



EYQI Updates

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Week beginning 4.12.2023

This week – Schools Early Years Network Meeting

The EYHUB network meeting will take place this week on Thursday 7th December.

We will meet after school at 3:45 at St Mary's Blackbrook Chain Lane, Saint Helens WA11 9QY

There will be tea and coffee on arrival at 3:45 and the opportunity to look around their nursery and reception classrooms.

The main part of the session will be led by Dr Rachel Blake, Senior Educational Psychologist and as always there will be the opportunity to ask questions and then talk and network. We will finish by 5:15.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Next week

Liverpool City Region and Beyond **Early Years Stronger Practice Hub**
Early Years Network Event on **Tuesday 12th December 4pm to 5.30pm**
At the Mercure, Hotel in St. Helen's, WA10 1NG.



If you are a childminder, work in an early years private and voluntary setting, nursery class in a primary school/academy or nursery school come and find out about the Early Years Stronger Practice Hub for St. Helens

At this early years network event, hear about early years information from the Department for Education, Education Endowment Foundation regarding Communication and Language and early reading. Also, hear about Early Childhood Education for Sustainability with links to communication and language and early reading. Reference will be made to:

Sustainability Matters in Early Childhood (on GOV website) [sustainability-matters-in-early-childhood-resource.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/644442/sustainability-matters-in-early-childhood-resource.pdf) ([ncfe.org.uk](https://www.ncfe.org.uk))

PLACES ARE LIMITED. We will have a Free Book Raffle as well as Free tea/coffee/biscuits. To book a place please email: SphHubNW@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk We will email you back to confirm your place.

We looking forward to networking with St. Helen's colleagues. If you haven't already please register to access our network information:

<https://www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org/strongerpracticehub>

Free SEND Training!!

NASEN are offering a FREE training session for Early Years practitioners:

The training session will provide practitioners with a thorough understanding of inclusive practice for SEND in Early Years settings, including:

- Responsibilities of a setting towards children with SEND
- The role of the SENCO and the Key Person in PVI settings
- The importance of the early identification of SEND
- What effective inclusive practice looks like
- How to develop positive relationships with parents and carers of children with SEND
- nasen's free Early Years resources to support you in meeting the needs of all children in your setting

Who would benefit from this training?

- Early Years practitioners
- Childminders
- New SENCOs

To book, please follow the link below

https://nasen.org.uk/news/free-early-years-training-now-available?utm_campaign=3333253_Meeting%20the%20Needs%20of%20Every%20Child%20-%20December%20Push&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Nasen&dm_i=2F68,1ZFYD,ACV8R6,722Y8,1

This FREE to access training is for Early Years practitioners in family hub local areas. The training session will provide practitioners with a thorough understanding of inclusive practice for SEN.

Winter HAF booklet.

Please share the below information with your families who may be eligible for the free Winter HAF programme over the upcoming holidays.

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/4060/Holiday-activities-and-food-programme>



Helicopter Stories

If you are not yet part of the Helicopter Stories or Tales Toolkit language and literacy programmes, there are still places left to start Helicopter Stories in January 2024. Please contact the EYHUB if you

would like more details or would like to register your interest – EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk

Childminder start up grant scheme!

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-childminder-start-up-grant>

The Childminder Start-up Grant Scheme is now open for applications at the above link. The Scheme will support new childminders by providing them with grant funding, worth £7.2m over the next two financial years, helping childminders with the cost of setting up their own businesses.

The Childminder Start-up Grants Scheme will be available to all new childminders who have completed their registration on or after 15th March 2023. Individuals who have previously been registered as childminders and wish to re-register into the sector may also apply for the scheme. There must be at least a 12-month gap between the date of their previous registration being cancelled and their new registration being finalised.

As previously announced, we will offer £600 to new childminders registering with Ofsted, and £1200 to new childminders registering with a childminder agency. £1200 grants will be paid in two instalments, with a 6-month limit on claiming the second instalment. Childminders must apply for the grant within two months of registering as a childminder, or within two months of the Scheme launching.

Please see attached the application documents, FAQ's and eligibility guidance.

Recruitment and Retention in Early Years feedback

Good afternoon,

As you aware we are currently exploring ways in which we can support recruitment and retention in Early Years. You may be aware that the following resources have been shared by the Department of Education (DfE) who are keen to receive feedback. They have asked to receive this via their email ey-recruitment.retention@education.gov.uk, but we would appreciate if you could also share any thoughts with us. This means that we will have the ability to collate your feedback and amplify your voice. Feel free to cc me in at [\[amy.fletcher@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk\]](mailto:amy.fletcher@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk)amy.fletcher@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk.

The resources can be found here: [Early years practitioner wellbeing support - Help for early years providers - GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/early-years-practitioner-wellbeing-support)

We would love to hear feedback on these resources bringing together information on:

- Benefits of investing in staff wellbeing in early years settings.
- Form case studies from four early years settings who have shared insights on best practice to support staff wellbeing.
- A list of external resources for early years practitioners and mangers.

Christmas Opening

The Early Years Hub is planning the opening hours during the school holidays 27 – 29 December 2023.

Could you please let us know if you're staying open?

Please complete this 10 sec survey <https://forms.office.com/e/499HxjXapa>

Mental Health for Early Years Children article.

