

EARLY YEARS BULLETIN

AUTUMN 2018



Welcome to the new academic year! As memories of the long, hot summer start to fade we hope you might find a few moments to read this bulletin. This will help to keep you up to date with what is happening locally and nationally.

Please ensure that the contact details for your setting/school are correctly recorded on the Family Information Directory [here](#).

Local News

New Early Years School Readiness Conference

Have you signed up for our **Better Beginnings, Brighter Futures – Early Years School Readiness Conference** yet? Speakers include:

- Kathryn Peckham Author, of [Developing School Readiness](#)
- Ofsted – Senior Her Majesty's Inspector, Early Years. What Ofsted think School Readiness is
- David Melling – Author of [Hugless Douglas](#)

Places are going quickly so don't miss out. You can book through Step into Training course code EY523.

We look forward to seeing you on **01 November 2018** at The Kassam Stadium.

Oxfordshire's Children and Young people plan



We want Oxfordshire to be a great place to grow up and for children and young people to have the opportunity to become everything they want to be. You can read more about this in [Oxfordshire's Children and young people plan 2018- 2021](#) and [Corporate Plan](#)

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results

73% of children in Oxfordshire achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) by the end of the foundation stage. This remains just above the national average according to provisional data. However, in Oxfordshire we still have some way to go to help to diminish the difference in attainment between all children and those with additional vulnerabilities. We need your help to refocus our efforts to ensure that all children in Oxfordshire reach their full potential. There will be lots of information and events happening in the coming months so do remember to look at our webpages, toolkits and Facebook page to keep up to date.

Every Interaction Counts Training Course – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED CPD OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOOLS – Book NOW to secure your place.

The aim of this practical and thought-provoking training, delivered by A+ Education and the University of Oxford, for qualified teachers working in schools, is to improve language skills and personal, social, and emotional development in the early years, using a variety of evaluative tools, including the ECERS-3, ECERS-E and SSTEW. This is a five-day course beginning on Wednesday 10th October and ending on Wednesday 13th March.

For full details please see [Step into Training](#)

Early Years Tracking Tool (EYTT)

The EYTT has been updated for 2018 in response to feedback from local Early Years Providers. This includes new reporting tools to help you analyse your data especially in relation to different groups of children.



For those of you that use the Early Years Tracking Tool, we have a **free** drop-in session at Rose Hill Community Centre on 2 October, 8am - 1.30pm. This is an opportunity for some individual support, to ensure that you are making full use of the tracking and reporting features of the tool, in order to monitor children's progress and attainment.

SEND

Family Support Group For parents and carers of children with hearing impairment



This group is run by trained Teachers of the Deaf who have experience with babies and children with hearing impairment.

Ear mould impression making is available.

Everyone is welcome!

Drop in and join us for coffee, cake and discussion in a relaxed, friendly and supportive environment. A free crèche is provided.

When Thursday 9.30am -11.30am

Where SENSS Resource Base (HI) Central, New Marston School, Copse Lane, Oxford OX3 0AY

Contact Early Years Teacher of the Deaf ~ Alex Horlock

alex.horlock@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Mobile: 07584 909 524

Local Offer for SEND

A review of the [Local Offer for SEND](#) is on-going...thank you to everyone who has contributed so far – whether by e-mail, taking part in the on-line exercise or through group sessions. It really is important that we hear about what is working well & what could be made better.

Visit Oxfordshire's Local Offer (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer) and you will see some of the changes already made in response to your feedback.

National News

New Ofsted Early Years Pedagogy and Practice Forum

How do young children learn to read? What is the best way for them to develop physical skills? And how can early education theory translate into practice in the nursery, the childminder's home and the Reception year?

These are the kinds of issues that will be discussed at the Ofsted Early Years Pedagogy and Practice Forum, which will meet for the first time this autumn. Ofsted is calling for academics, practitioners and researchers to express their interest in attending the forum, which is an opportunity to help shape Ofsted's policy and priorities. If you are interested in being part of this more information can be found [here](#).

