

Early Years Team

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Early

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Early Years Bulletin: Worcestershire News and Reminders

Nursery Education Funding

Spring Term Eligibility Codes

Any new Eligibility Codes for families joining you in the Spring Term should be checked on the Provider Portal before the end of December; this allows parents time to sort out any issues before the term starts. **So far, only 45% of new Codes have been checked.**

Eligibility Code Start Dates must be on or before 31st December 2024 and the End Date must be on or after 1st January 2025.

Eligibility Codes with a start on or after 1st January 2025 are not valid for the Spring Term 2025 and families will have to wait until the Summer Term (1st April 2025) to access their child's funded entitlement.

NEF Rates 2025/26

On 10th December 2024, the DfE published Local Authority early years allocations for 2025/26,

Recruitment Reminder

Please don't forget that we can include any staff vacancies you are currently advertising via the WCF Facebook and LinkedIn pages. Please email ChSComms@worcestershire.gov.uk

Best Start in Life: The prime areas of learning and what our research means for childminders

Ofsted are delivering a webinar, specifically for childminders, to discuss:

- The importance of the prime areas of learning
- What a curriculum is for the prime areas
- How we look at the prime areas on inspection
- The top 10 takeaway points from our research

The webinar is being held on Monday 16th December 7pm – 8pm. Places must be booked in advance: [Register to attend](#)

Support for parents to access their child's UK eVisa

The UK Government is replacing physical immigration documents with eVisas, a digital proof of immigration status.

Early Years Bulletin: Out of School Provision

Breakfast Club Early Adopters

The DfE have now opened applications for schools with primary-aged pupils to apply to become an early adopter of the universal free breakfast club programme. From April 2025, up to 750 schools will be funded to provide access to a free, universal breakfast club lasting at least 30 minutes that includes food. Early adopter schools will be central to shaping plans for national rollout.

[Applications](#) are being accepted until Friday 20th

Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding

Grant Funding for Trauma Kits

Early Years Bulletin: News from the Inclusion Team

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Early Years Inclusion Team.

Welcome to Louise Oland

I would like to introduce myself as Interim Principal Educational Psychologist and Head of Inclusion Support Services, from January, when Louisa Jones will be leaving Worcestershire County Council and taking up a promoted post in another Local Authority. Louisa will be missed and has made a significant positive impact on the Early Years since being in post.

I will follow Louisa's lead and be continuing the work she has started. I look forward to working with you all, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on:
loland@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Early Years SEND Training, Webcasts and Support

We are looking to evaluate the effectiveness and usefulness of Worcestershire County Council Inclusion Support Service training and webcasts, and as part of this, we are asking for **early years settings/providers** to complete the following survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/XJGSDJd1uq>

We ask that this survey is completed by **Thursday 23rd January** so we can collate and evaluate responses.

Thank you in advance for your time and participation in helping us to improve our training, webcasts and written advice/support sheets.

Early Years Inclusion Team Helpline

The Early Years Inclusion Team helpline operates:

- Every Tuesday & Thursday afternoon (term time only) between 1pm – 3pm there will an Inclusion Officer able to take your phone calls.
- The remaining times within the week, someone may answer, or we ask that you leave a voicemail for us to get back to you.

Inclusion helpline and answer machine: 01905 843099

Inclusion helpline email: eyinclusion@worcestershire.gov.uk

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for updates

Early Years Inclusion [website](#)

EY Inclusion Team Website

We have been working hard to revamp our website so that it is more user friendly following your feedback, take a look at our [Early Years Inclusion website](#).

EY Annual Reviews

We recognise there is a need for additional training about Annual Reviews in the Early Years (now thelr RG0.401 wttrs (o)

Early Years Bulletin: Training

If you encounter any issues when booking courses via CPD, please contact the Training Team directly via 01905 844420 or workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Early Years Update Meetings: Spring 2024

An opportunity to hear the latest Early Years news on policy, Ofsted and 841.9iiorcdwir(s)6 (nc)8 (t)10 (t)10 (h