

## Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Early Years and Childcare Update Meetings this week. As promised, a copy of the slides are available via the links on page 5 of this bulletin. The next Update Meetings will be taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May; please let us know if there are any specific agenda items you would like to see included.

Next month we have the Early Years DSL Forums taking place; if you have not yet booked your place, information can be found in the Training section of this bulletin.

If you need any advice or support, please email the team on [EYCC@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:EYCC@worcestershire.gov.uk) or submit a request via the [website](#).

Regards,

The Early Years Team

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# Early Years Bulletin: Worcestershire News and Reminders

## Nursery Education Funding

### NEF Hourly Rates

The hourly funding rates for 2026/27 were published last week. A copy of the letter can be downloaded from our [Google Drive](#).

### Statutory Guidance 2026/27

On Monday 9th February, the Department for Education published an updated version of the [Statutory Guidance](#), which includes the quality requirements under the new Ofsted Inspection Framework.

The Termination and Removal of Nursery Education Funding Policy will be updated to reflect the new requirements and will be published in advance of 1st April, when the new Statutory Guidance takes effect.

### Publishing Charges for Additional Services

Following an update to our Early Years System, there is now a section for you to enter the charges for additional hours and services. For settings without a website, this will enable you to meet the requirement to publish your parental charges.

After logging onto the Provider Portal, click on My Details and select 'Costs', which is next to the Census tab. You will then be able to enter the information for each additional service you offer, for each age-group.

Census **Costs**

**Costs for 0-2 years**

0-2 years  
2-3 years  
3-5 years

Cost Type*	Effective Date*	Unit Type*	Unit Price*	Notes	
Meals	31/03/2026	Per Day	£ 7.50	Breakfast, lunch, tea plus s	Delete
Nappies	31/03/2026	Per Day	£ 2.50	Includes nappies, wipes ar	Delete
Non funded hour	31/03/2026	Per Hour	£ 6.00	Optional notes (max 200 c	Delete

**Add Row** **Save** **Cancel**

## Early Years Update Meetings – Spring 2026

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Out of School Update Meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, which focused on supporting vulnerable learners.

As promised, the slides are available to download:

- [EY's Update Meeting Spring 2026 – Childminders](#)
- [EY's Update Meeting Spring 2026 – Group-based settings](#)

## Best Start in Life – Project Update

All Local Authorities have been given a target by the DFE to work with schools and settings to raise standards in Good Levels of Development (GLD) for all children and a specific target to raise outcomes for GLD for those children from disadvantaged backgrounds. As a community it is vital that we work together to achieve this by 2028. This will give the children of Worcestershire the best start in life. Working with colleagues across Public Health, Family hubs, School Improvement and the Early Years team, we have developed a range of programmes of CPD, support and guidance available to all schools and settings and will be rolling this out, shortly.

Schools and settings will be able to access support in a number of ways:

- Universal support through CPD, Power Hours, increased moderation opportunities, and a summer term summit (Early Years Conference) with national speakers. (Vast majority of these will be free to support all schools and settings to access materials)
- Targeted support – this will be a range of opportunities to support outcomes where schools and settings may face specific challenges or where a group of schools share a common theme of need.
- Bespoke support – targeted, individual support where schools and settings have significant challenges or gaps in their data. This work will enable those schools and settings to gain access to specialist support which is personalised to their context

Those schools and settings who have been identified for targeted and bespoke support will be contacted over the next few weeks and the universal support will be published shortly. Should you have any queries, please contact Jane Howard [jhoward@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jhoward@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Best Start in Life – Guidance for Early Years Providers

Designed to support early years practitioners, leaders, managers and head teachers in identifying the local and national support available to them in a quick and easy format, the 'Best Start in Life – Guidance for Early Years Providers' is available to download from [Google Drive](#).

## Consultation on proposals for Local Government Reorganisation

### PLEASE COMPLETE AND SHARE WITH STAFF IN YOUR SETTINGS

Yesterday (5 February), government launched a public consultation to gather views from partners and residents on how local government is organised and structured. The seven-week consultation follows the government's previous announcement we communicated early last year that it intends to end all remaining two-tier local government arrangements across the country. This is part of wider plans for devolution and giving more powers to local areas.

As you will already be aware, last year, Worcestershire County Council, along with the county's six district, borough and city councils were invited to submit proposals for a new structure of local government.

