

Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 8th May 2025



Welcome to this week's bulletin, recent bulletins can be found [here](#)

Contact the team: EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk or 01772 539058

Webpage: www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/ (training courses, support and information from the team)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LancsEarlyYears/ www.facebook.com/groups/lancsearlyyears/

Advertise your job vacancies on our webpage

www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/supporting-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-years-settings/ (uploaded weekly, no charge) complete this [form](#):

New Managers Academy: Are you new to the role of managing a PVI nursery?

Perhaps you have only been a manager for the last 6 months or so. Let us know and we can offer you some additional support whilst you fully find your feet (no charge). One of the Early Years Project Officer's will meet with you to discuss your current challenges and offer advice and guidance and you will also be invited to termly, virtual group meetings to network with other new managers for peer support. What next: just complete this short

[Microsoft Teams form](#)

New Practitioners Academy: Are you training or been in early years for less than a year?

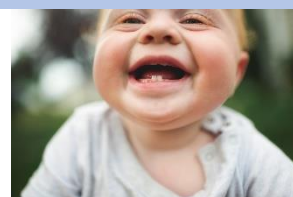
Join by coming on any (or all) of the free meetings - there is no need to book just click on the links below on the date at 4pm. We will chat to you about all sorts of elements of practice as well as giving you the opportunity to ask questions. We are really looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the best profession in the world!

Tuesday 13th May 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)

Tuesday 8th July 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)

Something to do this week! Support Children's Oral Health

Did you know that 11 % of 3 year olds in England have visible tooth decay (3 teeth on average) and this rises to nearly 25% of 5 year olds. In the Early Years we can do a lot to support parents and children to understand how to look after their teeth.



This week consider how you are meeting your responsibilities in the EYFS Statutory Framework to promote oral health of the children who attend your setting. You can find everything that you need on the new guidance

[Oral health - Help for early years providers - GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/education.gov.uk)

As well as advice for practitioners, there are lots of resources to share with families and links to further information.

May is National Smile Month and you can find some great resources to support oral health in your setting here [National Smile Month | Home | Oral Health Foundation](#)

Let's Celebrate!



This week we are shouting a wonderful Wednesday Well Done to two settings in Lancashire who have recently had their Outstanding Ofsted inspection reports published!

👉 Ducklings Day Nursery in Skelmersdale shared their inspection experience with us. Manager Janet Doyle said that the day went really well. The inspector asked lots of questions on the initial phone call and put Janet at ease. The inspector was mindful of how staff were feeling on the day and offered breaks if needed. Janet said she managed to pass on all she wanted at the learning walk. The inspector noted- 'Partnerships with parents are of an exceptionally high standard. Parents are encouraged to play an active role in children's learning. Parents comment on the all-round support they receive from the nursery. For example, parent workshops are offered, where they can attend and learn information to support them.'

They have since celebrated their continued 'outstanding' grade with a big party. Janet's top tip is to embrace the inspection by celebrating what you do daily and ensure that you capture the best of yourselves during the learning walk.

👉 Blue Bear Preschool and Nursery in Freckleton are also celebrating their 'outstanding grade'. Their reports capture how well - 'Leaders and staff plan and implement an inspirational curriculum with children at the very heart. Their precise knowledge of children's abilities enables them to adapt their strong teaching to meet children's targeted needs. 'Manager Anne Chauhan said that the inspector was lovely, she asked about anxious staff and made them feel at ease. The positive attitude of the inspector made it easier to showcase what the setting does best and what it is like to be a child at the setting. Anne also shared that her learning walk went really well.

On behalf of everyone in the Early Years Quality Improvement Team, we would like to say thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality childcare and education to children in Lancashire

Managers Time to Talk



Managers, look out for your email invitation to your next '**Managers Time to Talk**' meeting. Meetings will be held between 12th May and 3rd June and we look forward to seeing you there.

Water Safety

As the weather is warming up and more people are likely to be in and around water, it is important to reshare water safety messages and resources. Drowning is silent, children should always be supervised in, on and around water. The Child & Accident Prevention Trust highlight the importance of talking to children about the dangers of water, including open water, encouraging them to be safe.

[The Child & Accident Prevention Trust](#) have some great resources encouraging people to be water aware. The Royal Life Saving Society have key messages on being [in, on and around water](#), as well as promoting the [Water Safety Code](#)

Have you thought about ... Induction of new staff

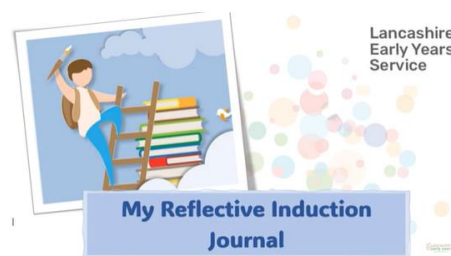
Do you need something to support your robust induction? Supporting all new members of the team demonstrate high-quality practice that is firmly rooted in their understanding of the children's learning and development needs and the ethos and standards of your setting.

Purchase the electronic Induction Toolkit to help practitioners to reflect on their knowledge and practice which then feeds into the induction process including meetings and supervisions.

Its electronic so you only need to purchase once and use again and again! Everything can be personalised to the individual and to your setting.

There are also templates:

- Induction plan
- Initial supervision
- Supervision
- Peer observation
- Policies and procedures record



Take a look at the clip to find out more! <https://youtu.be/csWJBZJtIV8>

www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/publications-for-sale/

Lancashire Virtual School Newsletter - Summer 2025

The Lancashire Virtual School Newsletter for the Summer term 2025 can be found here:



DfE announces fully funded Early Years SENCO training for 2025/26

As part of the government's plan to break down barriers to opportunity, improving outcomes for children in early years education, the Department for Education is very pleased to announce that Best Practice Network (BPN) has been selected as our delivery partner to provide 1000 SENCO training places in financial year 2025-26.



The key aim of the programme is to increase the number of qualified SENCOs available to children in group-based settings and childminder settings, who have the knowledge and skills to properly fulfil the role of a SENCO described in the [code of practice and in the role description](#).

Training is available across England and is open to Early Years educators currently working as, or due to start working as, a Special Educational Needs Coordinator in their setting.

Applicants from group-based private, voluntary or independent (PVI) settings must hold a full and relevant level 3 Early Years qualification. Childminder applicants must hold either a full and relevant Early Years level 3 qualification or have a level 2 Early Years qualification but have fully completed at least one level 3 Early Years training module and have significant experience of working in Early Years.

Training will commence from June 2025 and recruitment is open now. For further information, and to complete your application, please see

[**Early Years SENCO - Level 3 | Best Practice Network**](#)

Inclusion and SEND resources for wraparound providers



At Childcare Works provider forums, wraparound providers highlighted a need for inclusion and SEND training specifically for wraparound providers. Childcare Works are pleased to let you know that they have worked with NASEN to develop a series of ten recorded bitesize training sessions to support wraparound providers to offer inclusive environments for all children including children with SEND.

The attached information sheet gives more details of the recorded sessions.