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
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.**

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### Key Repeat Articles

**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>
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<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>
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</tbody>
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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.

| EYWFD97e | Early Years Portal Training | Northampton | Thursday 11th April 2019 | 11.00-12.30 | |

**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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Link to Course Description/booking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD114a</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>8th May 2019</td>
<td>9.45-12.15pm</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD114b</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>8th May 2019</td>
<td>1pm – 3.30pm</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EYWFD114c</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td>9th May 2019</td>
<td>9.45-12.15pm</td>
<td>NCC Website</td>
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# 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>Location</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kettering and Corby</td>
<td></td>
<td>13/05/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Attachment</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Trainer:</em> Ellie Collar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> Little Stanion Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton</td>
<td></td>
<td>20/05/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Role of the Senco supporting the key person</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Trainer:</em> Abigail Pearson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> Headlands Primary school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daventry and the South</td>
<td>25/03/2019</td>
<td><em>Role of the Senco supporting the key person</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Trainer:</em> Abigail Pearson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> Holborne House Day Nursery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higham Ferrers and East Northants</td>
<td></td>
<td>04.06.2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Role of the Senco supporting the key person</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Trainer:</em> Abigail Pearson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> Little Steps Day Nursery, Higham Ferrers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For cluster meetings book your place at [info@nimp.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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 Improvement Team
earlyyearsimprovement@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk
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.

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 including information on:

- Eligibility
- Funding Rates
- Headcount day information
- Parental contract
- Funding information sheet
- Provider calendar

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.