Worcestershire County Council, working with Wyre Forest District Council, put forward a proposal for One Worcestershire - a single unitary authority for the whole county. This would bring all local government services under one council, replacing all seven of the existing county and district councils. This would provide clearer accountability, stronger financial sustainability and simpler services for residents. The proposal is backed by a range of local partners, including organisations from health, emergency services, business and the voluntary sector, most of which already operate on a county-wide level.

An alternative proposal is also being consulted on by the government. This has been submitted jointly by Bromsgrove District, Redditch Borough, Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon councils and would create two new unitary authorities: one covering the north of the county and one covering the south.

Completing the questionnaire as part of the government consultation is a good opportunity for you to have your say on how the essential services you help to provide are delivered in the future. As you know, the County Council supports the One Worcestershire proposal, as we believe a single unitary council offers less disruption for residents, provides greater financial sustainability, better value for money and easier access to services.

We encourage you to share your views as part of the government's consultation, which will run until **Thursday 26 March**. For more details, including links to the two proposals and the consultation questions, please visit: [Local government reorganisation in Worcestershire - GOV.UK](#)  
A final decision is expected in early summer 2026, with elections for a new 'shadow' authority or authorities to run alongside existing councils planned for May 2027. The new council/s are due to go live on 1 April 2028.

## Reminder: Enhanced Early Years Provision Tender

The tender for Enhanced Early Years Provision in Redditch/Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest, Evesham/Pershore and Malvern is now open.

The intention is to deliver:

- enhanced provision for children whose identified complex needs make it difficult to attend mainstream early year provision(s) for their full NEF entitlement.
- enhanced provision that can support dual attendance enabling children to also access appropriate support within their local community.

For more information, please visit: [Enhanced Early Years Provisions | Worcestershire County Council](#)

The deadline for tender submissions is Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

## Reminder: Early Years Community Hub Spring Term

The Early Years Community Hub (EYCH) will be taking place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30 – 8:30pm. The focus for the evening will be: **‘Here and Now! Valuing and supporting the growth of confident and capable children’**.

Places can be booked via [CPD](#), using the Course Code 10529.

For more information about the EYCH, contact Early Years Improvement Advisor Sharon Jones [sjones20@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:sjones20@worcestershire.gov.uk).

## The National Year of Reading 2026 – Redditch and Bromsgrove

As highlighted in the [January edition](#) of the Early Years Bulletin, 2026 is the National Year of Reading and a wide range of activities are taking place to help reverse the decline in reading for pleasure.

In Redditch and Bromsgrove, the [National Literacy Trust](#) are actively seeking individuals who are already working or volunteering with pre-school children, families on lower incomes and/or teenagers, who are willing to add some activity to promote reading through 2026 with our support.

There are a huge range of easy actions you can take, from very small scale to more significant, and they have a small budget to help support targeted activities and resources which reach their priority groups. If you are interested in finding out more about how you can get involved in this way, please contact Emma Ritson, West Midlands Project Officer: [emma.ritson@literacytrust.org.uk](mailto:emma.ritson@literacytrust.org.uk).

## Recruitment Reminder

Don't forget, we can include any staff vacancies you are currently advertising on the WCC Facebook and LinkedIn pages. Ensure the information is written in a way that is suitable for social media – we can't use PDF attachments or include long lists of information. If you wish to make use of this service, please email [ChSComms@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:ChSComms@worcestershire.gov.uk) with the following information:

- Job title
- Location
- Hours
- Brief description of role
- Link to your setting for more information and/or details of how to apply
- Closing date

## Early Years Bulletin: National News and Reminders

### Screen Time Guidance – Call for evidence

On Monday 2 February, the [Early Years Screen Time Advisory Group](#) launched a call for evidence to help shape new guidance on screen time and usage for early years (0 to 5-year-old) children. This is an opportunity to provide evidence that will be considered by the advisory group to inform the development of the new guidance.

The advisory group want to collect evidence from individuals and settings with a wide range of knowledge and expertise.

The call for evidence is open from 2 to 16 February – you can [find out more and submit evidence here](#).

### Childcare Works Hub

The Childcare Works Hub for providers will be closing at the end of March 2026, at the end of their contract to support the Childcare Expansion and Wraparound Programme. The DfE are currently looking at how the resources will be made available to providers and as soon as we're aware, we will share the route with you.

