

Early Years, SEND and Childcare Briefing

12 June 2025

Dear Provider,

Welcome to the Early Years, SEND and Childcare briefing delivered to you on a fortnightly basis, please share with your teams and local networks.

Safeguarding

Emergency Planning

Risk assessment is an intrinsic part of the safeguarding process. The first step to creating effective safeguarding and child protection arrangements is understanding and assessing risks. What risks you face will depend on the environments used and activities you carry out with children. It's important to get a clear picture of the needs of the babies and children in your care, by assessing risks and needs you'll be able to create an effective safeguarding plan, making sure the spaces and activities for children help keep them safe. You may find the following links useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-planning-and-response-for-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings/emergency-planning-and-response-for-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67ed54d298b3bac1ec299be5/Protective_security_and_preparedness_for_education_settings_guidance.pdf

Escalation

Attached to this briefing you will find an escalation procedure document for use in schools and early years settings.

NSPCC

NSPCC Learning has published a podcast episode looking at domestic abuse in pregnancy and improving support for families affected by it. The discussions covered are the difficulties with working out exactly how many babies are impacted by domestic abuse; identifying concerns and providing support; taking a trauma-informed approach; and blockers to parents seeking support.

[Protecting babies from the effects of domestic abuse](#)

BFFC training and network offer:

- **Domestic Abuse Awareness – Level 1**
19 June, 9.30am-12.30pm (Teams)
To book complete the RBC booking form www.reading.gov.uk/trainingform

Leadership

BFFC training and network offer:

- **All Room Leaders Network – The Unique Child**
19 June, 6.30-8.30pm (Civic Offices) Book via [email](#)
- **All Childminders Network**
26 June, 6.30-8pm (Hybrid - Civic Offices & Teams) Book via [email](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Virtual Reality Trauma Awareness

Join Reading Virtual School in the summer term for an immersive training experience using videos and reflection to understand how adversity and trauma can impact a child's development, presentation and ability to engage in learning. Explore how professional curiosity and building good relationships can support children to heal from trauma and achieve stronger outcomes. For more information and to book a session for your setting, please email cathy.mccarthy@brighterfuturesforchildren.org.

EYFS and Beyond

EY SEND Partnership online form:

Please can we ask all settings to provide an update on the EY SEND partnership online form so that we can have this terms numbers of children on IEPs/SEN Plans. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/20JQ2UAewa>

BFFC training and network offer:

- **Monthly Group Discussions – Quality Interactions**
17 June, 10-11am (Teams)
To book a space complete the [booking form](#) and share your questions with the team ahead of the session.

Specialist Advisory Support

- [SEND Contact Days](#): First four Tuesdays of the month
- **Early Years and Childcare Advisory Support** Childminders, daycare, sessional and wraparound and holiday providers are invited to [request time](#) with a member of the Early Years and Childcare team for advisory support between agreed partnership visits.

Local News

Children's Centres

[Reading Children's Centres](#) welcome all families and provide a wide range of services to give children the best start in life. Please share the link to the website with your families for further information and timetables.

Training

Under 5's Training Offer 2025-2026

The new CPD training offer from the Early Years, SEND and Childcare team for 2025/2026 is now available on our [website](#).

[Dingley's Promise Comic Relief Early Years Inclusion Training](#) is time limited free early years inclusion training that is funded by the Comic Relief Changemakers programme and aims to embed inclusive practice.

[DfE Early Years Child Development Training](#) is free online training that provides an overview of child development and offers practical advice for supporting children in your setting, including reception years.

Compliments/Celebrations

Your contributions

Is there something you are particularly proud of that has been achieved by staff or the children in your setting? Do you have a team member that is celebrating long service or achieved a new qualification that deserves a shout out? Please share these with us so that we can share your news with the sector!! Email: early.years@brighterfuturesforchildren.org.

Kind regards

Early Years Team

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