Welcome to the Early Years and Childcare Bulletin.

All information should be accessible through direct links, ensuring easy access and up to date information.

Please circulate this EY Bulletin to all staff and Committee members so that all EY providers are aware of new updates and key information, both locally and nationally.

The Northamptonshire EY Website is available for information on funding, the early years foundation stage (EYFS) and teaching resources and training.

Early years and childcare

To find us on Facebook follow: Northamptonshire Early Years Improvement Team Facebook
Bookstart

We are currently scheduling the delivery of this year Treasure packs to the Early Years settings and we urgently need all settings to respond to the request for numbers of children attending school this September to ensure we do deliver your free packs to you. If you have not had a request for information or have lost the email please contact us BookStart@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Free Bookstart resources are available to all children under the age of 5 and the support materials for parents and carers promote the importance of developing a daily reading habit with young children. Bookstart Baby packs are gifted through the health visiting team prior to a baby's first birthday. Bookstart Treasure packs are gifted through early year's settings during the year that the child is due to start school.

Bookstart Corner supports settings to help families with children aged 12 – 24 months and the programme allows settings to offer intensive support for parents and carers so that they can read together for pleasure with their children with confidence. All settings that sign up will receive a number of free resources to use to help them build on the work already carried out with families. Each setting also receives either 10, 25, 50 or 100 packs, containing two picture books and guidance materials, to gift to families.

There are a range of packs available to help children who need extra support. Whilst these packs would usually be gifted by a health professional settings and childminders can request these packs if the children they work with would benefit from them and they have not already been gifted to them. Bookshine for children who are deaf or have partial hearing. There are two packs: Bookshine Baby (0-2 years old) and Bookshine Toddler (3-5 years old). Each pack has two books, a rhyme place mat (with babies signing) and guidance around sharing books. The toddler pack also includes a bookmark showing British Sign Language.

Boohtouch for children who are blind or partially sighted. There are two packs: Booktouch Baby (0-2 years old) and Booktouch Toddler (3-5 years old). Each pack has two touch-and-feel books, a Bookstart Rhymetimes CD and booklet, and lots of guidance around sharing books with blind and partially sighted children.

Bookstart Star for children with conditions affecting their fine motor skills. This pack is available for children aged 3-5 who have disabilities that impact on or delay the development of their fine motor skills. Each pack has a copy of Off to the Park! (An exclusive touch-and-feel book from Child's Play publishers), a board book, a finger puppet for playing along with the story and guidance sheets.

There are also a wide range of dual language books to support children for whom English is not their first language.

If you would like any of these resources to help you with the families you are working with please do contact the Bookstart administration team at BookStart@northamptonshire.gov.uk

There are full details of all of the programmes on the Bookstart website as well as many games and resources for both families and practitioners at www.booktrust.org.uk
# Key Repeat Articles

## Changes to important MASH and partnership documents

**FAO:** All  
**From:** MASH Team

A series of improvements are being made to the way key agencies work to safeguard children and young people in Northamptonshire. It is vital you are aware of these upcoming changes and how they will affect you.

**The thresholds guidance has been re-written** to make it easier for professionals to apply thresholds in accordance with Working Together 2018. **Working Together 2018** is statutory guidance for multi-agency **working.** It exists to highlight the expectations of **working** with agencies in your local area, and on a national level, to keep children safe. The refreshed thresholds guidance can be found here - [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/thresholds](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/thresholds)

**The MASH webpages** have been updated to make it easier for partners and members of the public to navigate to key information when they have a safeguarding concern.  
[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/reportaconcern](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/reportaconcern)

Within the new webpages you will find **The MASH online referral form** which has been updated to align with the Signs of Safety model.

A leaflet for Parents and Carers explaining the role of the MASH has been refreshed. Please ensure you encourage families to read this leaflet should you make a referral to the MASH. –  
[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/mashleaflet](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/mashleaflet)

**These changes are part of a raft of improvements to the county’s children services following the recent Ofsted inspection, and are focused on early help and prevention as well as safeguarding. Details of further improvements will be communicated throughout Spring 2019.**

We are committed to safeguarding vulnerable children and young people in Northamptonshire and to making sure the safeguarding concerns we receive are signposted in the appropriate way.