Obesity, healthy eating and physical activity in primary schools

Ofsted have published a thematic report on Childhood obesity, healthy eating and physical activity in schools. You can read it [here](#).

Study of early education and development (SEED)

The latest in a series of reports from the Study of Early Education and Development (SEED), a major longitudinal study of early years education following almost 6,000 children in England from age two through to the end of KS1 (age seven), has been published.

The study evaluates the:

- effect of early education on children's outcomes
- quality of provision
- value for money of providing funded early years education to 2 year olds from lower income families

The findings of this academic study can be found [here](#)

SEND qualification specification

The Department for Education has published the [Level 2 Early Years SEND Qualification Specification](#). We will keep you up to date when we know more about this new qualification.

The DfE has also published the wider level 2 early years [consultation response](#) and level 2 early years practitioner criteria.

GOV.UK lists Early years latest documents

You can subscribe for updates here <https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/early-years/latest>

You can also get up to date news from Ofsted [here](#) including newsletters and their twitter feed.

Safeguarding Updates

Updated National Documents

[Working together to Safeguard Children](#), [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) for schools and colleges and [Disqualification Under the Childcare Act 2006](#) relating to **Disqualification by Association** for schools and childcare on non- domestic premises, have all been updated. Ensure any safeguarding documentation you have reflects these updates. Schools and settings on non-domestic premises are not entitled to ask their staff questions about cautions or convictions of someone living or working in their household.

It is important to note that for Childminders disqualification by association still applies.

You can read Nadhim Zahawi (The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families) statement [here](#) about the changes.

[Information sharing guidance](#) has also been updated as has Ofsted's Inspecting safeguarding in early years education and skills. This link includes a summary of changes to the Ofsted Document.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-safeguarding-in-early-years-education-and-skills-from-september-2015>

Neglect in Oxfordshire

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development (**Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018**). In Oxfordshire, neglect is the most common reason for children becoming subject to a child protection plan and is a common feature in the county's recent serious case reviews. It is recognised that neglect can be difficult to quantify, work with and improve. On the 23 and 24 July 2018 OCCs Children, Education and Families directorate had a very successful peer review on neglect, the findings of which will influence the work of the directorate over the coming months.

OSCB have created a Neglect Practitioner Portal to help you address this potentially fatal and developmentally disastrous form of abuse.

<http://www.oscb.org.uk/themes-tools/neglect/neglect-toolkit-home-page/>

They have also produced a short Video in which Oxfordshire professionals discuss the impact and effects of neglect and talk about how to bring it to light and successfully support the child.

<http://www.oscb.org.uk/themes-tools/neglect/neglect-practitioner-portal-videos/>

Parental Responsibility - Understanding and dealing with issues

The EYFS states that 'Providers must record the following information for each child in their care: full name; date of birth; name and address of every parent and/or carer who is known to the provider (**and information about any other person who has parental responsibility for the child**); which parent(s) and/or carer(s) the child normally lives with; and emergency contact details for parents and/or carers'.

The Department for Education has published a guidance [document](#) which explains about Understanding and dealing with issues relating to parental responsibility as recognised by education law, in particular in situations where parental responsibility can be confusing or unclear.

Not on my watch Pre-school Learning Alliance Publication

[Not on my Watch!](#) highlights the personal accountability of every member of staff in a setting, to ensure children are kept safe at all times. It does not replace existing policies and procedures, but builds on them to ensure that any potential risks are clearly identified (foreseen), appropriate actions are taken (planned for, and the safety of children remains paramount.

