

Early Years Key Messages

September 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>

REMINDER: REVISED EYFS STATUTORY FRAMEWORK EFFECTIVE 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

EYFS Online Service – help for early years providers

Changes of Manager/Management

Preventing and controlling non-COVID 19 (and COVID) infections in settings

Childcare government funding/childcare support costs

Re-setting Provider Portal Password

Ofsted Inspections and updated inspection guidance

Data Collection – Autumn Term

Early Years qualifications update

Teething and Childhood Vaccination updates

Early Years Funding

New Accredited SENCo Training

Revised flowchart for reporting COVID-19

Invoices – changes of address

Makaton Training Workshop

EYFS Online Service – help for early years providers

Understand and implement the changes to the EYFS with DfE's [new online service](#), developed with sector experts and packed with resources and practical support inc. summary of changes, statutory framework, bite-size information on each area of learning, videos and activities.

Changes of Manager/Management

If your setting has a change of Manager or management team, including committee members, it is a statutory duty to share this information with Ofsted (EYFS 3.69). Please also notify the Families Information Service on fis.information@northyorks.gov.uk of any changes and update the provider portal details.

Preventing and controlling non-Covid (and Covid) infections in settings

Due to recent non-Covid infection outbreaks in early years settings, PHE has asked the LA to remind all providers of the importance of good hand washing practices. Hand washing with soap is one of the easiest ways to prevent illness and is more effective than hand gels. Please share the attached link to the NHS website with staff and children [How to wash your hands - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk). It is important that settings have effective prevention and control measures in place. This includes exclusion periods and notifying Health Protection Teams and Ofsted when appropriate. The link provides advice on prevention, vaccination, managing infectious diseases and cleaning the environment and an exclusion table [Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Childcare funding/childcare support costs

If families have queries about early years funding, including 2/3/4 year-old funding and whether it is available for them, please direct them, in the first instance, to the NYCC website at [Early education and childcare | North Yorkshire County Council](#). If further clarification is required, please direct them to the Families Information Service (FIS) at fis.information@northyorks.gov.uk

FIS has received a number of queries from families who have been asked by providers for a code for the Universal 15 hours for their 3 year-old child. Families do not need to apply for the Universal 15 hours of government funding but will need to sign a parental agreement with the provider. Working families who are eligible for Extended Entitlement funding (also known as 30 hours funding) will need to apply for this at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk and reapply every three months. The local authority does not issue the codes for 30 hours funding.

Please ensure that families are aware of Tax-free childcare to help pay for childcare costs. Financial support (worth 20% of the costs) is for working families with children under 12 (or under 17 for children with disabilities). They need to create an online account and for every £8 they pay in, the government pays in an extra £2 up to £2,000 per child per year.

Details about all childcare costs and to apply for 30 hours funding available at [Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Free Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](#)

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 your email box advising how to reset your password.

Ofsted Inspections and updated inspection guidance

Please notify Families Information Service (FIS) on 01609 533483 when you receive notice of your inspection and the subsequent outcome. If you are a provider offering government funding, this is a requirement in the funding agreement with NYCC (12.7). Guidance “The early years inspection handbook for Ofsted registered provision for September 2021” was updated on 1st September [Early years inspection handbook for Ofsted-registered provision for September 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Data Collection – Autumn Term

There will be a small number of data collection requests this term that you need to be aware of. Your assistance with completing these data requests is required to ensure the local authority has an accurate picture of the childcare market in North Yorkshire. Further emails will be sent nearer the dates regarding the following:-

- Department for Education (DfE) Data Collection – The DfE has advised that they will be collecting early years data monthly in the Autumn term. The dates known for these will be w/c 13th September and w/c 11th October. We have been advised there will be no major changes to the questions asked.
- NYCC Sufficiency Tab on Provider Portal – The sufficiency tab will be open for two weeks from 27th September. All providers should access this and complete their sufficiency details.
- Children of Armed Forces personal – This will be requested during w/c 27th September from all providers who have children (i.e. pre-Reception) of families of Armed Forces personnel.

Early Years qualifications update

[EYFS staff:child ratios – DfE approved qualifications](#)

Lists of qualifications that meet DfE’s criteria for counting in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework staff:child ratios. Updated the ‘Early years qualifications: from 1 September 2014’ spreadsheets at rows 16 and 35.

Teething and Childhood Vaccination updates

The NHS has updated their guidance on [baby-teething-symptoms](#). This guidance confirms that teething may cause a mild fever in children. The guidance for vaccines has not changed and provides advice for parents

on how to treat a high temperature after a vaccination; self-isolation is not required unless COVID-19 is suspected. Find out more from [vaccination tips for parents](#) and [baby-teething-symptoms](#). Parents and carers should monitor side effects from a vaccination or teething, and if concerned about a child's health, should seek advice from GP or NHS 111.

Early Years Funding

Autumn Term Headcount

- Autumn term Headcount week is 4th – 8th October 2021.
- There are 13 funded weeks in Autumn term and the school term is 14 weeks. 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 closing to government funded children for the non-funded week. 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

- 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%202122%20March%202021.docx.pdf>
- It is important that password security is maintained in line with GDPR when accessing the NYCC systems.

New Accredited SENCO Training

NYCC SEND and Inclusion are delighted to be able to offer early years settings a fantastic new CPD opportunity. Working in collaboration with *One Awards, we have developed a modular training programme that leads to a Level 3 accreditation. **Unlocking SEND in the Early Years: US-EYs** is based on successful and well received early years' courses and this year will be available for the introductory price of £120 per module. The attached flyer gives further details. Clare Leonard, Lead for Cognition and Learning, will be holding two question and answer sessions on 9th September so that prospective participants can find out more. These are free to attend. Attachment 1.

*One Awards is a Quality Assurance and Accreditation organisation. Part of the NOCN (formerly the Open College Network) they offer accreditation services to training providers.

Revised Flowchart for reporting Covid-19 cases

Please find attached the revised flowchart showing when and how you need to report positive cases of Covid-19 in your setting. Please destroy the previous flowchart which no longer reflects updated guidance. Attachment 2.

Invoices – Changes of Address

It is important that when providers change address (e.g. house move/change of personnel), that they notify the relevant departments within NYCC. Some departments, such as NYES, issue invoices by post. To ensure that the invoice goes to the correct address, providers must contact the department named on the invoice so that they can update their records.

Makaton Training Workshop

A Makaton training workshop is available for providers and parents. Attachments 3 and 4.

“The first five years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out.” Bill Gates