

Early years provider update email

5 December 2017

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New Early Years Menus

Congratulations to the following provider who achieved an Outstanding Ofsted grade -
Next Steps Nursery, Blaby

FEEE

The 0-5 service will be reviewing the funding allocated to providers for the next financial year. Although the funding rate from central government has not risen for the next financial year 2018/19, there is more money available as the LA passes on the savings in the reduction of the central spend that the LA is allowed by the DfE. We will be asking for your feedback during December on how this will affect the base rate.

30 Hours

As we start to approach the end of the autumn term we urge you to remind parents that they need to apply **as soon as possible and by the latest the 31st December 2017** for their 30 hours eligibility codes. Not all parents can get a code straight away – HMRC sometimes needs more information to check whether a parent is eligible and parents should bear this in mind when applying.

We also want you to remind parents who already have an eligibility code to reconfirm their eligibility for 30 hours every 3 months, so please do continue to communicate that important message too.

The DfE has produced a **new parent communications toolkit**, to provide further information to parents about 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare. The toolkit includes materials such as:

- Customer journey infographics for both 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare
- 'Top things parents and providers should know' Q&A
- A factsheet for parents on how they can use their 30 hours' entitlement
- Pre-drafted emails to parents and providers to inform them of the application deadline and reconfirmations

Government summary of business support available to childcare providers

The Government has produced a summary webpage detailing how providers can improve their business practices in order to develop and grow their businesses and respond to increasing demand. With the help of successful providers, a series of insights into business sustainability have been produced alongside other useful resources including:

- information on sources of income available to providers
- a directory of childcare business support consultants and software tools
- a series of childcare provider case studies

Funding has also been granted to develop FREE new business sustainability resources for childcare providers including:

- The NDNA Early Years Business Zone
- PACEY free online business toolkit for childminders

Training

New Booking form for training

A new online booking form for you to complete when booking training courses is being created and should be launched by next Monday. The new form will be pre-populated with all courses for you to choose from and replace the 3 forms we currently use.

In January we will be moving our training courses onto the Leicestershire Traded Services site. Full details and guidelines will be produced to enable you to log on to the site and search for the courses. This will be a two part change where we move all courses onto their own individual pages but keep the new booking form above. Later on in the year we will be migrating the booking form to the traded services site.

Training Courses now available to book

The new Spring term subsidised training courses are now available to book at <http://leicestershiretradedservices.org.uk/Article/25254>

A trio of events are mentioned below:

The Childminder pop up event: Attachment and Self-regulation Implications for Learning and Behaviour: ONLY £15

Saturday 3rd February 2018 at Beamanor Hall

This event includes a key note speech by Dr Janet Rose and two inspiring workshops which cover how childminders can support young children to become emotionally resilient and how childminders can support parents with strategies to develop positive behaviour.

Key note speaker: Dr Rose is now the Principal for Norland College and has over 20 years' experience of working in the Early Years sector both nationally and globally. She has a strong research background, including

the Attachment Aware Schools and Emotion Coaching projects, which have developed a comprehensive programme of support for children affected by early attachment difficulties, trauma and neglect.

The Big Conference: Only £15 to £30 per day

Friday 9th and Saturday 10th March 2018 at NSPCC Centre, Beaumont Leys

Held over two separate days in March, this heavily subsidised event is an excellent opportunity to hear from leading professionals and add to your continual professional development. The focus of the event is Speech, Language and Communication. It will involve key speeches, three workshops per day, numerous information stands, lunch and refreshments and the opportunity to network with other providers.

Completing the Jigsaw - Building a picture of the whole child: Only £5 - £10

Various dates

With many settings considering the use of 'In the Moment' planning, this short, yet practical, course will consolidate your existing knowledge of developmental milestones and will look at the skills children will need to ensure these milestones are met; thereby giving them the best chance of reaching their potential. The course will consider a child's basic needs, their lived experiences and a variety of other factors which impact both positively and negatively on their development.

Safeguarding

Procedure Manual Updates

The LLR LSCB multi-agency safeguarding procedure manual has been updated and is available for your reference [here](#).