Get information and guidance on how to support babies and young children with their mental health.

[Mental health for early years children - Help for early years providers - GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/mental-health-for-early-years-children)

St Helens Family Hub and Children's Centres - a consultation

St Helens Family Hub and Children's Centres have launched a consultation aimed at families in St Helens to hear their experiences and find out what is important to them in the development of the Family Hub Offer.

The consultation was launched on 6th November and will run until 5pm on 31st January 2024. You can find the survey [here](#) or by scanning the QR code below. It is also available on the Family Hub [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

We are also emailing directly to colleagues and partner organisations.

Family Hub and Children's Centre staff members will also be attending parent and carer groups both at our centres, and through our partners, to gain any feedback in person.

Please share within your networks via mail shots or social media. If you would like us to attend a parent, carer or young person's group, please get in touch at catherineellis@sthelens.gov.uk or jillhealy@sthelens.gov.uk to discuss ideas.

Please share with families using the wording below.

St Helens **Family Hub and Children's Centres** deliver services for families with babies, children and young people from birth until the age of 19, or up to 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

As a parent, carer, partner, family member or young person, you have the **experiences and ideas** to support us in the development of Family Hub and Children's Centres offer and we would like to **hear your views** about **what is important to you**.

Scan the QR or [click here](#) **Have Your Say** on services affecting families in St. Helens.

Deciding Together for Family Hubs
and Children's Centres



Priority - Action for all settings: Share your views in our consultation on introducing Minimum Service Levels in education

On 28 November 2023, the Department launched a consultation on Minimum Service Levels (MSLs) in education. The consultation aims to gather views from teachers, parents, learners, employers and other sector leaders as they all have a stake in the outcome. The Secretary of State sent an email to teachers outlining what minimum services are for.

The consultation will close on 30 January 2024.

We are aware of issues with the character limit on responses when the consultation launched. DfE addressed those within a few hours of launching. The consultation page has been updated to outline the changes made. All responses submitted before these changes are still valid, but people can submit another response if they feel it is necessary to fully express their views. We will set out how all responses before the changes were made have been incorporated into our analysis when we publish the consultation response.

Action for early years settings: Support our Early Years Educator apprenticeships campaign

We are continuing our digital campaign to raise awareness of Early Years (EY) Educator apprenticeships, showcase how rewarding a career in EY and childcare can be, and highlight benefits of the Level 3 apprenticeship.

We would be grateful for your support with the campaign and have produced a [toolkit](#) with resources for your promotional and recruitment needs. It will help you to:

- Support the campaign on social media - social media graphics can be downloaded from the toolkit for you to post organically, or you can amplify our posts via our social media channels. (Assets can also be printed and used locally).
- Share this toolkit with your stakeholders - please share this toolkit with your relevant contacts who may like to use the creative assets in their own recruitment activity.

If you have any questions, please contact external.affairs@service.education.gov.uk.

Action for schools and further education settings: Apply for DfE funding for Mental Health lead training

Good mental health is associated with better academic outcomes and is key to improving attendance and engagement in learning. This training develops your mental health lead's [knowledge and practical skills](#) to help embed an effective whole school/college approach to mental health and wellbeing. We offer flexibility to [choose the right course for you](#), tailored to your needs and experience at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels.

If you haven't already applied, [start your application](#) to secure your £1,200 grant, and join more than 14,000 schools and colleges that have already benefitted.

If you previously claimed a grant and your trained mental health lead left your setting before fully embedding your approach, [apply for a second grant](#).
[Find trusted practical resources and tools](#) to help you implement a whole school/college approach to mental health & wellbeing.

Action for schools: Last chance to be involved in a ground-breaking study on trauma-informed practice

The Youth Endowment Fund are funding an extensive trauma-informed practice training and support package over 19 months, for secondary schools, which will be robustly evaluated by the Anna Freud Centre.

This is a final call for schools across England to say they would like to be part of the study - if you are interested, please contact contact@kca.training before 11 December 2023.
[Find out more about the project and evaluation](#).



New page for Reception Completing the EYFS Profile for children with special educational needs and disabilities

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2023/11/completing-the-eyfs-profile-for-children-with-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/>

Information for schools: New Education Endowment Foundation guidance on Improving Primary Science

The [Education Endowment Foundation's new guidance report](#) – 'Improving Primary Science' – offers primary school science teachers and leaders six practical, evidence-informed recommendations that can support high-quality science provision for five to eleven year-olds. Each recommendation includes models, worked examples and suggested strategies to support in translating the evidence into practice in primary school classrooms.

PVI MS Teams Forum for private nurseries and childminders:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/channel/19%3a296c4d2f7039446a9e0aa281bd40e55a%40thread.tacv2/General?groupId=4f2a06e5-0991-4575-be27-b6cc16d97f34&tenantId=ef41c22b-1a60-4d86-a8bd-5d3a95f8abab>

Schools MS Teams Forum

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/channel/19%3a2589ee5f1bd043fdbb67bec3cd7d3b1c%40thread.tacv2/General?groupId=9e33e316-91dc-4469-94d4-36a4da88746a&tenantId=ef41c22b-1a60-4d86-a8bd-5d3a95f8abab>