

# Early Years Key Messages

January 2021

Please ensure Key Messages is shared with all staff in your provision. Previous Key Messages can be found: <http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare>

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*We hope everyone had a happy Christmas and all the best for a much better 2021.*

## **Latest Government Guidance**

The Government guidance has been updated as below which confirms that early years settings should remain open or re-open in January. The local authority is not provided with any advance notification by the Government or the DfE of any changes and will endeavor to provide updates as soon as they are received:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-contingency-framework-for-education-and-childcare-settings/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings-excluding-universities>

Information is available in the Early Years Settings section on the CYPs Covid 19 website as well as the test and trace flowchart at <https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/covid-19>. The Foundation Years [COVID-19 resources](#)

[hub](#) has been updated to include the latest information and guidance.

### **Vacancy for a non-school Early Years rep on the Schools' Forum**

Could you play a key strategic role in shaping the outcomes of children and young people in North Yorkshire? Do you want to contribute to discussion and proposed solutions on school funding, high needs and early years? The Children and Young People's Service is seeking to fill one vacancy for a non-school member from Early Years Childcare Providers that has arisen on the North Yorkshire Schools' Forum. The Schools' Forum has a key role to play in funding and particularly around high needs funding. It is a representative statutory group which advises the local authority on key issues and are actually the decision-makers on some aspects of school funding. We now need to fill the vacancy on the Schools Forum representing private and voluntary Early Years Childcare Providers including childminders across the county. If you are interested, please contact [deborah.wilbor@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.wilbor@northyorks.gov.uk) who will send you further information and nomination form.

### **NYSCP New Universal referral Form**

The NYSCP Universal Referral Form has recently been amended to reflect North Yorkshire County Council's Strength in Relationship Model. Guidance has also been produced to help using the form to complete a written referral. The revised Universal Referral Form is available from the [Forms for Professionals](#) section of the NYSCP website. Guidance to help partners complete the [Universal Referral Form is available from here](#).

### **Golden Ticket (two year old funding) GT code on Headcount**

You must enter the unique GTxxxxGT code exactly as it is on the Golden Ticket letter on your headcount claim. This must be entered in the Notes section. The GT code is mandatory in order to process the two year old funding claim payment to you.

### **Golden Ticket letter – two year old funding (Summer Term 2021)**

The next set of Golden Ticket letters for eligible families identified on the DWP list will be posted out in early January. These will be for children who will be eligible for two year old funding beginning after Easter 2021. Please remember that some families may still be receive the old style letter with a voucher code and these are valid as proof of eligibility.

### **Golden Ticket letter – families with multiple eligible children**

If a family has more than one eligible child, i.e. twins/triplets etc and have been identified on the DWP list they will only receive one Golden Ticket letter. The recipient of the Golden Ticket letter must contact Families Information Service to obtain a separate Golden Ticket letter with a unique GTxxxxGT code for each additional child. Each child must be entered separately on your headcount with the corresponding GTxxxxGT code entered in the Notes section.

### **National DfE Business Map - Free Workshops**

Reminder: The DfE has funded two national business support Zoom webinars called "Business Map" for early years and childcare providers. Please book your free place by clicking on either of the two links below:-

19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 - 9.45am to 12.30 pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/business-map-a-national-webinar-for-early-years-and-childcare-providers-tickets-131608780405>

19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 - 6.30 pm to 8.45pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/business-map-a-national-webinar-for-early-years-and-childminders-tickets-131614619871>

The national business map workshops will be delivered by Hemsall's and are free to attend. Managing an early years and childcare setting, whether it be a homebased childminder, out of school club, a voluntary playgroup, a nursery or a chain or a school is a complex task. It is one of balancing quality, health and safety, with parents' and children's needs, funding and fees, and business sustainability.

**What is on offer?** Webinar attendees will be able to download the FREE Business Map, certificate of attendance and supporting resources at the end.

### **"Birth to Five Matters" draft Consultation**

The first draft of the non-statutory document "Birth to Five Matters" developed by the Early Years Coalition has been released and is available to download. The consultation period for comment on this document closes on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 <https://www.birthto5matters.org.uk/>

### **NYES Digital Spring Term Training Brochure**

The digital NYES training brochure for the Spring Term can be found online as below. The Spring Term Early Years Leaders' Forums (for childminders and leaders/managers of early years settings) are available to book now online at:-

<https://www.nyeducationervices.co.uk/sites/default/files/imce/NYES%20Spring%20Term%20Online%20Training.pdf>

### **Early Years Autism Courses**

EYFS specific training will be delivered in the Spring Term and details can be found on NYES. These are delivered specifically with EYFS in mind and are scheduled for Saturdays to accommodate childminders and early years staff who find it difficult to access courses during the week.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 9.30-12.30 – Autism: What is it and how can you help?

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-12.30 – Intensive Interaction

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-12.30 – Developing Joint Attention

### **Early Years SEND Training – Spring 2021 – Delivered by Microsoft Teams**

The 'Early Years SENCO Induction' training (formerly 'New to SENCO Role for Early Years') is being run this term via Microsoft Teams. Dates are below and you must attend both sessions.

- Session 1; 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021
- Session 2; 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The course fee is £80 which covers both sessions. The audience is early years staff new to the SENCO role and current SENCOs who wish to refresh their knowledge and skills.

There is also a course titled '**Small Steps**'; a 2 part course and delegates will learn practical strategies for adapting learning for children in the EYFS with SEND.

The course runs for two mornings and you must attend both sessions.

- Session 1; 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- Session 2; 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021

The course fee is £80 which covers both sessions.

The audience is anyone working in EYFS who would like to develop their skills and knowledge around adapting learning for children in the 0 -5 age group.

Courses can be booked via the NYES digital brochure or by contacting NYES directly on [NYES@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:NYES@northyorks.gov.uk) Dates for the Early Years SEND network meetings to follow.

### **Safeguarding Training**

Spaces are now available on our Managing Allegations Against Staff and Volunteers training for 9 February and 19 May 2021. This course will provide knowledge of the procedures and practice for dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers. For more information and to book online, please visit

<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/training-north-yorkshire/training-courses/>

### **NYSCP e-Bulletin**

Sign up for NYSCP e-bulletin at <https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/nyscp-e-bulletin/>

### **All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)**

The APPG is campaigning for a full review of childcare and early education policy and funding to help support the long term sustainability of the sector. To follow events look at [twitter.com @APPGearlyyears](https://twitter.com/APPGearlyyears) or on the group's chair, MP Steve Brines, website [www.stevebrine.com](http://www.stevebrine.com)

### **Foundation Years wellbeing resources**

The National Children's Bureau recently hosted a *Learn – Explore – Debate* event focused on putting wellbeing at the heart of early years practice. The recordings, slides and case studies from the event are available on the Foundation Years website [here](#)

### **Children Starting School in Reception September 2021**

Children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 are due to start school in September 2021 and families must apply for a primary school place for them. **The deadline to submit applications is 15th January 2021.** Please signpost families to the online application on the North Yorkshire County Council website at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions)

Families living outside North Yorkshire will need to contact their home authority to obtain their information regarding school admissions. Please email [schooladmissions@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@northyorks.gov.uk) or phone 01609 533679 if you have any queries.

*“Wellbeing is the beautiful stage in which children can “be” when they feel ok. They feel at ease. They radiate. They are open to anything that comes in.” Ferre Laevers.*