

Early Years Key Messages

1st May 2026

Please share Key Messages with all staff in your provision. Previous Key Messages available at: <https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/early-years-key-messages>

Provider NYEY Email Address

One Months Left - Dingley's Promise FREE Inclusion Training

Armed Forces Covenant Trust Grant Funding

NYC Best Start In Life Plan

DfE and the Lullaby Trust Safe Sleep Guidance

Public Health Protection Guidance

NYSCP May Learning Event – Independent Domestic Abuse Services

NYSCP - Working Together to Safeguard Children

Early Years Safeguarding Audit Tools

Early Years Guide to writing a safeguarding policy

DfE Guidance – Starting Reception

DfE Information for landlords: Childminders in England

Early Years Funding

Provider NYEY Email Addresses

Please can all providers who have an NYEY email address ensure that they are regularly accessing the email inbox. The Local Authority sends all communications to providers NYEY email addresses.

One Months Left - Dingley's Promise FREE Inclusion Training

We're into the final month when Dingley's Promise Inclusion training will be available free. The offer ends in June 2026!

Why should you and your staff do this incredible training?

- **Upskill your entire staff** in SEND best practice – **at no cost.**
- **Meet Ofsted requirements** around inclusion
- **Boost staff morale** by investing in their skills
- **Welcome more children** into a fully inclusive setting.

If you register before June 2026, you will be given a further time to complete the training!

[Training - Dingley's Promise](#)

For more information and how to register please follow these links [Early Years Inclusion Programme – Dingley's Promise](#) and <https://dingley.org.uk/dingleys-promise-training/early-years-inclusion-programme/>.

Armed Forces Covenant Trust Grant Funding

Early Years funding has launched through the Armed Forces Covenant Trust, giving early years provisions the chance to support children from currently serving armed forces families. Grants between £5,000 and £80,000 are available to help deliver long-term, positive outcomes for children under five. **Deadline to apply is 15th July 2026** [AF3: Early Years programme - Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust](#)

NYC Best Start In Life Plan

North Yorkshire Council have published their Best Start in Life Plan. Please share this with colleagues in your setting. [NYC Accessible template A4](#)

It can also be found on the North Yorkshire Council website. [Strategies, plans and policies | North Yorkshire Council](#)

DfE and the Lullaby Trust Safe Sleep Guidance

The DfE and the Lullaby Trust have provided guidance to help early years providers create and maintain safer sleep environments for babies and young children in their care. [Help for early years providers : Safer sleep](#)

The DfE has also published answers to Frequently Asked Questions to help early years providers prepare for planned updates on safer sleep to the EYFS statutory framework, expected to come into effect from September 2026. **Attachment 1**

Public Health Protection Guidance

The Public Health Protection Guidance has been updated which includes exclusion periods and when to contact the Local Health Protection Team for childhood illnesses. If a child has an infection relating to a sexually transmitted disease (e.g. chlamydia/ herpes etc.) that safeguarding procedures should also be followed Health protection in children and young people's settings, including education: [Health protection in children and young people's settings, including education - GOV.UK](#)

NYSCP May Learning Event – Independent Domestic Abuse Services

NYSCP upcoming May Learning Event on Wednesday **6th May 2026 – 12:00 to 13:00 with IDAS – Independent Domestic Abuse Services** - idas.org.uk

This session offers an overview of the support provided by IDAS, along with guidance on how to access these services, with a particular focus on the Children and Families Domestic Abuse Service.

To book your place:

- North Yorkshire partners (those with a *northyorks.gov* email address), please book via the Learning Zone. Search “NYSCP”, **Event Code NYSCP / 004**
- All other partners, book via NYES - [NYSCP Developments in Safeguarding. Online Learning Session - May 2026 \(IDAS; Domestic Abuse\) | NYES Info](#)

NYSCP - Working Together to Safeguard Children

The DfE has published an updated version of *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, alongside a revised statutory framework and new practice-support guidance. The NYSCP website has been updated to reflect the 2026 guidance and what it means for safeguarding partners and practitioners in North Yorkshire. [NYSCP](#)

Please ensure all colleagues in your setting are familiar with the updates.

Early Years Safeguarding Audit Tools

The safeguarding audit tools for PVI group providers and childminders have been updated and are available on the NYSCP website. Updates to the audit tools will be made to ones held on the NYSCP website when necessary [NYSCP](#)

Attachment 2&3

Early Years Guide to writing a safeguarding policy

The Guide to Writing a Safeguarding Policy has been updated for your information and use. The guide is available on the NYSCP website and will be reviewed and updated as required. **Attachment 4**

DfE Guidance – Starting Reception

Please share the following resources from Starting Reception with parents and carers:

- [Starting Reception website](#)
- [Starting Reception Guide \(Downloadable PDF\)](#)

Starting Reception is a free, practical online resource designed to support parents and carers in preparing their child for school. It offers simple activities, helpful advice and clear guidance on the key skills and routines that help children feel confident and ready for their first day. Starting Reception have also provided guides for Potty Training and Children's Toothbrushing. Children being able to use the toilet independently and having healthy routines such as brushing their teeth is an important part of getting ready for starting school.

- [Potty Training Guide website](#)
- [Potty Training Guide \(Downloadable PDF\)](#)
- [Children's Toothbrushing Guide website](#)

[Children's Toothbrushing Guide \(Downloadable PDF\)](#)

DfE Information for landlords: Childminders in England

The Department for Education has produced a letter for childminders to show to their landlords. The letter sets out what childminders do, the standards they must follow and how landlords can support this important part of the childcare sector. **Attachment 5**

Early Years Funding

<u>Early Years Funding</u>
<p>NOW OPEN – Summer Term 2026 Headcount</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Submit summer term headcount as soon as you can – Please do not wait until headcount week as you can always amend up until the deadline. ➤ Headcount week 18th – 22nd May 2026 ➤ Can only claim for hours children are registered and attending. ➤ Valid Parental Agreement must be in place ➤ DAF evidence must be submitted by Friday 22nd May 2026
<p>REMINDER – Websites and Charging!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please use the guidance Early education and childcare - GOV.UK Charging and Transparency 1.31 to A1.44 ensure parents are aware of your charges. ➤ Make your offer clear for parents by using DfE Charging Template here Chargeable extras template 2026.docx
<p>IMPORTANT – Changes to Your Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Changes to ownership or bank account contact EYFT (eyft@northyorks.gov.uk), ➤ Update any contact details on the provider portal as and when they happen
<p>REMINDER – Early Years Payments into Bank Accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please contact eyft@northyorks.gov.uk if you are contacted by your bank about fraudulent activity on the bank account that your early years funding is paid into.
<p>UPDATE – New Guidance Available on Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The following guidance has been updated and is available here Early Years Funding CYPSinfo Provider Timetable - Summer 2026.pdf Useful dates 2026-2027.pdf Early Years Funding Rates 2026-27.pdf