These improvements will help to ensure **the right support at the right time.**

## Committee led settings support

NCC Early Years Improvement Team provide Business Support to settings that are committee led, and are happy to undertake a review of any committee led setting to support them with any further knowledge of Ofsted and other requirements that need to be met, and also to provide general advice where needed.

It is essential that all returns are up to date in the setting e.g. the submission of EY2 forms to Ofsted for new members to the committee.
To request a review please email: earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

Safeguarding

Message from the NSCB
From Monday 1st April 2019, the Business Office will only be accessible on nscb@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Any emails sent to nscb@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk will bounce back and not be redirected to our new email address.

Current Training Opportunities

New to the EYFS Stage for EY Practitioners, Nursery and Reception Teachers, and Teaching Assistants in PVI Settings and Schools

This one day course is for early year’s practitioners, teachers and teaching assistants in PVI settings and schools who are new to working in the Early Years Foundation Stage. You will have the opportunity to become familiar with the EYFS documents, identify the different ways children learn, reflect on how adults engage children in the learning process and explore effective parental partnerships through a range of practical activities and discussions.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Link to course description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD112</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>28/06/2019</td>
<td>9.30 – 3.30pm</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
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Supporting EY Providers with using the EY Funding Portal

The first training sessions covering the basic use of the EY Portal for new providers and a refresher session for current providers took place recently.

The bitesized session covered:

- Logging In and Passwords
- Receiving Portal Messages
- Entering the Headcount and personal details for children
- Submitting the Headcount
- Time to ask FAQs

Places are currently limited, and we are only able to allocate one place per setting to allow for as many different settings as possible to attend. These sessions will also support development of some detailed screenshots of the Portal workings and FAQ which will be available for all providers.

To register your interest, please email earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk and confirmation will be sent to you, if spaces are still available.
Working with parents to support children’s early language outcomes

This half day course is for early year’s practitioners and communication champions who are passionate about developing children’s speech, language and communication skills. It will give you an understanding of typical language development and the opportunity to explore factors that impact on children’s speech, language and communication. The training will enable you to discuss the crucial role of parents and will equip you with tools, ideas and strategies to disseminate as a training package to parents back in your setting.

Maximum of 2 delegates per setting)

(Participants to attend one session only)

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<tr>
<td>EYWFD114a</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>8th May 2019</td>
<td>9.45-12.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>EYWFD114b</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>8th May 2019</td>
<td>1pm – 3.30pm</td>
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Final Session - EYFS Profile Moderation Agreement Trialling and Training for Reception teachers 2019

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Training and Agreement Trialling is for practitioners responsible for the completion of the EYFS Profile. During training, exemplifications of national standards are used to ensure national consistency with regards to the principles and processes of EYFS Profile assessment and the accuracy of judgements.

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<tr>
<td>EYWFD113</td>
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<td>Northampton</td>
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Supporting children with SEND in a Reception class – Early Years

This is a new course for 2018/19, designed to support teachers and TAs who have the day to day responsibility for working with children who may have an emerging/identified special educational need or disability in a Reception class. The training supports practitioners through the early identification process and the graduated approach (Assess-Plan-Do-Review).

The course will cover developmental stages of child development and how this will support the small step target setting process for children who need to have their ‘next steps’ broken down into smaller steps. It will give participants the chance to review processes and procedures within their school in order to gain further support for the child and for themselves, as a practitioner.

Please note this is a repeat of the popular November 2018 training.
**Designated Safeguarding Lead**

This course is aimed at the designated safeguarding lead who is new into the role. This is not a refresher course. The course explores roles, responsibilities and knowledge needed to fulfil the role as a new designated safeguarding lead practitioner.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead Forum**

Building on the success of the forums held last year this forum will provide an opportunity for the designated safeguarding lead to network, receive updates on NCC , MASH, prevent duty and an E-Safety presentation.

