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.

To find us on Facebook follow: Northamptonshire Early Years Improvement Team Facebook
News, Alerts and Updates for all EY Providers

Safeguarding - Safer recruitment check

Settings recruiting staff must follow safer recruitment guidelines. This is highlighted in various documents:

**EYFS 2017 3.9** - Providers must ensure that people looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their roles. Providers must have effective systems in place to ensure that practitioners, and any other person who is likely to have regular contact with children (including those living or working on the premises), are suitable.

**Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings 2018** - Early years providers, school leaders and further education and skills providers should create a culture of safe recruitment. This includes the adoption of recruitment procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might abuse children and learners.

How can you make sure this happens?

- Ensure all involved in the recruitment process are aware of their responsibilities.
- Review your recruitment policies and practices.
- Complete safer recruitment training - The EYIT team currently do not offer safer recruitment training but if you feel you might benefit from this please e-mail to register your interest. The NSPCC website has lots of information on safer recruitment and links to online training.
- Use the safer recruitment checklist found on the early years website.

Key Repeat Articles

Early Help in Northamptonshire has been refreshed

From 05/03/19 there will be an updated Early Help webpage where you will find links to new forms:

- **Request for Advice form** – Early Help Coordinators will then contact you with advice and guidance.

A new online **Early Help Assessment (EHA) and Action Plan** – these have been updated to reflect the Signs of Safety approach. All new EHAs will need to be completed online and submitted. This will ensure that all your early help support is recognised and recorded. The current form will not be available after 4th March 2019 and EHAs already completed on the old form won’t be accepted after 29th March 2019.

An online **EHA closure form** – this will ensure we have a record of when you have completed your early help support.

Don’t forget about British Science Week 8 -17 March 2019

Encouraging early years providers to run hands-on science activities with children aged 3-5 years
Young children clearly demonstrate a readiness to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) through their play.

Why not take part in the UK’s biggest 10 day celebration of STEM.

Last year, there were over 2,700 events reaching more than 750,000 children

The theme for this year’s British science week is ‘journeys’, encouraging children to think about the different scientific journeys that happen every day and how they can discover science through their own lives and experiences. In developing the pack they have looked at activities which break down the stereotypes surrounding STEM and promote cross-curricular learning. The activities allow children to participate in hands-on science, making observations and choices. Each activity comes with questions to encourage children to talk about and reflect on what they have done and how it relates to their own life and experiences.

The early years resource pack is a one-stop-shop for supporting you through British Science week and can be adapted or extended depending on the needs and interest of the children.

The pack explores:
- **Everyday Journeys** - Tunnel engineers, Slippery Slopes, Be seen, Be safe
- **Journeys Through Time** - Dinosaur Adaptations, Make a Time Capsule
- **Journeys Through Nature** - The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Make a Brain Hat

To download the pack visit: [https://www.britishscienceweek.org/](https://www.britishscienceweek.org/)

Each child who takes part in at least four activities from the pack can get a British Science Week 2019 Explorer Award. To find out how to register and get your certificates visit: [www.britishscienceweek.org/explorer-award](http://www.britishscienceweek.org/explorer-award)

**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.

If you would like a review please email: earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Link to course description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD112</td>
<td>New to EYFS</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>28/06/2019</td>
<td>9.30 – 3.30pm</td>
<td>£70</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Transitions for all children**

This half day course is for early year's practitioners, teachers, teaching assistants, childminders and early years out of school care providers whose role involve them in helping to support children through the transition processes.

You will have the opportunity to discuss the key principles underpinning successful transition for all children, including those with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) as well as examine some practical approaches to supporting a smooth transition for all children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Link to course description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD111</td>
<td>Supporting Transitions for all children</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>28/03/2019</td>
<td>9.30 – 12.00</td>
<td>£50</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information briefing session for Childminders**

This bite size training is for childminders who are supporting families who need extra help. It is designed to support practitioners with the referral pathway to targeted support and gives practical ideas and tools to use within their practice to support the more vulnerable child.

