the new booking system please email workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk stating which course date and who is to be booked along with their email address.
- Confirmations and pre-course materials will be sent at the point of booking.
- Once the new system is live bookings will be transferred in for certification

The Family Front Door have audited the experiences of 30 children who were referred to Family Front Door for support at Level 4 but where the outcome was that needs could be best met at either Level 1 or Level 2. They have produced a poster to help identify what is working well and where improvements can be made.

(Please see attached)

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We would like to remind early years settings that the best way to receive information regarding early years related products for example the Safeguarding Self-assessment, training, conferences, events, launches, offers and updates is to join the Early Years Mailing list. The mailing list is managed in line with current GDPR guidance, and you are fully in control of what information you receive based upon topics you select.

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Looking to improve your parent partnerships? Look no further! Our free guide includes expert advice from Sue Cowley and Sue Asquith, and case studies about what really works in settings.

[Free Guide: Parent partnerships | Family](#)

In this guide for you to share with parents, Sue Allingham explains the Characteristics of Effective learning, as well as how families can support and watch out for them at home.

[Parent Guide: Characteristics of Effective Learning | Family](#)

Early Years nurture consultant Sonia Maintstone-Cotton explains how we can support children to feel listened to by tuning in to how they're communicating with their behaviour. And, why it matters so much that we do.

[Listen to children in the Early Years | Family](#)

Early Years lecturer Wendy Geens gives us an introduction to self-regulation. She covers changing how we understand children's behaviour, how to support the development of self-regulation, and helping parents do the same.

[The Family Interview: Wendy Geens | Family](#)

The Early Intervention Foundation have launched a new resource, the Early Years Library, a compilation of evidence-informed skills and practices to support children's cognitive and social emotional development. The Early Years Library is designed to help early childhood education practitioners support young children's development and essential skills for life. It describes the key skills relating to their cognitive and social-emotional development and provides a comprehensive set of low-burden strategies and activities which can be integrated into everyday practice.

[Early Years Library | Early Intervention Foundation \(eif.org.uk\)](https://www.eif.org.uk/early-years-library)

A range of easy-to-deliver resources from the National Literacy Trust which are designed to help