



Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin Thursday 23rd October 2025

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

Keep in touch



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



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www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/supporting-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-years-settings/ 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 [Microsoft Teams form](#)

New Practitioners Academy

Are you training or been in early years for less than a year?

Join our new practitioners' academy by completing this [FORM](#) and we will be in touch before each session to share the links with you.

These are free to attend and will help you in your new or future role (there is no need to book, just complete the form).

23rd September	4 to 5pm
18th November	9.45 to 10.45am
20th January	4 to 5pm
10th March	9.45 to 10.45am
19th May	4 to 5pm
7th July	9.45 to 10.45am

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!

Something to do this week! Review your EYPP

All children deserve to have an equal chance of success regardless of their backgrounds and this is where the Early Years Pupil Premium funding can play a pivotal role. The additional funding can be used effectively and creatively to support and narrow the gap in learning and development for disadvantaged children.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and who can claim it was extended in April 2024. Families need to meet economic criteria and give consent to enable settings to claim this additional funding which is claimed through the eligibility checking system on the free entitlement portal. For more information about the criteria and how local authorities check eligibility, please see the information on this link:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2024-to-2025/early-years-entitlements-local-authority-funding-operational-guide-2024-to-2025#early-years-pupil-premium-eypp

A great use of your funding would be for some professional development to ensure all staff have the following skills:

1: Quality of adult-child verbal interactions.

- Do adults in the setting carry out back and forth interactions?
- Are they seen as playful partners?
- Do they give children thinking time?
- Are they down at the child's level?

2: Understanding the curriculum.

- Are staff confident with and have a secure knowledge of the settings curriculum and the Educational Programmes that support this?
- Do all staff know their key children's starting points, prior experiences, and next steps?

3: Knowledge of how young children learn.

- Are staff confident with child development? What about any newer members of staff?

4: Adults' skill in helping children to resolve conflicts.

- Have staff received appropriate training to support children who may have suffered Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma?
- Do staff know every child's backstory? Are staff confident to support these children?

5: Helping parents to support children's learning at home.

- How does the setting support and engage parents from induction and throughout the year?

Why not download our EYPP toolkit to support you with your additional EYPP funding. The toolkit includes a poster to display at your setting to draw parents attention to the extra funding they may be entitled to for their child.

EYPP Toolkit [Early years pupil premium \(EYPP\) funding - Lancashire County Council](#)

Would you like to have a greater knowledge about meeting the needs of our most vulnerable learners? Kimberley McGrail will be delivering the **Children who are looked after (CLA) and adopted children: Recognising and meeting the needs of our vulnerable learners** training on the

3rd November 2025, 9.30 – 12.30 and 6th May 2026, 9.30-12.30

(both dates are face to face at the Early Years Professional development centre **OR** live streamed – please make your selection on the booking form) or you can purchase a pre-recorded version for instant access.

Full details here: [Children who are looked after \(CLA\) and adopted children: Recognising and meeting the needs of our vulnerable learners - Lancashire County Council](#)

Well Done!



👏 We are shouting a big Wednesday Well Done to all those settings who were inspected last week or who had their inspection reports published. 🎉

Last week inspection reports captured how well settings in Lancashire get to know their families and children well – and how this impacts greatly upon emotional wellbeing and positive relationships.

They noted that ...

- "Leaders and staff know their families and community exceptionally well. They direct families to services when required. They also use additional funding well to support families. For example, the pre-school organises family-focused activities and days out. Children benefit from enhanced well-being, stronger relationships at home and increased confidence."

- "Staff know children extremely well. Children form very positive bonds with staff. Children enjoy peaceful and nurturing moments with staff where they watch clouds together and discuss the different patterns and shapes in the sky. It is evident that children are happy and feel emotionally secure at the nursery."

If you would like to share your inspection experience with us or would like a shout out / recognition for effective ways of working, please do let us know .

Once again we would like to thank you for the continued commitment to delivering quality childcare and education to children in Lancashire.

Business tips for childminders

New Series of short videos

Are you a childminder looking to **strengthen your business knowledge**? Our '**Five minute videos for childminders**' are a series packed with practical tips to help you to manage, grow and thrive in your childcare business. Quick to watch, they explain all the jargon associated with business such as tax returns, contracts, charges and business planning.

Start watching this first video today about registration with HMRC to build your business confidence.

Five minute business tips for childminders – Registering with HMRC

<https://youtu.be/LhzX5qzgFek>

Want more **business tips and information**: you can purchase the **Childminder Business Handbook** for just £15 here and have a handy go-to publication when you need advice on subjects such as 'how long to keep records for' or 'how to grow your business'

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

Pre-School transition calendar?

Have you seen our new Pre-School transition calendar?

