

Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 19th June 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 8th July 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)

Something to do this week!
Prevent awareness



Consider if you (and any staff members/volunteers) are aware of the 'Prevent Duty' and know your responsibilities.

This short **awareness course** is suitable for everyone who works with children and families. www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/portal#awareness-course

This free eLearning course will give you an introduction to the Prevent duty, the forms of extremism and terrorism threatening the UK and develop your knowledge around the risks of radicalisation and your supportive role.

When you have completed this course, you will be able to:

- know what Prevent is
- understand why Prevent is important
- understand how Prevent applies to your role
- identify the emotions and behaviours that might make someone susceptible to radicalisation
- understand how to apply the notice, check, share procedure

There are other courses offered, including a refresher that you might also find useful.

Seven Minute Briefing from Lancashire Prevent Partnership [prevent_7mb..pdf](#)

Consider Fundamental British Values are embedded in your practice and throughout the setting

The fundamental British values of **democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs** are already implicitly embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Democracy – is a just society, where everyone is treated equally and make decisions together. In your setting it could be teaching children about working together, making decisions together, encouraging children to share their views and respecting the views of others. You can provide children opportunities which involve taking turns, sharing, collaborating asking questions and sharing their thoughts and ideas.

Rule of law – is about understanding that there are rules that we all obey.

In your setting it could be about understanding rules apply to everyone, such as tidying up our play resources. Adults should also support children to distinguish right from wrong and that their behaviour has impact and consequences.

Individual liberty – is the freedom to exercise rights.

This includes supporting children to have a strong sense of themselves and have high self-esteem and confidence. To understand that it is okay to hold different views and opinions from our friends. Children also need adults to support them to use language around feelings and responsibilities.

Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Children should have opportunities to engage in the community they live in and the wider world so that they can see and understand that there are people different to them. Adults should

promote curiosity and value children's questions to help them understand. Adults should act as positive role models, being inclusive in their language and behaviour and provide resources that promote diversity such as stories, dressing up, and celebrations. Consideration should be given to how we avoid and challenge stereotypes.

Further information <https://early-education.org.uk/fundamental-british-values-in-early-years/>

Let's Celebrate!



This week we are shouting a fabulous Wednesday Well Done to not one, not two, not three but FOUR more settings in Lancashire who have recently had their Outstanding Ofsted inspection reports published.

🍌 **Tatton Nursery** in Chorley are delighted with their outcome. Their report highlights how: *'Staff are exceptionally kind and nurturing, creating an environment where everybody feels valued and cared for. Staff provide children with consistent praise and encouragement. Children's faces light up with delight as staff tell them the things they have done well.'* Manager Marsha Nightingale said that they are delighted to have received outstanding. The day went really well, the inspector put everyone at ease and was chatting with all members of staff. They setting has recently moved into newly built premises and Marsha said they have worked very hard to create a homely environment.

🍌 **Mini Me's** in Fleetwood are also thrilled with how well their inspection went. Manager Corinne Pegler, shared that the inspector put them at ease from the start. The learning walk went really well and Corinne was able to talk about all the wonderful things they do at their setting. Their report recognises the outstanding practice noting: *'From the moment children arrive, they are greeted by staff who model excellent communication, using exciting and varied vocabulary in their interactions. A wide range of describing words become part of the children's daily language, sparking their imaginations and encouraging rich conversations'*.

🍌 **Kids Planet** Andsell in Lytham are celebrating their outstanding achievement. Manager Alex Shaw told me that the inspector was so lovely – she made sure that staff felt at ease with her and took her time to speak to them. The day went really well and they are delighted with their grading. Their report captures how: *'This inspiring setting ensures that all children, regardless of their starting points, make amazing progress. The skilled staff and managers know that even the most able children need to have a solid grounding in their emotional development to be able to be successful learners for life.'*

Our fourth setting celebrating their outstanding grading is

🍌 **Caroline Robinson** a Childminder in Accrington. She too is delighted with the outcome of her inspection and said that it was a relaxed inspection and she felt her setting had come a long way since the last inspection. Her report notes how well: *'Children thrive and get off to the best possible start in life. The childminder exposes children to an extensive range of rich experiences. These build children's curiosity, independence and resilience over time. Children learn to be highly respectful of the community in which they are fully immersed.'*

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

Childminder Cluster Meeting reminder

Childminder Cluster for childminder members

**26th June 6.30 to 8 pm
at the Early Years Professional Development Centre**

and

virtual on Teams on Monday 30th June 6.30 to 7.30 pm

Training for July and August



Please find attached training opportunities for your setting for July and August.

We do hope that you will be able to join us!

Drowning Prevention Week - 14 - 21 June 2025

Get involved!

Drowning Prevention Week 2025 runs from

Saturday 14th to Saturday 21st June.

Drowning Prevention Week is the Royal Life Saving Society's (RLSS) annual campaign and is one of the largest summer water safety campaigns across the UK and Ireland.

No child should drown, and with the right water safety education – such as knowledge of the Water Safety Code – accidental drownings are preventable. Drowning Prevention Week is deliberately timed ahead of the school summer holidays when children spend more time outdoors and when vital water safety skills can help keep children safe.

The Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool & Lancashire Child Death Overview Panel will be raising awareness by sharing key water safety messages. You can get involved by helping to spread the word on social media, and sharing messages with the children and families you work with. You can download resources via the below links:

[Drowning Prevention Week resources for families.](#)

[Drowning Prevention Week resources for educators.](#)

[Summer water safety resources.](#)

[Printable resources.](#)

[Drowning Prevention Week posters – RLSS.](#)

[Water Safety videos – RLSS.](#)



Health Protection Team - June 2025 edition



Please see the link below for the latest Heads up Health Protection bulletin. Please could you share this with all your contacts who may find this information useful:

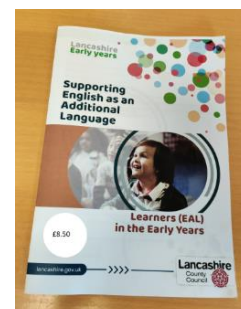
[**Heads Up from Health Protection - June Bulletin**](#)

Our team is committed to raising awareness and providing valuable information to help you stay healthy and safe. We work to ensure that you have access to the resources and knowledge to help you make informed choices in order to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Have you thought about Supporting English as an additional language

This large booklet will support you with your 'English as an additional language learners' and is relevant for all early years sectors. It includes an abundance of effective practice ideas and resources as well as exploring:

- stages of language development
- strategies to develop communication in English
- resources and activities



- parental involvement ideas
- assessment systems for EAL children
- intervention strategies

Price: £8.50

To find out more about this publication, you can watch a video here:

<https://youtu.be/iOLM1DSJ5H8>

to order the publication please click here:

[Publications for sale - Lancashire County Council](#)

Guided Learning Walk

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our **guided learning walk** of Lakeview Nursery on **26th June from 6.30pm - 8pm**, which cares for children from 0-5. **No need to book**, just come along to meet the nursery team and some of the EYQI team members at **Lakeview Children's Nursery, Skipton New Road, Foulridge, BB8 7NN**

Reminder...

Complete the DfE consultation of floor space requirements – Have your say!

Department for Education (DfE) new consultation on Early Years Foundation Stage floor space requirements – have your say!

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a new consultation on Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) floor space requirements.

At present, section 3 of the EYFS for both group and school-based providers, and childminders states that providers are required to meet the following indoor spaces requirements:

- 3.5m² per child under two years
- 2.5m² per two-year-old
- 2.3m² per child aged between three and five years

The consultation is seeking views on whether or not 'free-flow' outdoor areas should be able to be included in floor space measurements for children aged two years and above.

For an outdoor area to be defined as 'free-flow', doors to the outdoor area would need to always be open, with the outdoor area accessible to children at all times. Children would need to "have safe access in all weathers including having adequate shelter and shade" and "the area must be suitably equipped to meet the health, safety, wellbeing, learning and development needs of all children".

The consultation confirms that if any changes to floor space requirements are taken forward, early years providers will still be required to meet the minimum staff-to-child ratios in the EYFS statutory frameworks.

The options presented in the consultation are:

- Option 1: Including 'free-flow' outdoor space in the EYFS space requirements without a cap to allow providers with the physical structure to meet the definition of 'free flow' outdoor space to increase the number of children in their setting.
- Option 2: Including 'free-flow' outdoor space in the EYFS space requirements with a cap to mitigate potential risks around overcrowding.

The DfE is not proposing a specific cap level but states that, for example, the consultation states that "with a 10% cap, a setting with a maximum capacity of 80 children ... could take 8 additional children (provided that the additional useable free-flow space is large enough to meet the required space measurements for the additional number of children)".

The Department has confirmed that option 2 is their preferred option.

The consultation also asks respondents to share any alternative ideas on how the government might change the indoor space requirements. Respondents also have the option to state their preference for floor space requirements to remain as they are.

The consultation will run until **11 July** with the government expected to provide a response in autumn 2025.

Give your thoughts [here](#)

Researchful Practice Quality Award

Are you interested in becoming a Lancashire Early Years Research setting?
Would you like to develop research skills to help you develop your practice?
Are you and your team interested in creating your own research projects?

Please see the attached flyer for more details



Inclusion Sway Newsletter



In this edition of the Inclusion Newsletter:

- Closure of the autism pathway to new referrals in Central and West Lancashire
- CLA E funding position statement
- SEND Strategy update
- Break Time – second opportunity for families to register
- Learning Disability Week – *Do You See Me?*

[Inclusion Newsletter \(schools and settings\) 17 Jun 2025](#)

Selected DfE Updates 10th - 17th June

- [Breakfast club early adopters grant: 2024 to 2025 academic year](#)
Guidance for schools and local authorities on funding for the breakfast club early adopter schools from April 2025. Updated: 16 June 2025
- [Working together to safeguard children](#)
Statutory guidance on multi-agency working to help, support and protect children. Updated: 12 June 2025
- [Special educational needs in England: January 2025](#)
Information from the school census on pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and SEN provision in schools. Updated: 12 June 2025