In the meantime, we would urge you to access the Hub and download any resources you may want to utilise, such as resources to support:

- [Inclusive practice](#)
- [Staff recruitment](#)
- [Wraparound](#)

### Non-Sterile Alcohol-Free Wipes

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) are [reminding the public not to use 4 specified non-sterile alcohol-free wipe products](#) under any circumstances due to an ongoing risk of infection associated with their use:

- ValueAid Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes
- Microsafe Moist Wipe Alcohol Free
- Steroplast Sterowipe Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes
- Reliwipe Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes

Further information and guidance can be found via the following link: [Public advised to stop using some non-sterile alcohol-free wipes - GOV.UK](#)

## Product Recall: Infant Formula

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is asking parents, early years settings and other caregivers to check their infant formula against specific batches of Aptamil and Cow & Gate products listed in the Product Recall Information Notice published on Friday 6 February 2026.

As you might have seen in media coverage and on social media, Danone's recall has been issued due to potential cereulide contamination, which can cause illness including vomiting and stomach cramps. The issue only affects the batches listed in the [recall notice](#), in addition to the product included in Danone's [earlier recall on 23 January 2026](#).

The FSA's advice to parents and carers is that if they have any of the affected products, stop using them and switch to an alternative formula. If formula was prescribed, they should speak to a pharmacist or doctor before changing. If they have recently fed the formula to their baby and are concerned about symptoms, they should contact their GP or call NHS 111.

## Product Recall: Hobbycraft Giant Box of Craft

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) has issued a Product Recall to warn about a safety risk associated with the Hobbycraft Giant Box of Craft.

The recall relates to vials of coloured sand included in the product, which may be contaminated with asbestos, a banned substance that poses a health risk even at very low levels of exposure. The product does not meet the requirements of the General Product Safety Regulations 2005.

Consumers are advised to stop using the product immediately and keep it out of the reach of children. If the sand has been used, clean-up sites where the product was used using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves and a mask. Double bag the sand, gloves, mask, and cloths. Keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been used until the area has been cleaned.

Retailers and childcare providers are encouraged to share this recall with parents and carers to reduce the risk of harm and the recall notice includes instructions on how to either dispose of the product or return it safely to: [Product Recall: Hobbycraft Giant Box of Craft \(2601-0364\) - GOV.UK](#)

## Early Years Bulletin: Out of School

### Out of School Update Meeting – Spring 2026

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Out of School Update Meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, which focused on Inclusion. As promised, the slides are available to download:

- [EY's Update Meeting Spring 2026 – Out of School Providers](#)

As promised at the Update Meeting, the [Out of School Alliance](#) 'State of the Sector 2025' report can be found: [OOSA State of the Sector 2025.pdf](#)

### Free Breakfast Club Rollout

The rollout of the Free Breakfast Club programme is taking place on a phased basis. Schools with FSM levels above 40% were invited before Christmas to join the scheme from April 2026 and will join the Early Adopters who started in 2025. Schools who are currently signed up to the National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP) should now have received an invite from the DfE to join the scheme from September 2026; the NSBP will be ending in July 2026.

If you have received an invite to join the Free Breakfast Club programme and would like to talk it through, please email [Wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk) and we will be happy to arrange a conversation.

The Free Breakfast Club regulations are currently working their way through the legislative process and are expected to become a statutory requirement.

For more information about the Free Breakfast Club rollout can be found here: [Free breakfast club roll out: everything you need to know – The Education Hub](#)

### Reminder: Wraparound Funding

If you would like to expand your wraparound provision or open wraparound care in an area where there isn't any, there is funding to support your costs. Provision needs to be open at least 8am – 5:30pm to qualify, for a minimum of 3 days per week, with the intention of increasing to 10 hours per day, 5 days per week, as demand grows. The funding enables you to expand or create provision without financial risk.

If you have already received funding but have now filled your spaces or have demand for longer hours, you are able to apply again.

To apply for funding: <https://forms.office.com/e/6BmKjNF4BW>

To request support or further information, please email Sharon Jones or Nicky Burford via [wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:wraparound@worcestershire.gov.uk).

## Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding

### Professional Curiosity Briefing Paper

Crucial in safeguarding, professional curiosity is the practice of looking beyond the obvious, testing hypotheses and triangulating information from multiple sources to deeply understand a situation rather than accepting initial details at face value.

Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership have produced a briefing paper on [Professional Curiosity](#), outlining the importance in practice and some key things to consider.

### Safer Sleep Week 2026

[Safer Sleep Week | The Lullaby Trust](#)

**Safer Sleep Week 2026 will run from 9 - 15 March.** This is a national awareness campaign targeting anyone looking after a young baby. Throughout the week, the Lullaby Trust will share key information about safer sleep and raise awareness of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

The campaign's aim is to support parents and carers to understand the simple, evidence-based steps they can take to reduce the risk and help keep babies safe during sleep.



