

Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 3rd July 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](#)

Don't miss the last session of this academic year!



Something to do this week – informing Ofsted of events



Ofsted registered providers are required to report specific incidents and events to them. You may either use the 'report an incident' form (link below) or email Ofsted (using an email address they have registered for your setting) ensuring that you include your Unique Reference Number (URN), name and setting address.

Here are some of the most common things to report

Allegations of harm or abuse: you must report any allegations made about anyone who works or lives at premises where childcare takes place, even if the allegation is made about an event that did not happen at the setting or in setting hours.

Disqualification: all adults working or living on the premises MUST be DBS checked. If the registered provider, an employee or someone living or working on childcare premises becomes disqualified from being able to live or work on the premises (DBS disqualification) then you must report this to Ofsted.

Suitability: if someone who works or lives on the premises where childcare takes place is involved in an event or there are any changes that may affect their suitability such as changes to their health, involvement with police or social services, then you must inform Ofsted.

Changes to registration: you must inform Ofsted if there are changes to your registration. This includes changes to the legal entity (e.g. becoming a limited company), moving premises, making changes (including extensions) to the property, building works or other changes to the premises. If there is a change of management within a setting, changes to who lives or works on childminding premises or a change to the committee (if relevant) then you must inform Ofsted of a change to your initial registration. If there are changes to your registration relating to opening days or times you must also send in details. If there are any planned or unplanned closures, you must also let Ofsted know as soon as possible and always within 14 days.

Safety of premises or quality of childcare: you must inform Ofsted if there are any events that affect the condition of the premises or the quality of the care provided. Examples of this may be fires, floods, unsafe gas appliances, no running water or carbon dioxide detection.

Child incidents: if a child dies whilst in your care you must report it. You must also report any serious accident, injury or illness affecting the child while they are being looked after. This includes food poisoning affecting at least two children.

Death or serious incident involving others: if anyone else besides the children on the premises, dies, has a serious accident, or a serious injury, you must report this to Ofsted.

Other incidents: you must inform Ofsted if a child leaves the premises unattended or is lost when on outings. You must also inform Ofsted if there is a serious complaint regarding your service which is made directly to you.

Find out more: [Childcare: significant events to notify Ofsted about - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted/about-us/childcare-significant-events-to-notify-ofsted-about) and
[Report a serious childcare incident - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted/about-us/report-a-serious-childcare-incident)

Let's Celebrate!



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

Sandcastles in Morecambe shared that their inspection went well. Helen O'Hagan Nursery Director shared, 'Our inspector made a noticeable effort to put staff at ease, he checked in with me at points through the day to ensure I was happy with his conduct. He prioritised spending time with children although he also made time for all the manager questions and due diligence. What helped me most was that I had used the grade descriptors to make notes about what we are proud of and wanted to draw his attention to. I checked these off during the learning walk and as the day progressed. Their inspection report captures how

Leaders have devised a curriculum that provides children with the knowledge and skills that they need to get ready for school and beyond. Staff consider children's interests alongside their next steps in learning when they plan activities.

Ashbourne Day Nursery in Ingol have had their report published, in which it notes *Children demonstrate impressive skills in literacy, communication and mathematics. It is clear children feel challenged by their learning, and those who are moving to primary school are well prepared.*

Deputy Manager Louise Poulton said that the inspector was lovely and they had a really good day.

ABC Treehouse in Staining shared their inspection experience with us. Manager Caroline Rutherford said that the whole experience was a positive one and that the inspector was very reassuring to the staff and gave plenty of feedback. Their inspector noted how

The provider supports staff effectively in their professional roles and personal lives. They target professional development opportunities to enhance teaching and to benefit the children attending.

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

The power of pictures!

This PechaKucha by Elaine Duke talks you through a day at the beach through the eyes of the child.

We have this wonderful resource near lots of our coastal settings and the idea is to inspire and enthuse practitioners to make the most of our beaches.

The beach combines learning with play in a natural, open-ended environment. The children will have the freedom to explore, sensory experiences, hands-on learning, connection with nature and the opportunity to build confidence and independence.

There will be time for the children to promote their physical development in a fun and natural way.

Watch the video and be inspired!

<https://youtu.be/BOX7g83u-Xs>



SEND Capital Plan



Thank you so much to all of you who attended the Engagement Events. Please find attached the slides shared at the event. **If you were not able to attend, we would be very grateful if you could read through the two sets of slides attached and have your say by completing the survey at the end.**

The DFE has allocated money to Local Authorities through the HNPCA (High Needs Provision Capital Allocation). There are strict guidelines for what this fund can be used for. Lancashire currently has around £57million from this fund. Some projects are already underway and we are now seeking feedback on the proposed plan for how the remainder of this money (and any further DFE HNPCF allocation) should be used over the next 3 to 5 years.

