



Early Years Team

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Our Ref: EY216

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Early Years Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! It's incredible how quickly we're already moving through the Spring Term.

There are NEF Briefings and Early Years Update Meetings taking place before half term, there is information in the training section of the bulletin regarding dates, times and how to book. If you are hoping to attend, it's important you book a place in advance so that you receive a Teams link.

We are continuing to update the Early Years website, please let us know if there is anything you feel is missing.

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

Best regards,

The Early Years Team

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# Early Years Bulletin Worcestershire News and Reminders

## Nursery Education Funding

### Spring Term Funding Checklist

Have you completed all your required actions for the Spring Term? The deadline for all of the following is Friday 19 January; if you haven't completed the required actions, please make them a priority.

| Task                                                                                           | Where to complete                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Submit Spring Actual Claim<br><i>(all NEF providers)</i>                                       | Online Provider Portal<br>Funding |
| Submit 'EY's Census' form<br><i>(excluding Maintained/Academy Nursery Classes)</i>             | Online Provider Portal<br>Forms   |
| Submit 'Sufficiency 2024 Schools' form<br><i>(for Maintained/Academy Nursery Classes only)</i> | Online Provider Portal<br>Forms   |





## Early Years Bulletin National News and Reminders

### Statutory Guidance Updates

The following documents have been updated recently:

- [EYFS Statutory Framework for Childminders 2024](#) summary of the changes for childminders can be found [here](#).

## Early Years Bulletin: Safeguarding

### Keep Me Safe

The [Keep Me Safe Strategy](#) was launched in Worcestershire in July 2023. It aims to provide consistent and coordinated messages to practitioners across Herefordshire and Worcestershire about a particular safeguarding theme to reduce the numbers of children who are seriously injured or die across the two counties. [Keep Me Safe When I'm Sleeping](#) is in place, with a range of resources available to support practitioners. [Keep Me Safe When I'm Crying](#) is currently being developed, but resources are already in place to support practice.

### Early Years Bulletin: Early Help

NHS-

## The Solihull Approach Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing

If you're interested or worried about your child's mental health and wellbeing then this course is for you. Parents/ carers can learn more about the importance relationships in your child's life to help shape their mental health and wellbeing, and teaching them important emotional skills they will use throughout life.

Parents/ carers can take this short course to help you to connect with your child and provide the best support to nurture confidence, resilience and empathy, setting them up to thrive, the FREE ['Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing' course](#) can help.

This short course provides an introduction into understanding your child, their feelings and how to nurture their emotional development. Parents can access this course for FREE by [visiting Place website](#) and using the access code PARENTSROCKg



## Do you know how to contact your local Health Visiting team?

The [0-5 Health Visiting team](#) are available to contact to discuss any health and development concerns you may have regarding your child until they start school.

For advice on issues such as feeding, behaviours or constipation you can contact our Telephone Advisory Service (TAS) line Monday-Friday 9am- 1pm on our 1 simple number: 01905 520 032

You can also book an appointment at one of our Baby Weigh clinics to check your baby's weight or Well Child clinics to discuss any concerns you may have or get your child weighed if over the age of 2.

[Download Baby Weigh Clinic Flyer](#)

[Download Well Child Clinic Flyer](#)

## Cost of Living Support

Cost of living support and advice is available for Worcestershire families this winter. For more information and to find out what local support is available, please visit:

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

[Download Cost of Living Advice and Support Leaflet](#)

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

## Early Years Bulletin: News from the Inclusion Team

### Early Years Inclusion Process

Have you visited the [Early Years Inclusion Process webpage](#)? The webpage contains information regarding the process and includes frequently asked questions (FAQs)

I submitted a notification for a child, and I did not receive the intended outcome?

Have you submitted a notification to the Early Years Inclusion Process where you have not received the intended outcome? In some cases, the Early Years Inclusion Process may have discharged a child earlier than expected. If this is the case, please submit the [Health / Provider Notification Form](#) including additional information in the 'Child's Voice' section.

If you have any questions regarding the Early Years Inclusion Process, please contact email at [eynotification@worcestershirechildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:eynotification@worcestershirechildrenfirst.org.uk) and include your name, email address and telephone number along with your query and we will get back to you.

### Early Years Inclusion Supplement Funding

The Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline for any new children for Spring Term 2023/24 applications is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024. All Inclusion Supplement Applications are online and can be found at [Online inclusion funding application process | Worcestershire County Council](#)

This funding is applied for once an academic year. Payments received begin the term which you have applied for, and will continue for subsequent terms, until the end of that same academic year. Payments will be received at the end of each term, in line with your payments for each term, and will be shown on your NEF statements.

Criteria is available in the 'Inclusion Funding Criteria' at:  
[Online inclusion funding application process | Worcestershire County Council](#)

The providers must:

- For both GR4 Challenge and Exceptional funding applications, the providers return the termly Inclusion Supplement Monitoring form. The monitoring form is available at: [Online inclusion funding application process | Worcestershire County Council](#)



## How do I contact the Area SENCo Team?

You can contact the Area SENCos directly on the details below:

### Shaon Andrews: Area SENCO (Redditch and Bromsgrove)

- Email: [SAndrews@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:SAndrews@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)
- Telephone: 07511 045590 or 01905 843 881

### Caroline Britton: Area SENCO (Wyre Forest)

- Email: [CBritton2@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:CBritton2@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)
- Telephone: 07511 045619 or 01905 846942

### Amy Rowley: Area SENCO (South Worcestershire)

- Email: [ARowley@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:ARowley@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)
- Telephone: 07858 687668 or 01905 643962

### Annette Murray: Area SENCO (Droitwich, Wychavon and Redditch)

- Email: [AMurray@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:AMurray@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)
- Telephone: 07759 523237 or 01905 643643

## Inclusion Surgeries

The Area SENCo Team will be offering surgery support sessions every half term. These are dedicated afternoon surgeries for Early Years SENCOs giving the opportunity for a 30minute meeting (currently delivered via the telephone). The purpose of the meeting is to discuss more complex Inclusion issues with an Area SENCo.

Open to: All Ofsted Registered, Early Years SENCOs/practitioners working with children aged from birth to five years old whether in a day nursery, school or with an EY childminder.

24/01/24 13:30-14:00 14:15-14:45 15:00-15:30  
13/03/24 13:30-14:00 14:15-14:45 15:00-15:30  
15/05/24 13:30-14:00 14:15-14:45 15:00-15:30  
26/06/24 13:30-14:00 14:15-14:45 15:00-15:30

Booking is essential as places are limited. To book your place you will need to add your name and number onto this [inclusion surgeries booking document](#)

Once you have booked your surgery session, a member of the Area SENCo Team will call you at your allotted time, so please ensure you are available.



## NEF Childminder Briefing

This is an introduction to Nursery Education Funding (NEF) for registered and prospective Childminders, including information about Statutory requirements and Worcestershire processes.

The session is specifically for Childminders who are interested in offering funded childcare in Worcestershire for children aged 4 years of age.

Cost: Free

### Dates:

- 1 February 2024, 6.30pm to 8pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10105 / 84510
- 26 June 2024, 6.30pm to 8pm, virtual delivery, course code: EY 10105 / 84511