#### The theme for 2026: Baby necessities

In world with so many options, this Safer Sleep Week will focus on 'baby necessities' to enable a baby to sleep safely.

The Lullaby Trust has a range of resources for professionals, including:

- [Poster for Childcare Providers](#) – advice on Safer Sleeping in Early Years settings
- [Safer-sleep-awareness-for-early-years-settings-booklet.pdf](#)
- [Social Media toolkit](#) – assets that you can share with your families via social media

Information for parents/carers safer sleeping:

- [Caring for your baby at night leaflet - Baby Friendly Initiative](#) - practical advice to parents on looking after their sleeping baby both during the day and at night.
- [Your Sleeping Baby's Needs](#) - Animation to show families
- [Product-guide.pdf](#)
- [Stop smoking support | Worcestershire County Council](#) - Stop smoking support

## Head Teacher Safeguarding Steering Group

The Headteacher Safeguarding Steering Group is in place to:

- Understand and communicate the impact on education from the implementation of the Children's Well-Being and Schools Bill and changes in relation to safeguarding children with a focus on the education related elements.
- Understand and promote the application and improvement of preventative actions and approach to safeguarding in education
- Undertake and lead actions that strengthen community relationships and support early intervention and a multi-agency approach
- Understand and lead across the system the delivery of learning briefings from Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Quality Assurance and learning investigations.

The group has representation from all phases of education and Sam Barrett, Early Years Improvement Advisor, is representing the Early Years sector. Part of the role is to ensure that the voice of the sector is represented: if there are any safeguarding related issues/suggestions relating to the groups aims that need exploring/discussion, please contact [sbarrett@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:sbarrett@worcestershire.gov.uk).

## Message for Professionals: Please Share with Parents and Carers

West Mercia Police are offering a free online session for parents and carers to help them better understand the risks of exploitation and online safety for children of all ages. Please help us promote this important opportunity to the families you work with.

### Exploitation & Online Safety Session for Parents and Carers

**Hosted by:** West Mercia Police

**Format:** Free online event

**Who it's for:** Parents, carers, and guardians of children and young people

This accessible and informative session will help parents and carers build confidence in recognising risks and supporting their children to stay safe. It will cover:

- Spotting the signs of exploitation and knowing when something isn't right
- How to keep children safe online, including practical steps families can take
- The influence of online personalities and influencers on children's thinking, behaviour, and self-image
- Useful, easy-to-follow safety tips that parents and carers can use straight away

[Online safety \(Child exploitation\) session for parents and guardians Tickets, Fri 6 Mar 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

The session is suitable for those caring for children of any age and will provide reassurance as well as practical guidance.

## Early Years Bulletin: Support for Families

### Family Hubs Newsletter – Redditch and Bromsgrove Edition

[The Family Hubs Newsletter – Redditch and Bromsgrove edition](#) will provide updates on the wide range of services and support that are available to families.

### NHS Togetherness Resources

The Spring Term Togetherness update includes a set of free, NHS-developed resources to support children’s emotional wellbeing and strengthen parent–child relationships. These resources are fully funded in Worcestershire and can be accessed by families at any time through the [Worcestershire | Togetherness - Togetherness](#) – using free access code **PARENTSROCK**.

This term’s pack focuses on **big emotions, healthy sleep, anxiety, kindness and teenage brain** development. Schools and settings working with children and families are encouraged to share these high-quality materials with parents as part of our wider ambition to improve children’s emotional health and their readiness to learn.

### Workshops for Professionals

Covering common topics that parents often seek support for, the Family Hubs can deliver workshops to professionals that are evidence based and follow the Togetherness programme (previously known as the Solihull approach).

[Training for professionals - Togetherness](#)

### Potty Training Guide

The [Potty Training Guide](#) published by the [Starting Reception](#) collaboration is now available in 12 additional languages.

Toggle between languages in the top right-hand corner of the website or download the Guide in any language to receive links to all translated versions.

## Early Years Bulletin: Inclusion

### Early Years Inclusion Team Changes

We have had a change to staffing in our Early Years Inclusion Team. This has also resulted in changes to the area we cover.

We have been joined by Laura Greenwood. Laura joins the SEND Support Advisors (SSA) team and will work in the Redditch and Bromsgrove area supporting Annette and Sharon.

Annette Murray is working 3 days a week (Tues-Thursday) and all year round, Amy Rowley remains full time but is now also working all year round.

