

Early Years & Childcare Update

26 July 2024

Dear Provider,

Welcome to the Early Years update that is delivered on a fortnightly basis so that news is timely and informative. Please share this email with staff in your settings and, as always, contact us if you have any questions.

Essential Information

Summer holidays activities

The [summer holidays activities page](#) is now live on the Family Information Service (FIS) website. The page will be updated regularly with fantastic opportunities for children and young people to take part in over the summer. Please share with your families.

The children centre's are continuing to offer activities and groups over the summer. The timetable for 29 July – 31 August is attached.

DfE Stronger Practice Hubs – Childminder Support

The [Thames Valley EY Stronger Practice hub](#) is providing free support for childminders at a time that suits you. If there is an aspect of your practice which you would like to discuss you can speak with an experienced childminder. Register your interest here admin@tveysph.org

Early Years Conference 2024

Join us at our Early Years Conference 'Understanding the Unique Child' on Saturday 12 October 2024, featuring leading experts and keynote speakers Kerry Murphy and Dr Alec de Sausmarez. The conference will provide a valuable opportunity to network, participate in interactive workshops and connect with leading experts.

You can choose to attend **three** of five workshops:

1. Setting neurodiversity informed goals and targets - **Kerry Murphy**
2. Ordinarily available provision and the graduated response for early years - **Dr Alec de Sausmarez**
3. Why anti-racist practice is important in the early years' setting - **Liz Pemberton**
4. Understanding the sensory challenges around food - **Jenna Redmond**
5. The Ingredients of a Super Sensory Story - **Joanna Grace**

Book your place by emailing early.years@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Places are limited to three delegates per setting. There will be a waiting list for additional bookings.

Reading delegate rate: £80

Existing Reading childminder partnership member: £60

SEND

EY SEND advisory sessions

There will be one SEND advisory session over the summer that will take place on 13 August with Angela. You can contact Angela on: **0118 937 6726** or **07973 689 426** for advice and guidance about a child or SEND provision.

If you need any guidance or support over the summer outside of the advisory session please email early.years@brighterfuturesforchildren.org.

Safeguarding

The NSPCC has launched a survey to find out what professionals need from its helpline service in order to keep babies, children and young people safe across the UK. The survey will close on **26 July**.

Find out more: [A new Helpline vision: making the Helpline fit for the future](#)

Share your views on crime and safety in Reading

The annual safety survey is now live – it's a chance for you to share your views on how safe you feel and the crime issues affecting you in Reading.

Crime and safety in Reading is tackled by Reading's Community Safety Partnership (CSP). By law, every local authority (council), police force and other crime agencies must work in partnership to tackle community safety and serious violence issues in their local area. Over the last year we have invested in additional CCTV equipment and better lighting, improved safety for women at night-time and opened a new safe hub - the Reading Safe Space - in the town centre.

The feedback you give us this year will help us determine what other improvements we could make to improve safety. We want to hear from as wide a range of people as possible so please share with the people you work with and your friends and family.

Have Your Say: www.reading.gov.uk/communitysafetysurvey

Please note to complete the survey you will need to register your details on the system.

Training

Early years team training

Please book via the [SLA](#) or by emailing early.years@brighterfuturesforchildren.org.

To view our full training programme please [click here](#)

Title	Details	Dates	Delivery/Venue	Cost
SALT Surgery	Book a slot with the Early Years team and a Speech & Language Therapist to discuss how children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) can be best supported within the Early Years setting. EYSALTSurgery (office365.com)	15 August 1-3pm	Teams	FREE
Early Years & Childcare Advisory Virtual Support Session	An opportunity to book a session with the EY & Childcare team to discuss any general questions. Please detail within the booking form by 12pm Monday 19 August	28 August 10am-2pm	Teams	FREE

Kind regards
Early Years Team

Brighter Futures for Children

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