



Early Years Team

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Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Autumn Term. We hope you managed to find some time over the Summer to relax and recover from a very busy year, in preparation for the term ahead.

There are several dates for your diary contained within the Bulletin, including:

- Autumn Term Provider Update Meetings
- Early Years Inclusion Conference
- Early Years DSL Forums
- Childcare Expansion - NEF Briefing

Please make sure to book a space using the details provided.

As always, if you need any advice or support, please contact the team via EYCC@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

Best regards,

The Early Years Team.

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The Online Provider Portal is now open for your Autumn Term Actual Claims. **The deadline for submission is Friday 22nd September.** Headcount week is Monday 18th September to Friday 22nd September; notice must therefore be given by Friday 22nd September by any parent/carer wishing to transfer the funded hours during the Autumn Term.

As communicated on 19th July, a temporary supplementary rate will be applied to all funded hours during the Autumn Term:

Funding Type	Worcestershire Rate	Supplementary Rate	Total Rate Payable (as Part of Actual Payment)
Two Year Old Funding	£5.50	£1.72	£7.22
3 & 4Year Old Funding	£4.60	£0.33	

submitted the child record with all of the required Code details. If a family did successfully apply before the deadline, the Code will be honoured.

Unless you have received confirmation from Patrick or Hana, please do not offer the Extended 15 Hours to any child whose Code has a start date on or before 1st September 2023.

As we move towards April 2024, we have arranged an NEF Briefing for the end of September to highlight any updates communicated over the Summer and to capture any questions you may have about the rollout. **Please see page 9 below for booking details.**

Join Nurture Families for yoga, mindfulness, and educator community connection at Croome, National Trust on 16th September. Learn research-backed tools to manage stress, regulate your nervous system, and enhance your ability to co-regulate and attune with young minds. Funded for all early childhood educators by Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire, in collaboration with Nurture Families.

WHAT: Wellbeing in the Early Years

WHERE: Croome, National Trust

WHEN: Saturday 16th September 10.30am to 12.30pm

[Nurture Families - Wellbeing in the Early Years](#)

Starting Well have a flyer available for parents and carers that explains the Integrated Two Year Check process, including information about the purpose of the check as well as the different functions that health visitors and Early Years setting fulfil.

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The following documents have been reviewed and amended to reflect changes in legislation and to incorporate Early Years Operation Encompass and MARAC:

- [Safeguarding guidance](#) (formerly the yellow folder)
- [Safeguarding policy for group settings](#)
- [Safeguarding policy for childminders](#)

The [Safeguarding Self-Assessment Tool](#) has been updated for September 2023, including a new section focusing on the safeguarding of babies. The Audit is a reflective tool for settings/childminders to complete to review the effectiveness of safeguarding practice within your setting.

The NSPCC has published the document [Childcare Sexual Exploitation: Learning from case reviews, F74 0 TTT20](#)

The Department for Education has announced an expansion of the fully-funded, accredited Level 3 Early Years SENCO training offer.

An additional 2,000 places are available between now and August 2024, with particular focus on training SENCOs in areas currently underrepresented in training uptake, including the North East and North West of England. This offer is part of the early years education recovery programme and will mean up to 7,000 SENCOs will be trained by August 2024.

Existing Early Years SENCOs with a Level 3 EY educator qualification, or those due to take up the role of SENCO, including childminders, are eligible for the training.

To apply and find out more, please visit: [Early Years SENCO - Level 3 | Best Practice Network](#)

The Early Years Inclusion Team are excited to offer several free bitesize training webcasts on our You tube platform. These are aimed at Parents, Settings, and Individual Practitioners. The aim is to help promote good practice and support tricky areas of children's development.

The bitesize courses can be used as part of staff CPD and can be accessed on an individual basis or shared in staff meetings as part of a whole team approach.

We are continuing to add to the current list regularly, below are the live courses currently available

