

## Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025



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

Contact the team: [EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk) or 01772 539058

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LancsEarlyYears/](https://www.facebook.com/LancsEarlyYears/) [www.facebook.com/groups/lancsearlyyears/](https://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/](http://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 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)

## Something to do this week! Review your mandatory training needs

### **First aid**

This must be an approved Paediatric First Aid training course and must always be in date.

This course must be renewed every 3 years.

### **Safeguarding**

### **Introduction to Safeguarding Children (Early Years)**

This course is specifically for people who need to refresh or build up their knowledge of safeguarding in early years, or who are new to working in childcare.

This course must be renewed every 3 years.

### **Safeguarding for the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Early Years)**

This training is for those who take the lead on safeguarding matters within the setting and for all childminders who are the DSL at their setting. The course will support you to confidently understand your role and will explore action to take to ensure all children in your care are kept safe.

This course must be renewed every 2 years.

If you complete this course and keep it up to date there is no requirement for you to undertake the introduction course again once you have completed it once. This course is above that of the introduction and covers in much more detail the role you have to play in safeguarding children in Lancashire.

The safeguarding training has been developed to meet the needs of all Lancashire Ofsted registered childcare providers. Elements within each training course refer to specific policies, procedures and processes within Lancashire. To get the most out of the training it is recommended that all delegates complete the [Early Help Assessment and Plan \(EHA/EHP\) e-learning](#) prior to attending Lancashire's face-to-face training courses.

Please note: Safeguarding requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage will be updated for September 2025 and you should make sure that your knowledge reflects the new changes. You can find more about the changes here: <https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/2024/10/changes-to-early-years-foundation-stage-eyfs-safeguarding-requirements-september-2025>

The [safeguarding section of our website](#) contains a range of documents and resources to help you to safeguarding children. Visit regularly to ensure that you have the most up to date information.

For more information regarding the packages of training we offer please follow the link below - [Training and information for all early years settings - Lancashire County Council](#)

## **Let's Celebrate!**



This week we are shouting a fabulous Wednesday Well Done to three more settings in Lancashire who have recently had their Ofsted inspection reports published.

🍌 **Bambinos Boutique Nursery** in Clitheroe shared their positive inspection experience with us. Manager Tami Mercer said that the inspection went well. The inspector was mindful of all the staff's wellbeing. She set out the expectations of the day when she arrived and was very thorough with her questions to staff, especially around safeguarding. The inspector noted how – 'Children relish the opportunities to build their physical strength and develop their coordination when they play outdoors. They skilfully manoeuvre on balance bikes. Children persevere and succeed in their

quest to follow the path around the garden on the bikes with the support of staff'. Tami's top tip is to be yourself and carry on with the normal routines of the day.

🍌 **The Nursery (Leyland)** in Leyland have also had their report published, with the inspector noting how – 'Staff recognise the importance of supporting children to feel emotionally secure. They work with a trained counsellor to provide sessions with children where they use puppets to help children explore their emotions. Children learn about why they might experience particular emotions. They develop strategies to use when they are feeling emotional.' Owner/Manager, Gabi Leigh said that the inspector was very pleasant. She was mindful of staff wellbeing and the learning walk went well.

🍌 **Carleton Childcare** in Poulton-le-Fylde are our third setting who have their report published. Manager Sarah Loughran shared that it was a very positive experience and all of her staff did a great job showcasing the best of their setting. The inspector noted that – 'Children have a positive attitude to learning. They enthusiastically explore the inviting learning environment that is made available to them. Staff provide a broad range of fun activities that is devised to match children's current interests and experiences from home.'

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

## Parent power videos – supporting parents as their children begin to prepare for reception



On the link below you will find a series of videos that are designed to be shared through your setting's online media. They are aimed towards Parents of Preschool and Reception aged children.

The videos are designed to inform parents about key school readiness areas and offer support to improve the quality of home learning. The training titles are based on the Kindred school readiness survey. For further information please refer to [School Readiness Survey | Kindred<sup>2</sup>](#)

The videos may be used as part of your setting's / school's curriculum on school readiness when transitions and inductions are planned for. Through involving parents in this process, it is hoped that children are ready for the next phase of education, and they have the right foundation for good future progress through school life.

[Parent Power Videos](#)

## Children as 'victims in their own right'

## in domestic abuse



Since 2021 babies, children and young people have been recognised as victims in their own right where domestic abuse is a feature within the family environment. This is regardless of whether they were present or not during violent incidents. It would include if they see, hear or experience the effects of abuse. The Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales is Dame Nicole Jacobs. She has recently published a report based on children's voices and highlights the impact of domestic abuse on children. You can read the full report here: [dac bcyp main-report FINAL-DIGITAL.pdf](#)

A series of free webinars are being shown to share the main messages and recommendations across multi-agencies. To register for the education specific webinar you can sign up here: [Register for MA-ED](#)

## New – Newsletter from Childcare Choices



UK Government

Childcare choices are producing a new newsletter for early years providers that will begin in early June. Subscribers will receive the latest announcements, information and news from the Department for Education on how they are reforming early years education and support childcare expansion.

If you would like to sign up to the newsletter, visit the link below and click on "sign up to receive our provider e-mail updates"

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/provider-guidance-and-resources](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/provider-guidance-and-resources)

## Check an early years qualification service – available now!

Early years managers can now use the new [Check an early years qualification](#) digital service to quickly verify whether staff qualifications meet the requirements for staff:child ratios in England.

