



## Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 4<sup>TH</sup> June 2026

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

### Keep in touch



[EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk)

01772 539058



[www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/)



**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 for free**

[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/) complete this [Form](#)

### New Manager/Deputy Academy

**Are you new to the role of the manager or deputy manager at a PVI nursery?**

Perhaps you have only been a manager for the last 6 months or so or have recently become a deputy manager. 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 virtually 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).

**7<sup>th</sup> 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!

## Your sector representatives

Please contact your PVI representatives on the Early Years Consultative Group, **Rafael Schiel** [rafael@giantleapchildcare.co.uk](mailto:rafael@giantleapchildcare.co.uk) or **Sharon Fenton** [sharon@risingstarslancaster.co.uk](mailto:sharon@risingstarslancaster.co.uk) if you have any comments or questions that you would like them to take forward to the County Council on your behalf.

## Something to do this week

### Review your systems for accident reporting

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) states that "Providers must take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well.

This week is Child safety week, so is a good time to review your risk management and pass those important messages on to families.

Accidents often happen and this cannot be controlled, however, we can carry out risk assessments and put procedures in place to minimise the risks. By following good practice and procedures such as keeping cups of tea out of reach of children, we can go some way to protect them.

#### If an accident does occur – what are the steps you need to follow?

Once any immediate danger or injuries are dealt with, you need to think about

- What needs to be recorded?
- What and Who does it need to be reported to?
- Would the accident result in an insurance claim?

The EYFS states that a record of accidents and/or injuries and first aid treatments must be kept.

For certain accidents or incidents, you must **inform Ofsted** [Report a serious childcare incident - GOV.UK](#)

A list of what they need to be informed of is found here – [Childcare: reporting children's accidents and injuries - GOV.UK](#)

You also need to inform your **public liability provider** of any serious injuries.

Certain injuries and dangerous occurrences must also be reported to **RIDDOR** [Make a RIDDOR report - Overview - HSE](#) and this includes **if a child has broken a bone.**

For guidance on **incident reporting** for schools and early years setting, please see this leaflet –

[Incident reporting in schools \(accidents, diseases and dangerous occurrences\): Guidance for employers - HSE](#)

### **Accident prevention**

Efforts to prevent accidents is often the best course of action and you can find more information on accident prevention at the following links –

ROSPA - [RoSPA- RoSPA | The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents | An Accident-Free World](#)

ROSPA FAQs - [RoSPA- FAQs | RoSPA Health and Safety Award](#)

Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) - [Child Accident Prevention Trust | A safer world for all our children](#)

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) - [HSE: Information about health and safety at work](#)

Royal lifesaving Society has good advice for parents around safety in water at home [Splash Safely at Home | Royal Life Saving Society UK \( RLSS UK \)](#)

#### **Looking for some health and safety training?**

We have an instant access course available to complete at your convenience.

Take a look here: [Health and Safety in the Workplace for Childcare Practitioners \(Level 2\) - Lancashire County Council](#)

## **Best Start in Life Practice cards**



**Best Start in Life** Collect and share the latest card for practitioners working with 2 year olds. The topics this week are 'building independence' and 'turn taking'. The cards are attached for you to use in your setting and share with parents.

Watch this [short video](#) to find out more about our **Best Start in Life Campaign** and how your setting can get involved.

## **FREE Saturday play conference**

Please find below the details of the upcoming **Saturday Play Conference**, taking place **online via Zoom** on **Saturday 13th June, from 9:30am to 12:30pm.**

The Stronger Practice Hub are delighted to welcome the following speakers:

- **Dr Denise Wright** – *The Importance of Play in the Early Years*
- **Emma-Louise Scott** – *Play and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities*

- **Dr Diane Boyd** – *Play and Sustainability*

Book here: [Play Conference Tickets | TryBooking United Kingdom](#)

Please open the attached flyer and use the booking link to reserve your **fully funded place**. You can also stay connected by following our **Facebook page** for further updates and announcements:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1236737084491871/>

We look forward to seeing you there!

**The Early Years Stronger Practice Hub Team**

## Stronger practice newsletter



**Newsletter  
May 2026**



The **North West Stronger Practice Hub** has lots of **free training** and information for settings brought by national funding from the **Department for Education**.

Make the most of what is available free to you by **signing up** to their newsletter packed full of the latest news and offers.

For the latest newsletter and to sign up, **please click the link below:**



Funded by  
UK Government

[Hi there, please see our May Newsletter](#)

## Stronger practice hub communication and language strategies FREE webinar



The Stronger Practice Hub are so excited to share something truly special with you...

**FREE LIVE WEBINAR series *Inclusive Communication & Language Strategies* is now open for booking** — designed to support practitioners in building confident, inclusive communication practice across Early Years settings.

