

## Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 26<sup>th</sup> June 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/](http://www.facebook.com/LancsEarlyYears/) [www.facebook.com/groups/lancsearlyyears/](http://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!** **Consider how you keep children safe when eating**

Tragically, a child dies in the UK every month from choking and hundreds more require hospital treatment. It can happen quickly, and it can happen to any child regardless of age.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework makes it clear that children must always be closely supervised whilst eating and that this means they should be in sight **and** hearing of an adult.

[Food safety - Help for early years providers - GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/education.gov.uk) includes important messages around the preparation of foods and links to useful resources regarding keeping children safe whilst eating.

The Food Standards Agency have created a useful poster to display where food is prepared and served to children as a helpful reminder of how to minimise the risk of choking. You can download the poster here:

[Choking hazards poster](#)



All Paediatric First Aid training includes what to do if a baby or child is choking . The NHS produce very useful guidance to remind you:

[How to stop a child from choking - NHS](#)

## Let's Celebrate!



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

🌟 **Little Stars Day Nursery** in Preston were recognised in their report for knowing their children well. The inspector noted : 'Staff are welcoming and know children well. They use children's existing interests to engage their attention and build on what they already know and can do. Staff make sure each child and their family feels valued and included'. Hannah Topping shared that the inspection was really good and that her learning walk went well. She said that they are having a garden make-over and the inspector was impressed with the environment.

🌟 **Playdor Nursery** also in Preston are celebrating their positive inspection outcome. Deputy Manager Harriet Mahon shared that the inspection went well and the inspector put them at ease and was really easy to talk to. The inspector was having an inspection herself on the day. Sharon, the manager did most of the inspection but Harriet as a Deputy she was also actively involved. The inspector captured that : 'At the heart of this caring setting is the understanding that building warm and trusting relationships supports children to progress well. Welcoming and friendly staff allow children to separate confidently from their parents and carers. Staff provide a calm and enticing environment for children to develop their individuality.'

🌟 **Whitworth Playgroup** in Rossendale have recently had their inspection report published. Manager Liz Hughes said that they are really pleased with their report. The inspector was excellent and she was very reassuring. She gave feedback during the morning which helped the staff to relax. The inspector remarked on the kindness from the children within the setting towards each other and that every child was busy and involved at their play. The inspector noted how: 'Communication and language is well supported in the playgroup. Staff use clear words with children and hold conversations to deepen their understanding of speech.'

Additionally, staff use image boards around the playgroup to help spark discussions from children.'

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

## Reminder...

### DBS information session to support safer recruitment

Would you like to understand more about the DBS process to support you in your safe recruitment and ongoing suitability decisions?

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of July at 10am on Microsoft Teams  
(No charge)**

Blackpool Early Years Team are hosting an information session with the North West's Regional Outreach Worker and all Lancashire settings are very welcome to attend. To book your place please use this [booking form](#).

The session is online (Microsoft Teams) and will explore -

- DBS Barring Functions
- DBS Myth busting
- Responsibilities of organisations
- The Legal Duty to Refer to DBS and when it applies
- The impact of not making appropriate referrals to DBS
- How to make a good quality barring referral
- Live Questions and Answers

## Protective Preparedness for Education Settings Webinars – Martyn's Law

The Department for Education (DfE) in partnership with the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) invite you to the 'Protective Preparedness For Education Settings' a webinar focussed on counter terrorism protective security and preparedness for education settings.

The DfE's 'Counter Terrorism Protect & Prepare Team' will provide you with an overview and update on the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 commonly known as, 'Martyn's Law', and its implications for the education sector. You can find more information about Martyn's Law by visiting - [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

NaCTSO will also provide a briefing on how to consider counter terrorism protection and preparedness across education settings. You can find out more about scalable counter terrorism preparedness by visiting [ProtectUK | Home](#)

If you would like to learn more about how you can protect your education setting, staff and learners from terrorism, please click the links below where you can sign up and access further details.

Links:

[Monday 7th July 2025 - 12:00 - 13:00](#)

[Tuesday 15th July 2025 - 12:00 - 13:00](#)

[Wednesday 16th July 2025 - 12:00 - 13:00](#)

[Wednesday 23rd July 2025 - 12:00 - 13:00](#)

## Ofsted Report – How early years practitioner work with babies and toddlers

On 30 April Ofsted published a new report which explores how early years practitioners apply the EYFS to the education and care of babies and toddlers. It aims to support leaders and practitioners in refining their approaches to best support the youngest learners.

You can read the report here: [Getting it right from the start: how early years practitioners work with babies and toddlers – GOV.UK](#)

## The Importance of Play Based Connections



Funded by  
UK Government

Liverpool City Region and Beyond Stronger Practice Hub are offering –

### **The Importance of Place Based Connections in Early Childhood**

Place connected pedagogy: how the **beach** can provoke and inspire children's curiosity and ecological awareness.

**Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**10.00 am – 11.30 am**

**Online with Workplace ZOOM**

With **Dr. Diane Boyd – Independent Consultant**

Please contact [sphubNW@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:sphubNW@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk)

To reserve your funded place

**Reminder...**

## Specialist Teaching Early Years Team feedback

As a valued educator, the Specialist Teaching Early Years Team is seeking to obtain feedback on the service offer currently provided by the specialist Teachers. If the setting Manager, Childminder or SENCO could complete the very short Microsoft Form link below by

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

It would be greatly appreciated.

[Feedback Form](#)

## Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Posters for parents



'The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) aims to improve outcomes for socio-economically disadvantaged children from the age of 9 months – 4 years.

You could be receiving an **additional £570 per eligible child** per year.

**How are you ensuring your parents are aware of this additional funding?**

Display and share the **two EYPP posters** (attached to this email) with parents upon induction as well as at the start of each new term. Our EYPP posters provide parents with key information whilst allaying any concerns that claiming this additional funding will affect their benefits.

Used wisely and through a targeted approach this **additional funding** will support you to create a legacy and importantly ensure every child, no matter their background to family income can **flourish and progress, therefore narrowing attainment gaps.**'

## **\*\* NEW\*\*** Personal, Social and Emotional Development Lancashire Quality Award



The **PSED Award** is an opportunity to reflect on and improve your practice and provision using our award materials and training with Mentor support. The **self-evaluative reflective tool** will support practitioners to fully consider the key skills required for learning and developing within children's personal, social, and emotional development. It helps with their ability to self-regulate, build their emotional literacy, learn new skills linked to executive function, build friendship groups and manage children's challenging behaviour.

View attached flyer for information on this **new award** from **Lancashire Early Years**.

**Nurturing Nutrition: Event recording and resources available**



**FOUNDATION YEARS**

Foundation Years is pleased to share the recording and supporting slides from the recent live event: [\*\*Nurturing Nutrition – Building Healthy Foundations in the Early Years\*\*](#)

Hosted by [Begin Bright](#), this informative session featured insights from the Department for Education, Ofsted and early years nutrition experts. The event explored the importance of nutrition in early childhood and provided practical strategies to support healthy eating habits in early years settings.

Whether you attended live or are catching up, the recording is a great opportunity to reflect on your current practice, gain expert guidance and access useful resources that promote children's health and wellbeing.

We encourage all early years educators, setting leaders and support staff to watch and share the materials with their teams.

## **Equality & Diversity Team summer newsletter**



Please find the Equality & Diversity Team summer newsletter at the link below:

[\*\*Education Improvement: Equality & Diversity Team\*\*](#)