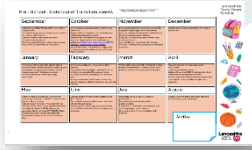
September 2026 may seem a long way away but in a blink of an eye it will be here.

Transitions for all children but especially your disadvantaged and vulnerable children can be extremely daunting.

It is important that transitions are seen as a year long process and not a one off event.

Each month the calendar guides you and gives some wonderful ideas for supporting your children.

Watch a video here how to use your calendar: <https://youtu.be/OClqwr5Xtgs>



Attached to this bulletin email is the transition calendar for you to print off and use at your setting.

Funded training for nursery settings Red Rose Communication and Language phonological awareness



Red Rose, Communication, Language and Literacy, Phonological Awareness - Phase 1 is a rigorous planning programme designed for teaching the continuum of phonological awareness throughout Aspects 1 to 6, including a focus on the phonemic awareness stage of oral blending and segmenting within Aspect 7.

This practical training session will explore explicit teaching and learning approaches underpinned by a carefully considered progression and planning materials. Participants will leave with an understanding of planning, teaching and assessing using the Red Rose, Communication, Language and Literacy, Phonological Awareness - Phase 1 programme, a firm understanding of the pedagogy, and will be motivated by the belief that teaching with this programme will improve outcomes for children.

To find out more and to book your **FREE** place, see the **attached flyer**.

What comes before phonics New instant access training for literacy

Before children can read a single word, something much bigger is happening beneath the surface. **This instant access training** will take you below the surface. We'll explore what truly comes before phonics—the **essential skills and experiences** that prepare children to become confident, joyful readers. You'll discover **practical strategies** you can use tomorrow, reflect on your current practice, and leave with **fresh ideas** to enrich your setting. If you've ever wondered why some children struggle with phonics or how to **give every child the best start**, this session is for you. Let's dive in and build the foundations for lifelong literacy.

To purchase this brand new instant access training please complete the booking form:

[What Comes Before Phonics - Lancashire County Council](#)

Liverpool City Region and Beyond Stronger Practice Hub



The stronger practice hub are offering free online webinars:

An introduction to is a series of three webinars, each session focuses on one of the prime areas of learning.

The Physical Development session will be on

Wednesday 12th November at 3.45-4.45.

Topic: An introduction to...

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84344553323?pwd=bFiHBYjHryvbzgaSencs5NdeCVOTqV.1>

Meeting ID: 843 4455 3323

Passcode: 447255

After that the webinars are starting again on these dates, all at 3.45-4.45:

C&L - Wednesday 26th November 2025 Communication and Language

PSED - Wednesday 10th December 2025 PSED

PD - Wednesday 7th January 2026 Physical Development



Join the monthly Leadership network online:

This will be held the first **Tuesday of each month** on
Workplace **Zoom**

3.45pm – 4.30pm

Meeting ID: 881 3994 7902

Passcode: 005369

The same ID and passcode for every monthly Tuesday meeting.

November 4th

December 2nd

January 6th 2026

February 3rd

March 3rd

Please contact sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk to book place



Join the Liverpool City Region and beyond SEND/Early years network.

This is held on the first Thursday of each month on zoom:

6.00-7.00pm

Meeting ID: 874 2439 5942

Passcode: 774607

The same ID and passcode for every monthly Thursday meeting.

October 2nd

November 6th

December 4th

February 5th 2026

March 5th 2026

Please contact sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk to book your place.



Liverpool City Region and Beyond stronger practice hub are offering settings the chance to join the 'Maths Champions Programme'. A

professional development programme developed by the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA).

For more information, please see the attached Maths Champions leaflet and sign-up information sheet.

Early Years Quality Improvement Team November Training

Please find attached the November training for your sector.

Inclusion Newsletter 22nd October 2025



In this edition of the Inclusion Newsletter:

- Spotlight on SENDIAS
- ELSA Conference
- EHCNA Recovery Plan update
- POWAR update
- Supported Internships update
- SEND Roadshows
- CPD opportunities

[Inclusion Newsletter \(schools and settings\) 22 Oct 2025](#)

For accessibility options

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

New 'Best Start in Life' Campaign: Toolkit and Resources

Visit the Best Start in Life website

The Best Start in Life campaign aims to increase awareness of the role of the early years in a child's development, increase parental understanding of things they can do in their child's early years and how early education supports child development. This is why our [Best Start in Life](#) website brings together trusted advice, support and guidance for parents to turn to.

To help promote the campaign you can:

- Use the toolkit resources are here: [Best Start in Life | Toolkit and creative assets](#)

- Promote the website: [Best Start in Life](#)

Share the PR video: [‘The Story of You’](#) celebrates the journey of early childhood