These short, practical sessions are packed with real-world strategies you can take straight back into your setting, helping you support every child's unique communication journey with confidence and care. 🧡

This inspiring 2-part series, will explore:

🧠 **Session 1 – Supporting Speech Sound Development**

Learn how to identify whether a child's speech sounds are on track, when

extra support may be needed, and how to deliver simple, high-impact and engaging speech interventions.

## Session 2 – Supporting Language Development & Neurodiversity

Discover how to create inclusive, communication-friendly environments, strengthen adult-child interactions, and adopt neuro-affirming approaches that help every child thrive.

 Session 1: Thursday 18th June 2026 | 6:30–7:00pm

 Session 2: Tuesday 7th July 2026 | 6:30–7:00pm

✨ **FREE to attend – but booking is essential.** Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Join us and be part of these energising, practical sessions designed to support your everyday practice.

Secure your place here 

[Live Webinars: Inclusive Communication & Language Strategies - Bright Futures Training](#)

♥ And don't forget - this is just one of many opportunities available. Be sure to keep an eye on the website, where new webinars, training and resources are added regularly to support you and your setting.

## Lancashire Safeguarding Partnership newsletter

### [May 2026- Lancashire Safeguarding Partnership Newsletter](#)

Lancashire Safeguarding is a multi-agency partnership established to ensure safeguarding measures are met, vulnerable children and adults across Lancashire are

protected from harm & abuse and lessons are learned from case reviews and improvements identified and implemented.

In this month's newsletter, you'll find:

- Various training opportunities
- New parenting and language guidance
- CSAP Learning Conference - our pledge
- CDOP update
- Safeguarding alert for 'squishy' toy

## Free SEND training

**Working with children and families** means that you encounter different people with **diverse needs**. You may play an important role in their lives at

the crucial life stage when considering how care and education can best support those with **SEND**.

The **GM Reflect eLearning modules** have been developed with practitioners and leaders from across the Greater Manchester city region as part of the GM REFLECT framework. This module is a collaboration between the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Manchester Metropolitan University. It is **designed for the Early Years workforce and is freely accessible to all**.

To **access this free course**, please click the link below:

[Course: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEN/D\) - GMCA | Rise](#)

## Heads up on oral health Health survey in Lancashire



The Oral health of Lancashire children is worse than the England average, however it is improving. In 2024, almost ¼ of our 5-year-old children had dental decay. Children in the most

deprived areas of Lancashire are twice as likely to have dental decay than those that live in the more affluent areas.

What we are doing.....

To read more about the project and how you can help with the oral health survey, please see the attachment.

## Consultation on RIDDOR



**Health and Safety  
Executive**

### **The consultation is open for comments.**

HSE has launched a consultation on The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR).

The consultation seeks stakeholder views on a range of legislative and non-legislative proposals to help reduce work-related ill health, one of HSE's key strategic objectives.

It also looks for options to reduce the burden on businesses, in making these reports to the regulator, through simplification of the reporting process.

### **This consultation is relevant to all sectors and industries.**

We **particularly encourage small and medium-sized enterprises** (SMEs) and the **self-employed** to take part, as their practical experience and insight will be vital in shaping proportionate and effective changes.

### **How to take part**

The full consultation document, including detailed proposals, background information and how to respond is available on our website.

View the consultation and submit comments: [Consultation on proposals for The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013](#).

The consultation runs until **30 June 2026**.

## **Holiday providers inspection framework Ofsted blog**

"Renewed inspection framework for holiday providers: what you need to know" has just been published on the Ofsted: early years blog.

In this blog, we explain how we inspect holiday provision. When designing our renewed inspection framework and the early years toolkit, we wanted to ensure that they worked for all setting types, including holiday provision, and would recognise each setting's ...

Read the new post: <https://earlyyears.blog.gov.uk/2026/05/21/renewed-inspection-framework-for-holiday-providers-what-you-need-to-know/>

## Support your practice with free Early Years Child Development training

The Department for Education's [Early years child development training](#) is a **free, online** programme designed by early years experts to support practitioners working with **children from birth to reception**.

This flexible online training will help you to:

- Build and strengthen your child development knowledge
- Get practical advice and ideas to support children in your setting, including reception classes
- Reflect on your practice and test your knowledge
- Learn from practical training videos filmed in early years and reception settings
- Access modules in any order, at any time
- Download a certificate on completion of each module

The programme includes [8 modules](#), covering key areas such as:

- Brain development and how children learn
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Mathematics
- Effective curriculum and assessment
- Supporting individual differences and needs

The training has recently been updated to include:

- Additional videos and practical advice for supporting children in reception
- Guidance on supporting the EYFS profile assessment

### **Access the training:**

Visit the [Early years child development training](#) to register or sign-in if you already have an account.

## Free training videos about 'keeping children safe'

If you are looking to learn more about keeping children safe you can access these two short videos available from the National Child Mortality Database. The topics covered are Safer Sleep and Preventable Accidents.