Health and Safety Support for Early Years Settings

Did you know that OCC's School Health and Safety Team can offer support to early years settings? For an annual cost of £275 you can access a range of services including annual monitoring visit with a comprehensive report; Help and advice throughout the year through phone or email; Help and guidance in carrying out any actions; Advice on outdoor play equipment and Site specific checklist for outdoor play equipment; In house Health and Safety training courses (including Risk Assessment, Lone Working, Caretaker, General Health and Safety); Access to our resources such as generic risk assessments, policies and procedures, indoor and outdoor checklists etc. For more information contact mobile number 07881 268195 jean.noonan@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Online safety

The NSPCC has launched a new page about online safety for children. You can find it here <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Ofsted EY2 and EY3 forms – essential information

It is important that the correct [EY3](#) form for childminders and other childcare providers is used to inform Ofsted about changes to childminding assistants, household members or certain people in organisations. Any new household members or assistants aged 16 and over and new committee members must also complete an EY2 form on [Ofsted Online](#).

School Readiness

Toileting issues are often a cause for concern as children start school. ERIC, the children's bowel and bladder charity have produced [Help at School](#) pages with information and FAQ.

Oxfordshire's health visiting team can also give guidance to families and practitioners. You can find more information under useful links>toileting issues <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/0-5-years-public-health-service/>

Self - Regulation

How good are your children's skills of Self-Regulation? Learn more on a new Step into Training course <https://oxfordshirecpdonline.com/cpd/default.asp>

Do you know who your linked Health visitor is?

Visit the [2 year old review](#) page for the most up to date information.

The importance of attendance in Early Years settings

Regular attendance is key for children to be ready for school. To find top tips for parental engagement and difficult conversations about attendance visit the School Readiness section on the [Early Years toolkit](#).

Do you use a Parent App?

Look out for the questionnaire that will be sent to you. The Early Years team are interested in how you communicate with parents.

Literacy

Preparing for Literacy Poster and Guidance Report

This is part of a series of reports that the Early Education Endowment Foundation is producing on the theme of literacy. It focuses on the teaching of communication, language and literacy to children between the ages of three and five. However, it may also be applicable to older pupils who have fallen behind their peers, or younger pupils who are making rapid progress.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/tools/guidance-reports/preparing-for-literacy/>



Bookstart

Don't forget to order **Bookstart Treasure Packs** for the three year olds in your setting.



For enquiries regarding registration and ordering for Bookstart resources contact jane.mason@oxfordshire.gov.uk marked 'FAO Bookstart Coordinator'.

If you are already registered with Oxfordshire Bookstart, and are requesting delivery of resources, please contact jane.mason@oxfordshire.gov.uk marked 'Bookstart' plus the name of your setting.

The Bookstart website has lots of useful guidance for early years practitioners on delivering the Bookstart programme. You'll find tips for making the most of Treasure pack gifting, as well as information on how Bookstart can benefit the vital work you do - from supporting EYFS objectives to forging effective links with parents and carers.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/bookstart/practitioners/delivering-bookstart/bookstart-for-early-years-settings/>

Maths

The Maths Hub programme is supported by the National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics and funded by the DfE. Maths Hubs bring together mathematics education professionals in a collaborative national network, each locally led by an outstanding school or college, to develop and spread excellent practice, for the benefit of all pupils and students. Find out more about local Maths Hubs on our [Free Early Years Toolkit](#) in the Maths section.



Training

The 2018-19 Early Years training programme offers a comprehensive range of high quality CPD for leaders, managers and staff teams. These are just a few of the courses on offer for schools, settings and childminders during the autumn term. Be sure to secure places for your chosen training by visiting <https://oxfordshirecpdonline.com/cpd/default.asp>.