Annette has the overview of the Redditch area. Amy will now have the overview of the Wychavon Area and be supported by Jane Parsons. In addition, Amy will continue to have the overview of the Worcester City and Malvern area alongside Wychavon. Paula Stearman will support in the Worcester City / Malvern area,

Sharon Andrews continues to have the overview of the Bromsgrove area with the support of Laura.

Caroline Britton continues to have the overview of the Wyre Forest Area and is supported by Rachelle Erskine.

### Early Years Inclusion Notification Process

To improve the process and gather relevant information for children notified to the Early Years Inclusion Process, we have produced Microsoft forms for both the provider and the parent. These can be accessed via the internet.

[Early Years Inclusion Process Parental Questionnaire](#)

[Early Years Inclusion Process Provider Form](#)

### Early Years Inclusion Supplement Changes

Following the Early Years Inclusion Funding Consultation that took place in Autumn 2025, information about the process, criteria and funding rates for the Inclusion Supplement from April 2026 will be communicated shortly.

We are keen that the processes around these new criteria is transparent and communicated clearly, therefore we would like to invite representation from the sector to share their views at an online meeting on 26th February 7pm-8.30. If you are interested, then please sign up with your details at: [Early Years Inclusion Funding Conversation Thursday 26th February 7 pm -8.30 pm – Fill in form](#)

## Resource Package for Children with Complex Communication Needs in Early Years

We shared information about a new, free support package from the CCN Team in our December bulletin. This package is designed to help you support pre-school children with significant communication and interaction needs.

Available to access via [CPD](#) using course code **93026**, the package includes webinars, written advice sheets and the materials needed for implementation.



### Setting Spotlight

Meadows Nursery in Bromsgrove have recently redesigned their sensory room to incorporate opportunities for vestibular and proprioceptive input, so it is a little different. They have kindly shared their intent, photos and listed resources they have found particularly useful.

#### Sensory Room Description



Our sensory room is a carefully designed, nurturing environment created to support high-level-need children in exploring, regulating, and engaging through meaningful sensory experiences. The space provides a calming yet stimulating atmosphere where children can develop confidence, independence, and emotional wellbeing at their own pace.

At the heart of the room is a bubble tube, offering gentle visual stimulation through movement, colour, and light. This is complemented by a projector, which enhances the ambience with soothing images and patterns that encourage focus, relaxation, and imaginative engagement. A dedicated soft play corner gives children a safe and comfortable area to move, climb, rest, and self-regulate. This space supports sensory-seeking behaviour and encourages gross motor development while providing the security of soft, supportive materials.



To facilitate hands-on exploration, the room includes a foldaway mat for messy play and a smaller messy play tray, allowing children to explore materials safely and freely. We love incorporating Inspire MyPlay resources, as well as silicone resources and taste-safe malleable materials, ensuring all activities are accessible, safe, and engaging for children with diverse sensory profiles.

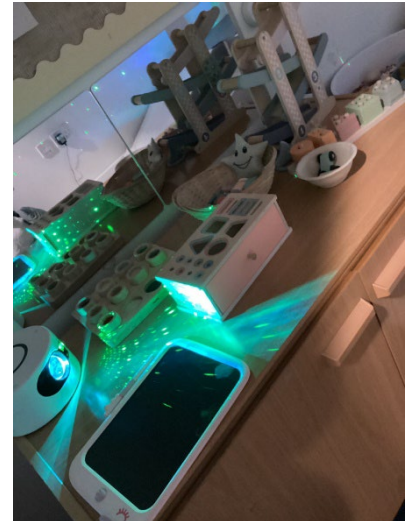


Every aspect of the room is carefully tailored to support schema development, with resources selected and arranged to encourage repeating patterns of play such as transporting, enveloping, positioning, rotation, and more. This allows children to follow their natural learning urges in a structured yet flexible environment.

Overall, the room provides a thoughtfully curated sensory experience where each child can explore, regulate, and thrive—supported by high-quality resources and a nurturing, child-centred approach in addition to accessing the wider continuous provisions and classroom routines.

Resources we feel have been useful:

- Large padded fold away mat
- Under Cupboard lights
- Projector
- Bubble Tube
- Inspire My Play Resources - Silicone
- Montessori posting boxes
- Click Clack Track
- Soft Play Corner
- Beanbags
- Sensory Toys
- Mirrors
- Stackers



Thank you, Sarah and Meadows Nursery.

## Setting Spotlight Contributions

If you have anything you'd like to share with a wider audience, please contact your Area SENCo. We'd love you to come and present at our SEND cluster meetings or in the EY bulletin.