Recognising and Responding to Abuse

NICE have published updated guidance on recognising and responding to abuse and neglect in children and young people aged under 18. It covers physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect... [look here](#)

Updated CSE Guidance

LLR LSCB have updated their page on CSE [click here](#) to read the new guidance and information.

Keeping Children Safe

The NSPCC has launched a children's services hub on the Guardian website illustrating how the NSPCC is developing new ways to keep children safe. [Follow this link](#) to read and explore the online hub.

Revolving door: part 1: are vulnerable children being overlooked?

Action for Children have published a [document](#) which investigates whether children who are vulnerable but do not meet the criteria for statutory support are directed to early help services.

Working Together to Safeguard Children Statutory Guidance

The Department for Education is currently holding [consultation events](#) across the UK to gather thoughts on the significant revisions to 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' – the statutory guidance which sets out what is expected of organisations, individually and jointly, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Button battery safety

Many people are still unaware of the dangers button batteries pose to young children. The batteries, which are often found in toys and gadgets, can be extremely harmful if swallowed and may cause severe internal bleeding and even death. Children under the age of 5 years old are particularly at risk as they may mistake them for sweets.

Always keep button batteries out of reach of children and if you think a child may have swallowed a button battery, act quickly.

- Take them straight to A&E or dial 999 for an ambulance
- Do not allow your child to eat or drink
- Do not try and make your child sick

Button batteries are often found in Christmas gifts and toys. In the build up to Christmas, please help us to ensure parents/carers are aware of the dangers. A [leaflet](#) and [poster](#) are attached to this Bulletin or for you to share with parents or display for them to see.

For further information:

The Child Accident Prevention Trust has advice on its [website](#)

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) also has advice on its [website](#)

Local News

SEND local offer

To ensure you have your own local offer in place and up-to-date please visit our [website](#)

Information and resources have been collated for providers. Find out more [here](#).

Support from the LA in practice

Read how [Maura](#) and [Katy](#) received support from the LA prior to their Ofsted inspections.

Childminders – if you are no longer minding please inform Ofsted. This will ensure you are removed from our contact and mailing list.

School transport consultation

Have your say on proposed changes to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) and mainstream Home to School Transport Policies.

The consultation is available at: www.leicestershire.gov.uk/school-transport-policy-changes

National News

Criminal Record Checks

The Government have [published guidance](#) on criminal record checks for childminders and childcare workers.

Budget news

The Government have announced that the National Living Wage will rise in April 2018 by 4.4%, from £7.50 an hour to £7.83 for all workers over 25.

Consultation: Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals under Universal Credit

The DfE has launched a [consultation](#) on a proposed approach to revising the Universal Credit entitlement criteria for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and Free School Meals (FSM). To enable a greater number of children to benefit from free school meals, the DfE is proposing a net earnings threshold of £7,400 per annum for a household's eligibility for free school meals. It is estimated that, under this threshold, an extra 50,000 children would become eligible for free school meals, compared to today's number of claimants. The DfE also proposes to use the same level of net earned income to determine eligibility for the early years pupil premium, in order to maintain consistency with the school-aged pupil premium.

Early Years Teacher survey opens

Save the Children has launched a survey to find out what barriers providers face employing an Early Years Teacher (EYT) and what deters staff and graduates from taking up the qualification.

It is inviting nursery owners, managers, EYTs and Level 2 and 3 practitioners to take part in the survey in order to give their views on the qualification and talk about their experiences. Take part in the survey [here](#)

The survey closes on 11 December. The findings will be published in *Nursery World* in the new year.

Early Years Menus Launched

Public Health England has launched their [new example menus](#) to help early years professionals plan healthy meals for children in their care.

The government has also produced accompanying infographics to go with the early years menus which can be found [here](#).

To coincide with the publication of these menus, Action for Children has published the [Eat Better, Start Better](#) guidance and supporting material, which have been developed to help early years providers and practitioners to meet the EYFS welfare requirement for the provision of healthy, balanced and nutritious food and drink.

**Latest news including the Fortnightly Provider E-Blasts can be found at
<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/elc-news>**