- EY532 **Going for Gold** - Leadership and Management training for Settings
To support staff with a management responsibility to develop their leadership and management skills and ensure their setting achieves and maintains a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' inspection outcome.
- EY569 **Cracking continuous provision**
- EY531 **The importance of Communication and Language in the Early Years Foundation Stage** – for settings
- EY517 **Effective Induction**
- EY530 **Childminders - Are you ready for your next Ofsted Inspection?**
- EY541 **New to the Early Years Foundation Stage'** for NQTs, teachers who are working in the EYFS for the first time and teachers who would benefit from refreshing their Early Years knowledge

- EY567 **Making Every Interaction Count** - Language skills and personal, social, emotional development in the early years are two of the most powerful predictors of children's later success. This 5-day professional development programme, in partnership with A+ Education, will support schools in improving these outcomes by using research-validated tools.
- EY573 **Making Sense of Autism**
- EY578 **Identifying and Supporting young children with Speech and Language difficulties**
- EY534 **BEYOND Gold: Achieving excellence in the Early Years** - To support, inspire and equip setting leaders to provide outstanding early years provision and attain an outstanding Ofsted judgement at their next inspection.

You can sign up for course alerts to make sure you are informed of any courses added to the system later in the academic year. Log in to your Oxfordshire CPD Online account and click on 'My Account' and 'Course Alerts'.

EXTRA EARLY YEARS FUNDING FOR VULNERABLE LEARNERS

SEN inclusion funding

Where a 3 or 4 year old child (not in reception) with low level SEN or emerging SEN needs requires more than the school or setting can provide through their regular budget, the LA may contribute funding through the SEN Inclusion Fund at £38.50 per week. If the child would meet the criteria for SEN support then please indicate this on your termly claims.

Disability Access Funding

If a 3 or 4 year old child in your provision (not in reception) is in receipt of child disability living allowance, the LA can make a £615 per year additional payment for them to the parent's nominated provider. Resources bought with this funding can also support the child's home learning through loan schemes.

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/early-education-funding-children-send>

Early Years Pupil premium (EYPP)

Families who meet certain criteria are eligible for this funding.

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/early-years-pupil-premium-information-parents>

It's paid directly to the provider at £0.53p per hour and is currently topped up to £1 per hour through an additional supplement. Please encourage your parents to apply. Information about how to claim EYPP additional funding is available on the OCC website.

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/early-years-pupil-premium>

While not a large amount, it can be used creatively to make a difference through improved staff training, resources or support for children.

Find Ideas at www.early-education.org.uk/eypp.

And for Pupil Premium funding see <https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/pupil-premium> for further information and support.

Please ensure that you identify your children who may be entitled to these additional types of funding as soon as possible.

Ofsted



The following providers have recently been inspected and have received an Outstanding Ofsted Outcome. We congratulate them for achieving an excellent Ofsted report and ensuring the best possible start in life for the children in their care.

The Nursery, Rainbow Corner Day Nursery, Standford in the Vale Pre-school, Co-operative Childcare Rose Hill, Co-operative Childcare JR, Shelswell and Fringford Playgroup. Nicki Playford (Bicester Binky Childminding), Samantha Smith (Bicester childminder).

Ofsted are planning to run an hour-long twilight webinar for childminders on 13 November 2018, starting at 7pm. The webinar will cover updates on Ofsted, information about safeguarding practice, and other aspects of early years. Ofsted will be sending more information on how to register for this in due course. Ofsted are also looking to engage with members of management committees to promote their regulatory and inspection expectations and procedures and are planning to offer a webinar in the New Year for committee members.

Good practice ideas

Early Years Teaching Schools nationally have come together with Early Education to produce a bi-monthly newsletter to keep you up to date with all that is happening in Early Years education. It provides links to research, articles and publications that can save you time and effort in searching out the most current information from our sector. You can download the latest editions at <http://www.otsa.org.uk/home/early-years/>

A place for everything...how do you create enabling environments?

These examples are from Oxfordshire schools. Thank you to The Ace Centre and Larkrise Early Years. Please share any photos of your environments with the Early Years Team which we can use in future issues of this bulletin. Email your photos (without children in them please) to Early.Years@Oxfordshire.gov.uk



Kathy Brodie author of multiple books on Early Years childcare is hosting an online early Years summit on Leading Practitioners, Leading Practice from 22nd October to 28th October 2018. You can find out more at <https://www.earlyyearssummit.com/>

How to find us