The new service can be accessed at [https://check-an-early-years-qualification.service.gov.uk/?utm\\_source=lancashirecc&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=la](https://check-an-early-years-qualification.service.gov.uk/?utm_source=lancashirecc&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=la)

This free GOV.UK tool allows managers to check a qualification's approval status by entering key details such as:

- course start date
- level
- awarding organisation

At the end of the process, a clear outcome is provided, which can be printed for your records.

### **Why use the new service?**

Using the new Check an early years qualification service:

- saves time during recruitment and HR processes
- supports workforce planning ahead of the September 2025 expansion of funded childcare entitlements
- reduces confusion when checking qualifications

The service is tailored specifically for early years managers. All other user groups (for example practitioners) should continue to use the [Early Years Qualifications List \(EYQL\)](#) to check qualifications, and contact our supplier [Ecctis](#) if they are unable to find the qualification on the EYQL.

The Check an early years qualification service is for qualifications achieved in the UK. Holders of non-UK qualifications should continue to contact our supplier [Ecctis](#) for an assessment.

If you need help using the service you can [contact DfE](#).

## Training reminders for June

Have you booked your training for June? Attached is a list of the training offered in June for your sector, please take a look.

## Children's Health Improvement Early Recognition of Type1 diabetes

**50 children a year present to our hospitals critically unwell with signs of Type 1 diabetes. It can't be cured, but early diagnosis can save lives.**

**If you notice your child is drinking more, passing urine more often, losing weight, or is tired then please see your GP ASAP**

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune condition in which the body's own immune system attacks the cells in the pancreas which produce insulin. We do not know what causes type 1 diabetes although it is not linked to lifestyle factors. Whilst the diabetes cannot be cured, early diagnosis can save lives. Sadly, each year in Lancashire and South Cumbria, nearly 50 children present to hospital critically unwell due to lack of awareness of the signs of T1 diabetes. If you notice that your child is drinking more ,passing urine more often , losing weight or is more tired then please see your GP as soon as possible

Please share this information with your staff and families to help us to increase knowledge about the symptoms of diabetes using this poster -

**[4Ts 1509 1 \(digibete.org\)](https://www.digibete.org)**

## Do something Big – Summer drive of Early Years Careers campaign

### Be part of something big

Working with small children is a big deal. It's a job that makes a difference by helping to give children the best start in life.



The next wave of the Do Something Big campaign will run from 19 May-14 September 2025, encouraging more people to explore a fulfilling career in early years and childcare.

New adverts include 15-second social videos that challenge common barriers to joining the sector, alongside new content specifically designed to encourage more men to consider working in early years roles. The campaign will be across TV, radio, digital, social media, billboards, and the rail network.

We'd love your support in amplifying the campaign - please keep an eye out for the new adverts and use the [available resources](#) in your own recruitment activity. Don't forget the [campaign website](#) directs thousands of potential applicants to [Find A Job](#) every week and you can advertise your roles there for free.

Watch these [video tutorials](#) for help posting your jobs (make sure you include the term 'early years' in your job advert titles and select 'Education and childcare jobs' as the job category).

[\(2\) Find a job service - Employer help - YouTube](#)

## Ofsted blog: How we look at the use of Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) in our inspections of early years settings

Ofsted have published a [new blog](#) following guidance from the [Department for Education](#) and the [Education Endowment Foundation](#) about Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) funding. It explains:

- how they look at the use of the funding on inspection
- the sort of questions they might ask
- what you need to know if your setting has no children who receive EYPP

[How we look at the use of Early Years Pupil Premium \(EYPP\) in our inspections of early years settings – Ofsted: early years](#)

## Publications from the Early Years Quality Improvement Team

Lancashire  
Early Years  
Service





**Would you like some accessible and early years focused information and guidance around a specific topic?**

The Early Years Quality Improvement team produce a large range of high-quality publications to help build your knowledge in a variety of subjects!

You can see them all on our [website](#) and a handy brochure is also attached.

If you have any questions about any of the publications, please contact the Centre Team on [EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk)

## Level 3 SENCO Qualification



The Best Practice Network is currently offering Level 3 SENCO qualification in association with the Department for Education (DfE). The qualification is designed for level 3 practitioners working in private, voluntary or independent early years settings and childminders. The Department for Education has a limited number of funded places for the June 2025 intake – please see the link below for further details, including eligibility criteria.

<https://www.bestpracticenetwork.co.uk/early-years-SENCO>

## Sensory food education

Sensory food education is a way for educators to help children engage with food in a healthy and positive way. It involves exploring food using all 5 senses and allows children to understand their own food preferences and experience new foods. This can lead to them trying and enjoying more healthy foods and encouraging lifelong healthy eating habits.

For more information on how to run sensory food education in your EY setting, visit the [Help for early years providers : Sensory food education page](#)



## Childcare Works Hub



Marketing and promotion are important tasks for all providers. On the **Childcare Works HUB** you will find a whole section dedicated to **marketing** in the [Early Years Toolkit](#) as well as a series of recordings to assist you with your **marketing and promotion** [Marketing and Promotion](#).

1. [Marketing for Early Years and Wraparound Providers](#) - An introduction to marketing.
2. [The Three Ms of Marketing – Market](#) Introduces the 3M model.
3. [The Three Ms of Marketing - Messages](#) Creating messages for those involved in buying your services.

4. [The Three Ms of Marketing - Methods](#) Marketing activity that reaches your target audience in a way that is affordable.
5. [Marketing and Promotion - Finding and Keeping Customers](#) Practical and theoretical insights from a provider.

**[Marketing and Promotion - childcareworks.org.uk](http://childcareworks.org.uk)**