



Stay Connected with Early Years!

Issue 9 – 19th March 2025

Read me now – Urgent and important information

Provider Agreement 2025/26 - For Funded Providers in receipt of Early Years Entitlements Funding

On 7th March 2025, all PVI providers in receipt of funding for the early years entitlements were sent the new Provider Agreement and other relevant documents for the 2025/26 financial year, which covers the period 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026. If you wish to offer funded places at any point during the 2025/26 financial year, please take the time to read the Provider Agreement and associated documents that were issued and return the Provider Declaration Form and Portal User Conditions Form, as instructed, by **Friday 21st March 2025**. If you have any queries, please contact the Early Years Funding Team on eyfunding@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Read what's coming up next - Important but not urgent information

Introduction to Safeguarding Training

Join Safeguarding Trainer, Karen Shead, for this online course on **Monday 31st March 2025, 9.30am – 11.45am**, for just £15. This course is specifically for PVI Day Nurseries, Preschool Practitioners and Childminders who are new to their role and have no responsibility for managing staff or making referrals. This course will give new and trainee practitioners a thorough awareness of safeguarding children as well as the local context, policies and procedures of Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership (NCSCP). Find out more and [book here!](#)

Department for Education (DfE) Childminder Roadshow

Join DfE's Early Years Team for an online roadshow event for Childminders working in the early education and childcare sector on **Wednesday 26 March 2025, 6.30pm – 8pm**. This event is a great opportunity to help shape this government's plan for change and hear about the strategy and activity underway to meet the pillar in its Opportunity Mission to give children the Best Start in Life. You will have a chance to engage with DfE colleagues on the work they're doing to meet the expanded childcare entitlements from September 2025 and share your ideas, concerns, and challenges. The event will include an overview and update from the Department and give those joining the opportunity to share experiences and views in virtual roundtable discussions. Please use this [link to register to attend](#).

Inclusive Practice in Wraparound Provision

NASEN have produced a package of resources as part of the Childcare Works Wraparound Toolkit which include bitesize video resources to support providers to enhance inclusivity and better support the needs of children with SEND. These include information on the 4 broad areas of need, 'labels' and EHC Plans, SEND legislation, guidance and reasonable adjustments, inclusive environments, working in partnership with parents, carer and children, behaviour as communication and much more! Find out more information and all the video links on our [wraparound page!](#)

Update from the Behaviour and Emotional Health Team

From 1st April 2025, the Behaviour and Emotional Health Team are changing their name to the **Neurodevelopmental Pathway and Support Team (NPST)**. The team is the starting point of the neurodevelopmental pathway for children/young people registered with a Nottingham City GP, where there are queries regarding possible Autism and/or ADHD. In addition to the new name for the team, a new referral form will also be launched. The team invite you to **attend one of their 30-minute briefing sessions** to learn more about this and what it might mean for you as a potential referrer. Please check out the [briefing session information](#) here!



COMMUNICATION PARTNERS TRAINING
USING AIDED LANGUAGE BOARDS IN SETTINGS

Delivered by Speech and Language Therapists over two sessions

Topics covered:

- what is aided language?
- using aided language to support SLCN
- introducing aided language into your setting
- strategies to support aided language
- practical ideas for modelling in your setting
- overcoming barriers
- includes an online troubleshooting session 4 weeks after the training

SESSION 1: TUES 10 JUNE 2025
 SESSION 2: TUES 14 JULY 2025

To book your place visit our website:
<https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/slt-training/>

Communication Partners: Using Aided Language Boards in Settings!

Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust are now taking bookings for their first **“Communication Partners: Using Aided Language Boards in Settings”** training!

For more information and to book, please follow this link - [SLT Training | Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/slt-training/)

Read when you get a moment – Information you might find interesting

Recruitment Support with Job Centre Plus and the SWAP Programme

The early years expansion is now gathering momentum and settings are starting to expand as numbers of children increase. A significant part of this expansion is the recruitment of additional early years practitioners, which is a challenge both locally and nationally. The Early Years Team have been in contact with Job Centre Plus to discuss how they can support childcare providers in the City with their recruitment.

Did you know Job Centre Plus offer free advertising and support writing job adverts? Did you know they have a database of candidates they can refer to you for employment? Have you heard about their SWAP Programme?

SWAP stands for Sector-based Work Academy Programme, and it can support you to create a skilled workforce for your business by offering placements to those on unemployment benefits seeking jobs in different areas of work. Find out more on our [Recruitment Page!](#)

Future Rounds for Holiday Activity Funding (HAF)

Nottingham City has recently received confirmation from the Department for Education for funding up until Christmas 2025. The HAF Team will soon be opening bids for new providers for the Summer, October, and Christmas periods. If you are interested in applying or have any queries, please email FreeFunandFood@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Neurodevelopmental Assessment Pathway - Red Flag Medical Concern Indicators Guidance For Priority Onward Referral To The Community Paediatrics Team

The ICB have produced some guidance around ‘Medical Red Flags’ which may be critical indicators of underlying medical conditions that may either mimic or coexist with neurodevelopmental disorders, impacting the child’s overall health and development. Identifying red flags ensures that timely referrals, investigations, and interventions are made, preventing delays in care that could affect long-term outcomes. Red flags may include sudden regression in skills, unexplained significant developmental delays, or signs of neurodegenerative diseases. Find out more by reading the guidance which can be [found here!](#)

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You have received this email because you are an Early Years Provider in Nottingham City or you have specifically requested receipt of this bulletin.

For the latest, and previous, copies of this bulletin, please go to [‘Stay Connected with Early Years’](#) on our [Early Years Website](#). You can also follow us on X @Earlynottingham