

Early Years Key Messages

October 2021

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

Birth to 5 Matters Website – videos to support practice
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Birth to 5 Matters Website – videos to support practice

A [series of videos](#) has been added to the Birth to 5 Matters website to support everyday practice:

1. Using the Characteristics of Effective Learning to support children's learning: Nancy Stewart
2. An overview of the changes to the EYFS: Chris Pascal
3. The role of observation, assessment, and planning in the revised EYFS: Di Chilvers
4. Ranges and overlapping ovals: young children's development and progress as a continuum: Di Chilvers
5. A User's Guide to Birth to 5 Matters: Donna Gaywood

Revised supporting documents for EYFS

To reflect the statutory EYFS reforms, the Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned updates to two documents to align with the changes:

What to expect in the EYFS

DfE has published a new guide for parents, produced by Sheringham Nursery School and Children's Centre. [What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage](#) (formerly 'What to expect when') guides parents through what to expect with their child's development. It aligns with the new Development Matters to help practitioners engage with parents about their child's development.

A Celebratory Approach to Working with Children with SEND

Produced by Pen green Children's Centre '[A Celebratory Approach to Working with Children with SEND – Giving additional support in the Early Years](#)' (formerly 'A Celebratory Approach to SEND assessment in the Early Years') to help practitioners who may be supporting children who require additional help or children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Two year-old Government Funding

The DfE has introduced a new data sharing agreement with all local authorities about how we can use, process and retain the DWP list for two year old funding. Unfortunately, it will be necessary to change the Golden Ticket letter process. The DfE requires that eligibility must be checked through the government's ECS checker. Previously issued Golden Ticket letters are valid and should be used by families. New funding applications (i.e. if they haven't received a Golden Ticket letter) should be made through the online application at [Early years funding - two year olds | North Yorkshire County Council](#). We are working on making the application process as simple as possible for families including a revised letter asking parents to apply for the funding. This will be in time for the November DWP list. Further information will be shared with all providers as soon as possible. Thank you for making the Golden Ticket letter process a success during the past year.

LGA free Business Support for Early Years Providers

An email has been sent to all early years providers offering free Business Support/Business Health Check which NYCC has secured through the Local Government Association (LGA) and funded by the DfE. Please book on using the links in the email. If you did not receive the email, please contact the Early Years Funding Team on eyft@northyorks.gov.uk

Red Kite Teaching School Hub – Everything you need to know about the revised EYFS

Free event hosted by Dr Julian Grenier on 12th October. To book visit Eventbrite [HUBTalk: Everything you need to know about the revised EYFS Tickets, Tue 12 Oct 2021 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Updated Actions for Early Years and Childcare Providers

The Early Years guidance has been updated and can be found here: [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

Early Help Autumn Courses

Programme of training for this Autumn term 2021- Attachment 1.

Unlocking Autism EYFS

From September 2021, the Communication and Interaction Team will be offering our new online training course **Unlocking Autism** to parents/carers. This replaces the Cygnet course but differs in that children do not need to have a diagnosis of autism in order for parents to attend. The course is delivered by MS Teams. This free course aims to develop parental knowledge and understanding of autism, communication and sensory needs. It includes a session on understanding behaviour and supporting emotional regulation, resilience and wellbeing. It covers the following topics:

1. Autism: - What to look for and how to help. Includes information on related conditions.
2. Communication: - Understanding receptive and expressive language differences, how difficulties may present & how to use visual communication supports.
3. Sensory: - What drives sensory behaviour? How can we change unhelpful or dysregulating patterns. Information on sensory evaluation, sensory plans and recognising independent self-regulation.
4. Emotional regulation and resilience: - Thinking about your own wellbeing and resilience when living with difficult behaviour which challenges
5. Behaviour: - What defines behaviour? How can we recognise patterns and analyse underlying needs. This session will include a task on analysing behaviour to help parents unpick and resolve difficulties.

Booking for the course is via NYES: [Unlocking Autism for Parents](#)

The flyer for the academic year 2021-2022 Training is for you to pass on to colleagues so it can be shared with parents/carers. Attachment 2.

Autism – Developing Communication in the Early Years

Free e-learning course by Children's Therapy Team for practitioners on 25th November. Attachment 3.

English Hubs –Orgill training

Free, virtual SLCN/EYFS training for early years staff through Orgill English Hub. Attachment 4.

SARC survey

Following the commission of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services for any victim of rape, sexual assault or abuse, a victim's survey has been launched. The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire is seeking feedback from victims and survivors. The survey is designed for people with lived experience of sexual assault and violence and for people who have attended, thought about attending or knew about the service but didn't attend. The survey is completely anonymous and takes around 10 minutes to complete and is open until 15th October. To access the survey visit:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6438134/Sexual-Assault-Referral-Centre-SARC>

Re-setting Provider Portal Password

Providers are able to re-set their own Provider Portal Password without requiring assistance from FIS or the EY Funding team. Go to "Sign In-portal for parents, schools and providers". Log in using username (Ofsted registration number) and enter your password. If you don't know your password, or lock your file by entering an incorrect password more than 3 times, click the "forgot password" box. A new token will be sent to the email box that was used to set up your initial log details, advising you how to reset your password.

Early Years Funding

- Autumn term Headcount week is 4th – 8th October 2021
- There are 13 funded weeks in Autumn term and the school term is 14 weeks, therefore term time only providers may wish to consider charging parents for the extra week, stretching the termly 13 weeks funded entitlement of 195/390 funded hours over 14 weeks, or only opening for the funded weeks. Please ensure parents are informed of your decision.
- The Provider Portal will remain open until Friday 8th October 2021 for Autumn term headcount submission.

General

- A reminder that the LA are required by legislation to ensure that all eligible children can take up their funded entitlement place free of charge. Parents must not be charged "top-up" fees (any difference between a provider's normal charge to parents and the funding they receive from the local authority). Providers must ensure parents understand which hours / sessions can be taken as free provision. Invoices and receipts must be clear, transparent and itemised allowing parents to see that they have received their child's funded entitlement completely free of charge and understand fees paid for additional hours or services. Invoices and receipts should include the provider's full details so that they can be identified as coming from a specific provider.
- PVI providers are required to access the Anycomms+ system; this is where the monthly remittance advice can be downloaded each month. If you are a PVI provider and have problems accessing Anycomms+ please contact Schools ICT on 01609 536086, option 1. Childminders are not required to access Anycomms+.
- Where there is a change in staff who manage the headcount or the finances of the provision, it is the responsibility of the owner/committee to ensure there is a handover of all aspects of the funding process and the new staff understand what is required. A useful document for new members of staff managing the funding can be accessed here:
<https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Early%20years/eyc%20funding/Introduction%20to%20ofunding%20122%20March%2021.docx.pdf>
- It is important that password security is maintained in line with GDPR when accessing the NYCC systems.

“Early childhood education begins early, even before birth.” Madeleine Kunin