Have you thought about ... Mathematical learning for your children



Would you like to support your staff to harness the mathematical learning that is taking place throughout your core provision and within daily routines?

Would your team benefit from exploring the effective role of the adult during meaningful mathematics, such as games, songs and small group activities?



Would you like to support your team to further develop their mathematical subject knowledge?

If you answered 'Yes, to any of these questions, why not consider our new **Building Blocks for Mathematics**'.

This comprehensive and virtual training package is suitable for EYFS practitioners working in group settings across the birth to 5 age phase. It offers you over 8 hours of mathematical content, across 15 videos. The webinars include lots of practical and meaningful mathematics and have been designed to support you to provide a strong and effective mathematics curriculum in your setting.

The training includes specific sessions for both 0 to 3 year olds (3 to 5 year olds) and even the videos focusing upon babies, toddlers and twos, would also be ideal for all practitioners as they identify how key mathematical concepts emerge and develop over time.

A valuable resource to support practitioner's subject knowledge of child development in mathematics!

Once purchased, you will have continued access to all training videos, so you can revisit and embed the sessions in practice.

To order this package at a cost of **£200**, please follow this link [Mathematics - building blocks *NEW FOR 2025* - Lancashire County Council](#) You can also **top up** your training package to include **the Lancashire Quality Award in Early Mathematics** for a total cost of **£300!**

If you would like more details about this new training package, watch our information video: https://youtu.be/9vveA_E3v0A

Stronger Practice Hub - new networks

If you are an Early Years Leader in a School or a Nursery Manager in a private and voluntary setting we are offering a **Leaders Stronger Practice Hub Meeting** to discuss early years leadership and management challenges. This network will run the first Tuesday of every month on Zoom Workplace



Tuesday 1st July 3.45 to 4.45p.m.

Leaders Stronger Practice Hub Meeting

Meeting ID: 810 1824 0022

Passcode: 308051

If you are an **early years practitioner** in a school, private and voluntary setting or **childminder** we are offering an **Early Years and SEND Network**. This network will run the first Thursday of every month on Zoom Workplace.

Thursday 3rd July 6 to 7p.m.

Early Years and SEND Network

Meeting ID:

835 2432 7350

Passcode: 381605

Please find attached a copy of the **July Newsletter** packed full of information including an interesting article by Michelle Bennet (Lancashire Outstanding Childminder) all about **Exploring Understanding the World**.

You can sign up to receive the newsletter directly and see past copies on the website:

www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org/strongerpracticehub

Inclusion Newsletter

In this edition of the Inclusion Newsletter:

- An introduction from Grace Westwood, SEND Senior Manager (South)
- CLA E funding position statement (updated)
- Report on the SEND Partnership Development Day
- Update on Year 11 EHCP reviews
- Break Time - second opportunity for families to register
- Several other updates and reminders

[Inclusion Newsletter \(schools and settings\) 1 Jul 2025](#)

For accessibility options

- Click on the link to open the sway
- Click on the three dots (top-right)
- Select 'Accessibility view'

#LancsSummer – please share with families



Lancashire County Council is launching its exciting #LancsSummer campaign from 21st July to 1st September, and there's loads for families to enjoy!

Whether you're looking for free activities at Family Hubs, low-cost days out, healthy summer tips, or even getting ready for the new school year, #LancsSummer has something for everyone.

Share your summer adventures by posting your photos using #LancsSummer on social media. Let's show off all the amazing things happening across Lancashire this summer!

Visit the webpage here: www.lancashire.gov.uk/summer

DfE and Ofsted Updates

[Childcare providers and inspections as of 31 March 2025](#) This release includes registered childcare providers and places, inspection outcomes, and joiners and leavers as at 31 March 2025.

[Glossary of terms: Ofsted statistics](#) Amended entry for 'Childcare providers and inspections' to reflect changes introduced by the Department for Education in November 2024 that provide greater flexibility for childminders.

chair is Dame Christine Gilbert.

[Ofsted's equality objectives 2023 to 2027](#) - Updated with supporting data on Ofsted's equality objectives progress. Data is as of 31 March 2024.

[Our approach to mental health and well-being: updates](#) - Published an article by Matthew Purves, National Director of Ofsted Academy, on Ofsted's renewed approach to mental health and well-being.

[Ofsted publishes research on vulnerability commissioned from the National Children's Bureau](#) - The report looks at how Ofsted might consider vulnerability in the context of its inspection and regulation work. Published 2nd July 2025.