

# Early Years Key Messages

14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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

## **Early Years Funding**

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## **Early Years Funding**

**IMPORTANT - NEW PROCESS TO SEND WEEKLY FUNDED ESTIMATES FROM SUMMER TERM 2024 ONWARDS**

Your payment in April will be based on Summer 2023 headcount actual hours, unless you provide an updated estimate using the new online form on this link <https://forms.office.com/e/5y2PrdZZHh>

Please be aware that last year's figures will not include the new Working Family 2 year old funding, therefore if you do not provide an estimate, you will not be paid in April 2024 for this new funding type.

***Deadline is 5pm, Friday 1st March 2024 to enable a payment to be made in April 2024.***

Full details were sent to your North Yorkshire email from Joanne Webster on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## **Social Care Contact**

If you have a child in your provision who has an open case with social care, please ensure that you have the contact details of the social worker who is managing the case. This is to ensure that, should you have any concerns or require advice, you can contact them. This does not change the standard referral process for making a new referral for a child you have concerns about.

## **Safeguarding - Worried About a Child?**

Please ensure all staff are aware of the process for making a referral for a child where there are concerns. If the situation is urgent, but does not require the Police, call MAST on 0300 131 2131 to make telephone contact and follow up by completing the universal referral form. Full details are available on the NYSCP website where there are also key safeguarding documents including contact details and audit tools [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk)

## **DfE Clarification on Charging**

The DfE has clarified whether a change to the wording of clause A1.31 of the [statutory guidance](#) means that the policy has changed with regard to providers charging for meals, snacks and other consumables as follows:-

*“The policy has not changed. As set out in A1.36 of the guidance, Local Authorities should work with providers and parents to ensure that all parents, including disadvantaged families, have fair access to a free place, which must be delivered completely free of charge. The free childcare entitlements are not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables (such as nappies or sun cream), additional hours or additional activities (such as trips). Providers may charge a fee for these additions.”*

The DfE has removed the line regarding charges being voluntary to provide clarity. This was partially based on feedback they received during their testing period with a small number of local authorities, childcare providers and relevant bodies. If a parent is unable to pay for consumables or if a parent wishes to provide their own, then the parent and provider can discuss alternative options. This could include allowing parents to supply their own meals or nappies or waiving or reducing the cost of meals and snacks. As set out in clause A1.33 of the guidance such charges should not be made a condition of accessing a government funded place.

### **New Working Parent Childcare Entitlements FAQs**

The DfE has released a guide on frequently asked questions relating to the new working parent childcare entitlements. Please share this with your staff and parents. Attachment One.

### **Early Years Sufficiency Planning Officer**

Sarah Blake has joined the team as the Early Years Sufficiency Planning Officer. Sarah has a background of previously working in early years and wraparound provision.

### **Measles**

The United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has declared a national incident following Measles outbreaks in London and West Midlands. The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine. Measles is a highly infectious, serious illness that can be very unpleasant. Those most at risk are under 1's, the unvaccinated, immuno-compromised or pregnant woman. There is no specific treatment available, so it is important to get vaccinated to avoid serious illness. Parents should keep their child away for at least 4 days from when the rash first appeared and until they are completely recovered.

#### **‘THINK’ Measles**

If parents think their child has Measles or has been in contact in the last 3 weeks with someone with a confirmed case of Measles, they should stay at home and call their GP.

- **DO NOT** take their child to nursery.
- **DO NOT** visit GP surgery/ out of hours, or Hospital.
- **CALL** ahead to the GP surgery so measures can be put in place for arrival.

Children in provision who are suspected of having Measles should be isolated and parents contacted to collect promptly.

#### **Vaccination**

Parents can check their child's vaccination status by calling their GP surgery or checking their 'red book'. If a child has missed one of their MMR's, parents should call their GP surgery and book an appointment.

The MMR schedule is usually 1 vaccine at 12 months old and a 2nd vaccine at pre-school, around 3 years and 4 months.

For adults it's never too late to get vaccinated. Adults require 2 vaccines at 4 weeks apart.

MMR vaccines that do not contain pork products are available from GP surgery who may need to order this product specially.

MMR vaccine is not advised during pregnancy, those women of childbearing age should avoid getting pregnant for at least 4 weeks following vaccination. Pregnant women are advised to contact their midwife/GP surgery if they believe they have come into contact with Measles. Pregnant women who suspect they might have Measles should **not** go to antenatal clinic or any other maternity setting until they have been assessed.

Please follow the links below for further information and guidance:

- [Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- [Think Measles! \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
- [MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- [Pregnant? Immunisation helps to protect you and your baby from infectious diseases \(publishing.Services.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.services.gov.uk)

### **FREE Healthy Early Years Award training**

Please find attached details and dates for the Getting Started training for the Healthy Early Years Award. Providers who have completed this training find it has had a positive impact on their practice and they've been able to share this learning with Ofsted during inspection. Attachment Two

### **Speech Sounds Workshop**

The next speech sounds workshop is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 between 3.45pm and 5.15pm. This course is for both parents/carers and professionals who work/live in the Scarborough, Whitby, Ryedale, York and Selby areas. If you would like to attend this course please email [yhs-tr.childrenstherapytraining@nhs.net](mailto:yhs-tr.childrenstherapytraining@nhs.net) with your name, setting and email address. Please also feel free to promote to any parent/carers you think would benefit from attending too. The course is online via Microsoft teams. Please note the cut-off date for booking a place is 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Any bookings after this date will go onto the waiting list for the next course. Attachment Three.

### **Solihull Courses**

Solihull courses are available on various topics relating to early childhood and pregnancy and are suitable for parents and carers, as well as early years practitioners, professionals and grandparents. They can be accessed free of charge if you have a North Yorkshire Postcode at [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)