## SENDIASS Free Transitions Training for parent carers

[The SEND Information, Advice and Support Service \(SENDIASS\)](#) have developed a new Transitions Workshop. The FREE Workshop, [Supporting your child to cope with change \(Transitions\)](#), is aimed at parents and carers of children and young people with SEND who will be transitioning into another phase of education within the next few years.

SENDIASS are looking for schools or settings that would be interested in hosting this workshop for their families and would be happy for families of other settings to attend.

If you are interested in this opportunity for your setting, please complete the [SENDIASS Training Request Form](#) and the SENDIASS Training and Development Officer will be in contact to confirm details.

## SENDIASS programme of support in Wychavon

### FOR INFORMATION AND SHARING WITH FAMILIES IN WYCHAVON

Our [SENDIASS](#) team have launched a new community-based programme, SENDIASS Connects Wychavon, designed to make Special Educational Needs and Disabilities information, advice and support easier for local families to access.

Running from January to March 2026, the programme will offer free training workshops, specialist advice drop-ins for parent carers, and youth drop-ins for children and young people with SEND. Sessions will take place in community venues across Pershore, Evesham and Droitwich.

SENDIASS recognises how important it is for families to receive support locally, and this pilot aims to bring guidance, information and practical help directly into communities. It is hoped that similar programmes will be rolled out across other districts in the future.

Full details, including booking links for training sessions, are available at:

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/SENDIASSconnects](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/SENDIASSconnects)

Please share this information with families who may benefit. A poster to share with families is available to download from [Google Drive](#).

### Programme overview

#### Pershore – Pershore Riverside Centre

- Transitions Training: 12 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins: 25 February; 16 March (10am–2.30pm)

#### Evesham – Evesham Library

- Guide to SEND: 26 February, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Transitions Training: 19 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins: 3 March; 26 March (10am–2.30pm)

#### Droitwich – Droitwich Library / Workpays (Victoria Square)

- Transitions Training: 6 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins (Workpays): 23 February; 11 March (10am–2.30pm)
- Youth Advice (YPA) Drop-in: 18 March (10am–2.30pm)



## Early Years Bulletin: Training

If you encounter any issues when booking courses via CPD, please contact the Training & Conference Team directly via 01905 844420/844030 or [workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk).

### Early Years DSL Forums: Spring 2025

Providing an opportunity to share good practice and to keep DSL's up to date with national and local statutory requirements. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet other DSL's and Deputy DSL's from across the County.

**Audience:** Early years settings including childminders, nurseries, pre-schools and out of school providers.

- 10 March 2026, 6:15pm to 7.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10400
- 12 March, 9:30am to 10:45pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10400 (Date change from 13 March)

**Cost:** Free

**How to book:** via [CPD](#) using your setting CPD leader login details and course code. Confirmations will go to the delegate email provided and include the relevant MS teams joining information.

### Play Matters: The 8 Principles of Playwork

During the course delegates will explore what Wraparound Care is, understand the value of play, unpick and dissect the 8 Principles of Playwork and how to implement them into their setting to ensure play matters.

**Audience:** Specifically for practitioners working with primary school age children in wraparound provision. Open to both schools and settings, including childminders, who offer wrap around provision (before/after school or holiday clubs)

#### Option 1

- 25 February and 04, 11, 18, 25 March 2026, 7pm – 9pm, virtual delivery

#### Option 2

- 22, 29 April and 06, 13, 20 May 2026, 7pm – 9pm, virtual delivery

CPD Code: 10583

**Cost:** Free - the training is fully funded via the National Wraparound Programme.

**Non-attendance charge:** When delegates do not attend, do not cancel in line with terms & conditions, and / or do not contact the training team on the day to explain their non-attendance, a charge of £30 + VAT per delegate will be applied.

**How to book:** via [CPD](#) using your setting CPD leader login details and course code. Confirmations will go to the delegate email provided and include the relevant MS teams joining information.

## NHS Healthy Start Webinar for Professionals

An information session to raise awareness of the Healthy Start scheme amongst professionals and how you can support families most in need to sign up and access free food and vitamins.

The webinar will cover:

- What is the Healthy Start scheme and how families can access it
- What are the benefits for families
- How can professionals raise awareness and increase the uptake in Worcestershire

**Date:** 24 February, 9:30am – 10:30am, virtual delivery

**Cost:** Free

**How to book:** [NHS Healthy Start Webinar - for professionals Tickets, Tue, Feb 24, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)