

To Begin

Welcome to Lancashire

<https://youtu.be/eDi2VZd42uQ>

Support from the team

- Contact your area Childcare Development Officer to schedule your annual support visit
- Visit the [Early Years Professional Development Centre](#) or other events focusing on learning in the environment to be inspired
- Contact your [Childminder Lead Practitioner](#) for further support on your practice and business

Make the most of the support on offer from the team and attend your Termly Cluster Meeting and Workshops

Networking

Keeping up to date

- Look out for the Weekly bulletin in your inbox – packed with all the latest updates
- Join our private Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/lancsearlyyears/
- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/@LancsEarlyYears
- Explore our website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/

Training

Mandatory Training

- [Introduction to Safeguarding](#)
- [Designated Safeguarding Lead Training](#)
- [Paediatric First Aid](#)

Set a reminder to renew these training sessions timely and book [here](#)

Supporting knowledge of child development

Continue building your knowledge on children's development. You can do this by accessing the following training, articles and information or any alternative to support your practice.

- Book onto our '[Working with under threes in a childminder setting](#)' (if applicable)
- Purchase our [Build Blocks – Working with three to fours](#)
- Complete the Government Child Development modules: [Early years child development training: Home page](#)
- Purchase our [Bitesize](#) Training package
- Read articles in the [Spotlight Magazine](#)
- Resources, activities and support articles for childminders and practitioners working with children aged 0-5 years: [Help for early years providers : Get help for your setting](#)

SEND

Supporting children with additional needs

Specialist teachers and HLTA's from the SEND Specialist Teaching Service offer Childminders general SEND information and advice and specific advice on meeting the needs of young children with emerging or identified SEND.

- Access the early years SEND toolkit and request for support form [SEND Specialist Teaching Service - Lancashire County Council](#)

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe

Make sure you're familiar with Lancashire's safeguarding procedures, including what to do if an allegation is made against you, staff, or a family member. Visit the following sites for further guidance and support.

- Lancashire Safeguarding Partnership [Lancashire Safeguarding Partnership - Lancashire County Council](#)
- Information for providers including monthly 'Focus On' [Safeguarding - Lancashire County Council](#)
- Lancashire's Early Help offer [Lancashire Safeguarding Partnership - Early Help & Support for Families](#)

Evaluating Practice

- Look at the audit tool supplied by your Childcare Development Officer alongside your Childminder Portfolio to ensure all statutory requirements are in place, or contact your Childcare Development Officer for further support

Set a reminder to review your Childminder Portfolio at least annually

- Attend the [Evaluating your Practice](#) training
- If you're employing assistants, ensure you follow safer recruitment guidance, undertake induction, regular supervisions and support their Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and knowledge of the EYFS.

Assessments

- Remember, the two year Progress Check is the only mandatory written assessment you need to complete in partnership with parents when the child is aged between 24-36 months.
- You can also borrow the Wellcomm toolkit to screen children's speech and language development. Contact your Childcare Development Officer.

Key Documents

Ensure you have downloaded the documents below:

- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage [Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework - GOV.UK](#)
- Development Matters [Development Matters - GOV.UK](#)
- Working with the revised EYFS Principles into Practice [Development Matters 2020](#)
- Birth to 5 Matters [Birth To 5 Matters – Guidance by the sector, for the sector](#)
- What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage: a guide for parents [What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf](#)
- Progress Check at age 2 [Progress check at age 2 - GOV.UK](#)
- Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition guidance [Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition - GOV.UK](#)
- Early Years Inspection Toolkit [Early years inspection: toolkit, operating guide and information - GOV.UK](#)

What Next

Childminders can grow their business in many ways:

- You can employ up to 4 assistants
- Register to work from non-domestic premises some of the time or at all times (Childminder without domestic premises)
- Gain a formal qualification [Training and qualifications - Early Years Careers](#)