[Reducing the risk of child death: Key messages for parents](#)

The information will be useful to share with parents perhaps in a newsletter, a quiz or an information share display. Additional useful resources are available via The Lullaby Trust [Safer sleep information | The Lullaby Trust](#) and Child Accident Prevention Trust [Child Safety Week | Child Accident Prevention Trust](#)

## Apply for a national professional qualification (NPQ)

NPQs are **professional development qualifications to help specialise in a specific area or develop leadership (including early years leadership)**. They are designed to help educators build skills and progress in their careers. NPQs are developed in collaboration with the sector, informed by the best available research and evidence. Courses last between 12 and 22 months (including the time to undertake assessment and receive results), depending on your chosen NPQ. The course structure, curriculum and method of delivery may vary between different providers.

During your NPQ, you will:

- learn from an evidence-based curriculum of your chosen qualification, drawing on effective pedagogy, current research and international best practice to give you the knowledge and skills to improve in your current role or take the next step in your career
- take part in a mixture of face-to-face sessions, webinars and self-directed study
- answer an assessed case study question (the summative assessment)

To find out more about NPQs and to apply:

[Apply for a national professional qualification \(NPQ\) - GOV.UK](#)

## Foundations for Life: A guide to social and emotional development



Foundations for Life: A Guide to Social and Emotional Development The Royal Foundation Centre for Early Childhood has published Foundations for Life: A Guide to Social and Emotional Development. It has been designed to give anyone working in early childhood a shared, foundational understanding of social and emotional development. It has been written primarily for practitioners and volunteers, whether in education, health, family support, or other services.

<https://centreforearlychildhood.org/helps-resources/resource-hub/all-resources/foundations-for-life-a-guide-to-social-and-emotional-development/>

**Free SENCO training**

Early Years SENCO qualification The Department for Education has funded 9,500 places for the Level 3 Early Years SENCO qualification over the 2026 to 2028 period.

The Level 3 Early Years SENCO qualification is for:

- Practitioners holding a full and relevant Level 3 qualification in private, voluntary or independent settings.
- Ofsted-registered childminders or childminders registered with a child-minding agency. Childminders may be eligible if they hold a full and relevant Level 2 qualification, have completed at least one Level 3 training module and have significant experience of working in early years.

To apply and find out more, please visit the programme website and apply as soon as possible. Please apply 7th June if you wish to start in June 2026. Further intakes will be available.

[Early Years SENCO 2026 | Best Practice Network](#)

## **Asbestos in sand-based play and craft products**

Further to the recent warnings and guidance provided in relation to the potential for small quantities of asbestos containing materials to be present in play and craft products containing sand, the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) who are the UK's product regulator, has provided the update below. Settings are advised to read the guidance, determine whether it applies to you and take appropriate action to identify and safely deal with any products on site that are suspected of containing asbestos.

### **Asbestos in sand**

OPSS has worked across government to launch a new GOV.UK landing page Asbestos in consumer products - GOV.UK to support local authorities, schools, businesses and consumers and other stakeholders.

The page brings together consumer advice, business guidance and information for workplaces and schools, including practical steps on what to do and how to dispose of affected products safely. (This guidance applies to England, Scotland and Wales.)

[Asbestos in consumer products - GOV.UK](#)

## **Team around the school and settings (TASS)**

Please see the attachment for 'What's New' in TASS. If there is something taking place in another part of the county that would interest your cluster, please feel free to contact your Education Partnership Officer to discuss that further.

## **Inclusion sway**

Inclusion Newsletter (schools and settings) 2 Jun 2026



## [Inclusion Newsletter \(schools and settings\) 2 Jun 2026](#)

### ***In this edition of the Inclusion Newsletter:***

- A message from Paula Green, Head of Service, SEND & Inclusion
- Lancashire Parent Carer Forum Conference
- Update: LSCFT ASD and ADHD pathways
- Help amplify young voices – share “The Big Future”
- Have Your Say on New SEND Places in Lancashire
- SEND Partnership Communication and Training Survey
- Professional Development opportunities
- Several other updates and reminders

## **Potty training support**

1 in 4 children starts Reception not fully toilet trained. This has a significant impact- not only on children's confidence and wellbeing, but on teachers, support staff and classmates too.

Our free **Potty Training Guide** offers families clear, practical advice on how and when to potty train children. It includes top tips and signposts additional support for those who may need it.

We know that supporting families with potty training can sometimes feel challenging — especially when balancing sensitive conversations with the realities and expectations of starting Reception.

That's why we are hosting a practical webinar to help schools and early years settings feel more confident in supporting families and using our Potty Training Guide in practice.

### **Starting Reception: Supporting Families with Potty Training Monday 8th June | 12pm–12.45pm**

In this supportive and practical session, we will explore:

- how to work positively with families around potty training
- practical ways to use the Potty Training Guide
- approaches to sensitive or difficult conversations
- the realities and expectations of Reception

- advice and top tips from experts and practitioners

**Sign up to the webinar**

**Download the Potty Training Guide**