**Early Help & Signs of Safety**

A two hour bitesize course designed to enable Designated Safeguarding Leads and Practitioners to explore the referral routes to accessing early help support. Delegates will hear all about Signs of safety methodology and learn how they can use the tools within the setting to support vulnerable children and families. This session is fully funded but limited to one delegate per setting and for settings who have not previously attended.
The new NIMP (Northamptonshire Inclusion and Mentoring Partnership.)
No membership fees – simple ‘pay as you go’ cluster meetings and focussed SEND training.

2019 NIMP Cluster meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kettering and Corby</strong></td>
<td>13/05/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attachment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Role of the Senco supporting the key person</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Trainer:</strong> Ellie Collar</td>
<td><strong>Trainer:</strong> Abigail Pearson.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Venue:</strong> Little Stanion Primary School</td>
<td><strong>Venue:</strong> Headlands Primary school</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Northampton</strong></td>
<td><strong>20/05/2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Daventry and the South</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Higham Ferrers and East Northants</strong></td>
<td><strong>04.06.2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Role of the Senco supporting the key person</strong></td>
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For cluster meetings book your place at info@nimp.org.uk and pay £5.00 per person on the night for your SEND cluster training.

**Focussed ½ day SEND training**

10/05/2019 **Applying for High Needs Funding**
**Trainer** Rachael Hutchinson
**Wellingborough Museum**
9.00 – 12.00

For the focused training sessions book your place at info@nimp.org.uk and pay £30.00 per person by following the payment details on the website.

**Solihull Approach Parenting Group Facilitation**

4th April 2019 9:30am to 4:00pm
**Northampton**
**Cost:** £167 per participant

This is a one day training course for practitioners who intend to run a Solihull Approach parenting group in a community based setting such as a Children’s Centre, health clinic, school or family centre. The Solihull Approach Parenting Programme is an evidence based parenting programme that is recognised by the Children’s Workforce Development Council and is awarded the national CANparent Quality Mark for parenting courses. It aims to help parents reflect on their own and their child’s feelings and how these can impact on behaviour. By so doing it aims to enhance understanding, improve communication and
perspective taking. This empowers parents and leads to more effective management of their child’s behaviour. The parenting programme runs over 10 weeks. It is suitable for parents who have universal to complex needs and children from birth to 18 years of age.

All potential Solihull Approach Parent Programme facilitators must have completed the Solihull Approach Foundation training and already be familiar with using the Solihull Approach in their practice.

This course is suitable for all practitioners who are a member of the children’s workforce in Northamptonshire.

NB: In order to run one or more Solihull Approach ‘Understanding your child’s behaviour’ groups for parents, trained facilitators will need to purchase a £91 Parenting Group Facilitators’ Manual.

For applying for one or more places, please visit www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/tamhs
Early Years Workforce Development Team (for enquiries about training and qualifications)
EarlyYearsWorkForce@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

For all questions about Free Childcare and Education for 2 Year olds and Free Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds and 30 Hours…

…Please click on the direct links below for the following information and documents.
Claiming Funding for Free childcare and education for 2 year olds and Free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds and 30 Hours Childcare

If your questions cannot be answered from the website, please contact:
earlyyears@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
For advice, or for open cases where the child already has an allocated social worker contact: Telephone: 0300 126 1000

Designated Officer (DO) referral process.
Please refer to the tea break guide on the NSCB website:

All referrals should be sent to MASH in the first instance unless it is a consultation and then it can be sent directly to the DO inbox. LADOREferral@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Settings can telephone the DO to discuss an allegation before putting in a referral.

The DO will be available for telephone consultations from 9-10a.m., an Administrator will take messages at other times.
Designated Officer Administrator - 01604 364031
Designated Officer Andy Smith - 01604 367862
Designated Officer Christine York - 01604 362633

If you have any issues opening a link in this bulletin, this EY Bulletin is also on the website.