This two hour session is designed to enable childminders 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 their practice to support vulnerable children and families. This session is fully funded but limited to one delegate per childminder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Link to Course Description/booking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD104</td>
<td>Information briefing session for Childminders</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>20 March 2019</td>
<td>7.00–9.00pm</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Link to course description/booking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95c</td>
<td>01/03/2019</td>
<td>9:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95d</td>
<td>01/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4pm</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95e</td>
<td>08/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4pm</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95h</td>
<td>06/03/2019</td>
<td>9:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95j</td>
<td>06/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4pm</td>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>Fully Booked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95l</td>
<td>05/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4pm</td>
<td>Towcester</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95m</td>
<td>07/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4 pm</td>
<td>Towcester</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95n</td>
<td>04/03/2019</td>
<td>9:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD95p</td>
<td>04/03/2019</td>
<td>1:30 – 4pm</td>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EYWFD107</th>
<th>Early Years Portal Training</th>
<th>Northampton</th>
<th>Wednesday 6th March 2019</th>
<th>7.00-8.30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**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>Kettering and Corby</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13/05/2019</td>
<td>Attachment Trainer: Ellie Collar&lt;br&gt;Venue: Little Stanion Primary School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Northampton**

20/05/2019  
*Role of the Senco supporting the key person*  
Trainer: Abigail Pearson  
Venue: Headlands Primary School

**Daventry and the South**

25/03/2019  
*Role of the Senco supporting the key person*  
Trainer: Abigail Pearson  
Venue: Holborne House Day Nursery

w/c 10/06/2019 tbc  
*Attachment*  
Trainer: Ellie Collar  
Venue: Holborne House Day Nursery

**Higham Ferrers and East Northants**

12.03.2019  
*Attachment*  
Trainer: Ellie Collar  
Venue: Little Steps Day Nursery, Higham Ferrers

04.06.2019  
*Role of the Senco supporting the key person*  
Trainer: Abigail Pearson  
Venue: Little Steps Day Nursery, Higham Ferrers

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**

Solihull Approach  
2 day Foundation Course for practitioners who work with very young children up to adolescents in a range of settings.  
Cost: £187 per participant – includes FREE resource pack per participant worth £76, while stocks last.

5th Mar & 19th Mar 2019 – Northampton

*Please indicate whether you prefer a School Age or The First Five Years resource folder at the time of booking.*

The Solihull Approach is a nationally recognised and locally endorsed theoretical approach to working with children and their families that enhances team working within and across services. It focuses attention on promoting the emotional well-being and mental health in infants, children, adolescents and families.

The Solihull Approach draws on theories of psychotherapy, child development, including attachment and behaviourism, and brings them together in a practical way. As part of the course participants will view
video footage and discuss baby brain development. The model integrates the concepts of Containment; Reciprocity and Behaviour Management into a reflective model that informs practice. It supports practitioners in their work with children and families and helps parents and carers to understand their child. It provides a framework for thinking about children’s behaviour that develops practice and consistent approaches across agencies and within services.

This training is supported by the Northamptonshire Young Healthy Minds Partnership. The Solihull Approach is one of the Building Blocks for Mentally Healthy Schools at the Essential Foundations Level within the Northamptonshire TaMHS Programme. Certification upon completion is accredited by the Solihull Approach training organisation.

In order to maximise the development of the approach in your setting, a member of your senior management team should be (or have been) one of the staff attending this training.

**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](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/tamhs)
## Communication Channels

### Facebook Page Link

To find us on Facebook follow: [Northamptonshire Early Years Improvement Team Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/

### How to sign up to receive the EY Bulletin

If you wish to receive the Early Years Bulletin please complete this [online form](#). The contact details you provide on this form will only be used to send you the Early Years Bulletin and updates.

## Contacting NCC Teams

The e-mail addresses below will take you directly to the teams identified, so if you have a specific request e.g. training or a Funding enquiry, if you use the e-mail identified, you will connect straight to that team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Years Improvement Team</td>
<td><a href="mailto:earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk">earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>You can also e-mail this address if you need urgent advice from a Setting Improvement Contact within this team as staff will allocate your enquiry as soon as possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Years Workforce Development Team</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EarlyYearsWorkForce@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk">EarlyYearsWorkForce@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for enquiries about training and qualifications)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For all questions about Free Childcare and Education for 2 Year olds and Free Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds and 30 Hours...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>…Please click on the direct links below for the following information and documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Claiming Funding for <a href="#">Free childcare and education for 2 year olds</a> and <a href="#">Free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds</a> and <a href="#">30 Hours Childcare</a> including information on:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Funding Rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Headcount day information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Parental contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Funding information sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Provider calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If your questions cannot be answered from the website, please contact:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:earlyyears@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk">earlyyears@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The MASH can advise on whether a family needs early help or whether they meet the threshold for statutory child protection. To make a referral to the MASH please use the multi-agency referral form:

[How to sign up to complete the MASH referral form (Word 128KB)]

For advice or for open cases where the child already has an allocated social worker contact: **Telephone:** 0300 126 1000

**Email:** MASH@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk

### 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.