



**Early Years Team**

Email: [eycc@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:eycc@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

Tel: 01905 844048

Our Ref: EYB200

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## Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to this weeks e-bulletin which shares some important leadership news within the Early Years team.

We wish Ian Morris farewell as he moves to pastures new and are delighted to share with you that this role will now fall within the responsibilities of Becky White and Nicky Burford for an interim period. Their new roles will now be:

**Nicky Burford:** Early Years Strategic Lead: Sufficiency, Funding and Quality

**Becky White:** Early Years Strategic Lead: Inclusion

Both Becky and Nicky are well known across the Early years sector and will have a positive impact on the delivery of our early years agenda.

In addition, we signpost you to some useful tools to support you in the amazing work that you do.

Best regards,

The Early Years Team



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## Early Years Bulletin: Business Support

### An update on the new Energy Bill Relief Scheme

All early year's settings, schools, and colleges will benefit from a new government Energy Bill Relief Scheme, providing a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic customers. This support will be equivalent to the Energy Price Guarantee put in place for households. Equivalent support will also be provided for non-domestic consumers who use heating oil or alternative fuels instead of gas. Further detail on this will be announced shortly.

The scheme will run for all businesses and non-domestic customers, including public sector organisations, and apply to energy usage from Saturday 1 October 2022 to Friday 31 March 2023.

The Energy Bill Relief Scheme will set a Support Wholesale Price for the wholesale cost of energy, limiting the amount customers can be charged for gas and electricity. This is expected to be £211 per MWh for electricity and £75 per MWh for gas, less than half the wholesale prices anticipated this winter. The level of price reduction for each customer will vary depending on their contract type and circumstances.

As with the Energy Price Guarantee for households, customers do not need to take action or apply to the scheme to access the support. Support (in the form of a p/kWh discount) will automatically be applied to bills. The savings will be first seen in October bills, which are typically received in November.

After three months, there will be a review into the operation of the scheme, to inform decisions on further support after March 2023. This will focus on identifying the most vulnerable non-domestic customers and how the government will continue assisting them with energy costs.

Further details of the support and how it will benefit customers can be found in the [press notice](#) and [GOV.UK explainer](#).

We continue to work with colleagues across government to ensure that all elements of the childcare market are supported. We will share specific details around these arrangements shortly.

## Early Years Bulletin: News from the Inclusion team

The inclusion team would like to remind the sector of the free webinars available on Worcestershire children first website.

### [Introduction to the Early Years Pre-School Forum - YouTube](#)

View this free webinar explaining the role and responsibilities of the Worcestershire Pre-School Forum; a multi-agency meeting that monitors the progress of early years children with additional needs within Worcestershire. Area SENCO Sharon Andrews presents the webinar which has been created for Early Years settings and parents.

### [Inclusion funding available to support early years children – parent/carers/SENCo's - YouTube](#)

A webinar for parent, carers, SENCO's and Childminders - providing an overview of the inclusion funding available to support children with additional needs within early years settings. Additional information is available:

Overview of Graduated Response levels:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/WCFEducationServices/download/downloads/id/157/wcf-local-inclusion-fund-overview-of-gr-levels> (l)44p Td(t(of)Tj0 Tc 0 Tw 0.83 0ay2 0.0 (the)13 ( i)4 (nc)5T Tc 0.003 T

## Early Years Bulletin: Training news

### Safeguarding Training

#### **New Early Years and Childcare Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Introduction to the role**

The Introduction to the role of the Early Years & Childcare Designated Safeguarding Lead is a NEW course specifically for DSL and Deputy DSL's who are new to the role or have taken on this responsibility within the last 12 months and may / may not have completed the six-hour DSL course.

#### **This is a FREE course to support new DSL and Deputy DSLs**

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 Arratinee <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/child-protection-2021> and other related issues.

