



13/03/2027 09:30 - 13:30

Title: Early Years Conference 2027

Venue: Pavilions of Harrogate
(Please - report to reception on arrival)

Trainer: Elaine Broadbent

NYES School Improvement & Early Years

Early Years Conference 2027

Strong Foundations in the EYFS, Bright Futures: Supporting Every Child's Journey to Reception

Outline

Delegates will have the opportunity to be inspired by our keynote speaker, connect and share ideas with colleagues, explore the marketplace, and take part in engaging workshops offering practical ideas and learning to take back to their settings.

Description

Key Note Speaker: Felicity Gillespie - Chief Executive - [Kindred Squared](#)

Felicity is a regular media commentator on Parenting and Childcare. She was an independent member of Sir David Bell's Early Years review, commissioned ahead of the last general election. She has an extensive network and background in education and advises government ministers, departments and other charities on the importance of Early Years.

As Chief Executive at Kindred Squared, Felicity advocate for improving early child development and early years education, with the goal of ensuring every child has the best possible start in life. Kindred Squared publishes an annual report on the state of "school readiness" in England and Wales, and recently led a coalition of early-childhood-focused organisations to release the Starting Reception definition, The Potty Training Guide and The Children's Toothbrushing Guide.

Workshops and Marketplace

During the morning, delegates can take part in two workshops of their choice. Please select your preferred workshops when booking.

Delegates will also have time to explore the marketplace, meet exhibitors and discover useful resources and information.

Outcome

This year the conference will be themed around ensuring every child is reception ready, through high-quality interactions, a rich and exciting curriculum that meets the needs of all children and keeps them safe.

Audience

This course is only for North Yorkshire Early Years PVI Providers (Pre-Reception).

There is a limit of 2 places per setting.

Booking information

North Yorkshire PVI settings are funded.

Bookings should be made in the course delegate's name to ensure they receive the booking confirmation email and any supporting documents or links.

Please add any food allergies or preferences to the special requirements box when booking.

Please note: While this event is free to attend, places are limited. If you register but do not attend without prior notice, you may be charged a fee to cover the cost of your reserved place.

Programme

Day 1: Sat, 13/03/2027 09:30 - 13:30

Elaine Broadbent, Early Years Adviser

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate, Harrogate, HG2 8NZ

10:40 - 11:30 Workshop 1

- Best Start in Life – What it means for you?

The workshop will provide an overview of the Best Start in Life and Family Hubs strategy for North Yorkshire. Signposting to a range of supporting information, good practice and workforce development opportunities. Alongside the Healthy Early Years – Best Start in Life Award which provides tools and information to enable all Early Years settings to assess how well their setting promotes health and wellbeing and school readiness across daily routines, curriculum, and environment. By the end of the workshop delegates will be fully informed to enable them to make a future Healthy Early Years submission and demonstrate their commitment to giving every child the best possible start in life through healthy, active, and nurturing experiences.

Clare Barrowman, Senior Education Adviser (Health & Wellbeing)

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

Session Max places: 35 | Additional charge: No charge | Delivery costs: Not specified

• **Effective Safeguarding Record Keeping in the Early Years**

The workshop is for DSLs, DDSLs, Owners, Managers and Practitioners and will cover • EYFS statutory requirements

- Safeguarding records to hold
- Managing child protection records and files
- Retention and transferring of records
- Quality assurance and monitoring of records.

Joanna Conway, Safeguarding Adviser

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

Session Max places: 30 | Additional charge: No charge | Delivery costs: Not specified

• **Reception Readiness - Playful Maths**

This workshop focusses on the essential foundations of early mathematical thinking, highlighting the close links between pattern, problem-solving and mathematical development. Participants will extend their knowledge of the early skills that underpin mathematical learning and examine how children develop mathematical concepts through play, exploration and everyday experiences.

Participants will:

- Understand the early mathematical skills that support later achievement in maths, including pattern recognition, counting, spatial reasoning and problem-solving.
- Reflect on how their current provision promotes mathematical development through rich opportunities for exploration, investigation and pattern-making.
- Explore practical, play-based strategies that can be embedded into everyday practice to strengthen children's mathematical understanding and confidence.
- Examine approaches to support effective transitions and ensure children are well prepared for the mathematical expectations of Reception. This session will provide practitioners with practical ideas and strategies to nurture curiosity, develop mathematical language and build the strong foundations children need for future success in mathematics.

John Banks, Early Years Adviser

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

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- **Ready to Move, Ready to Learn: Physical Activity, Early Literacy and Reception Readiness**

This workshop explores the essential foundations of reception readiness, focusing on the close links between movement, communication, language and early literacy development. Participants will deepen their understanding of the early skills that underpin later reading and writing and examine how physical development supports children's ability to access learning in Reception.

Elaine Broadbent, Early Years Adviser

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- **Secure Beginnings, Successful Transitions**

This workshop will explore how practitioners can support successful transitions for children who may be particularly vulnerable, including those with SEND, children known to social care, and service children. Delegates will consider the importance of attachment, emotional wellbeing and effective information sharing, alongside practical strategies to promote positive behaviours and ensure children feel safe, secure and ready for their next stage of learning.

Lynne Kilford, Locality Manager

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

Session Max places: 35 | Additional charge: No charge | Delivery costs: Not specified

- **Are you ready? Exploring school readiness and the Characteristics of Effective Learning**

Whether or not children are ready for school often hits the headlines, but how do we practically support children and families during this transitional phase? This workshop will explore the term 'school readiness', reflect on how the characteristics of effective learning can play a part in supporting children and consider practical ways we can help children and families during this vertical transition.

Tasmin Grimmer, Author, Consultant and Principal Lecturer

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

Session Max places: 30 | Additional charge: No charge | Delivery costs: Not specified

- **Growing Great Communicators Early Identification of SLCN and Communication-Friendly Environments**

We will explore the importance of speech, language and communication skills as the foundation for learning, wellbeing and achievement, aiming to empower practitioners to increase awareness of children who may not meet high-need thresholds but would benefit from targeted support, exploring how early identification and intervention can help children build strong

foundations for future learning and success. Practitioners will develop confidence in creating communication-friendly Early Years environments that promote inclusion and engagement.

Jo Collett, SaLT Manager

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

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12:15 - 13:05 Workshop 2

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Kellee Osborne, Safeguarding Advisor

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costs: Not specified

- Healthy Eating & the Healthy Early Years award

Find out more about resources to support you around developing a whole setting approach to healthy eating and oral health. Explore the Healthy Early Years Award Healthy Eating theme and learn how to apply for an award North Yorkshire Healthy Early Years Award > Healthy Schools North Yorkshire

Clare Barrowman, Senior Education Adviser (Health & Wellbeing)

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- Beyond the Behaviour: Understanding Communication, Co-Regulation and School Readiness

This workshop will examine behaviour as a form of communication and a natural part of child development. Participants will explore how early years practitioners can support co-regulation and help children develop self-regulation skills

Lynne Kilford, Locality Manager

In-person | report to reception on arrival, Pavilions of Harrogate

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Further information

Price: £0.00 per delegate

Available until: 08/03/2027

Code: SI-0327-T024