



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

**The Early**  
**Years Team**



## Stay Connected with Early Years!

Issue 32 – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### Read me now – Urgent and important information

#### **Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSA) Live!**

As a local authority, Nottingham City Council has a duty to secure early years provision for eligible children, as well as childcare for working parents and those studying to work. Our full CSA triangulates information on supply of childcare by providers, parental demand, accessibility for children with SEND, information from employers, local demographic and development information to identify any gaps in childcare services to inform future place planning and sustainability. Our surveys for Schools, PVI Providers and Childminders are now live! Please complete your relevant survey before the **deadline of 29th May 2026**. Find out more, and access QR codes for all surveys on the [Childcare Sufficiency Assessment](#) Page.

#### **Notts Year of Communication**

During May, our communication focus is 'Follow My Lead' and posters were sent to leaders this week. Over the coming weeks you will receive this month's activities, story ideas to support the strategy, a rhyme and a Makkaton sign. Please use these ideas in your setting and share them with parents, alongside the video clip links, to encourage them to use the strategies at home. For more information, [click here!](#)

#### **Summer Term Language Lead Opportunity – only 3 spaces remaining!**

The Speech and Language Therapy team are recruiting new practitioners to become Language Leads in their setting. This approach is an evidence-informed programme supporting the development of speech, language and communication in the early years, enhancing the current offer of support within settings and providing a significant opportunity for early intervention for all children, including those with speech, language and communication needs. It is based on an interactional pedagogy, with intervention carried out within typical EYFS provision. If you want to participate, or find out more, please email [amy.burton@nottshc.nhs.uk](mailto:amy.burton@nottshc.nhs.uk)

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

#### **Your Notts Directory is now live!**

[Your Notts Directory](#), the new joint information and advice website for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, is now live. The site replaces NottsHelpYourself and ASKLiON, bringing information, advice, support services, community groups and activities together in one place for both city and county residents.

This is a new single directory for the whole of Nottinghamshire with improved navigation and search tools and a modern design, optimised for mobile use. The new functionality enables providers add images and testimonials as well as update their accounts and listings.

#### **Nottingham and Derbyshire East Midlands Stronger Practice Hub May Newsletter**

Nottingham City Early Years practitioners are invited to engage with a wide range of fully funded support, training and networks through the Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Early Years Stronger Practice Hub. Local opportunities include Room Leader and Childminder Networks, alongside virtual CPD accessible to all. Practitioners can also access evidence-based programmes, including the fully funded Maths Champions Programme, and additional free offers including Early Years SENCo Level 3 qualification, EEF-funded research projects, and Nottingham Trent University Early Years CPD events. Visit the Hub's Eventbrite page for further information tailored to Nottingham City, alongside their [May Newsletter](#)

#### **Can you help the City Council's Public Health Department survey reach parents?**

The Public Health Department are undertaking a comprehensive commissioning review of the Children's Public Health 0-19 Nursing Service, which includes the Health Visiting and School Nursing Services. As professionals working closely with families, your support in encouraging participation would be greatly valued. Please invite the families you work with to share their views by completing our short, anonymous online survey (approximately 10 minutes). They can access the survey [here](#).

## Agreement Trialling Support

### For Reception Colleagues

**F2 – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026**

Numerical Pattern and an area/child of your choice

9.00am – 11.30am – MS Teams

Or

1.00pm – 4.00pm – Face to Face at the Indian

Community Centre

### For Pre-School Colleagues

**F1 – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Physical Development and Literacy

9.00am – 11.30am – MS Teams

Or

1.00pm – 4.00pm – Face to Face at the Indian

Community Centre

**We will be offering SEND support during both these sessions.**

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

### SENCO Network – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026 for our Network Members

We are excited to welcome colleagues from the EY SEND Team to deliver practical training on Sensory Circuits and Stimming in the Early Years at our Summer Network, alongside colleagues from Nottinghamshire County Early Years SEND Services to update on referral routes and funding for county children in city settings. To attend, please return a [Network Membership Form](#) before [booking a place](#).

### Additional Date - Designated Safeguarding Lead Training – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2026

Due to high demand, an additional Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training session has been added to the training calendar! This will take place on Tuesday 4 August, 9.30am – 12.30pm at Nottingham Central Library. [Click here](#) to find out more and book your place!

### Introduction to Safeguarding – A few spaces left!

We have a few spaces left for the online Introduction to Safeguarding Training on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026**. [Click here](#) for more information and to [book your place](#).

### SENCO Level 3

As part of the government's Best Start in Life strategy, to break down barriers to opportunity and improve early identification and support for children with SEND, the Department for Education is very pleased to announce that Best Practice Network (BPN) has been selected as the delivery partner to provide an additional 9,500 Early Years SENCO training places. Find out more here - [Early Years SENCO 2026 | Best Practice Network](#) and apply before 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026 to get started!

## Safeguarding Updates

### DSL Network - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 9.30am – 12pm at the Indian Community Centre

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Network focuses on collaboration, shared learning and robust support for early years DSLs, playing a vital role in informing practice, improving practitioner confidence and ultimately creating a safer environment through shared knowledge. Each setting can book 2 DSL spaces by [clicking here!](#)

### Opportunity to Join the Termly Education Safeguarding Subgroup

This Subgroup works on behalf of the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership to strengthen safeguarding practice and keep children safe across the early years and education sectors. We are looking to engage Early Years Leaders who are passionate about safeguarding and want to influence strategic decision-making, share good practice, and drive real improvement across early years, schools, academies, colleges and other education settings. By joining the Education Subgroup, you will:

- ✓ Ensure Early Years voices contribute to safeguarding priorities and strategic decision-making
- ✓ Share learning and promote best practice across early years/education sector
- ✓ Support education providers to meet safeguarding responsibilities
- ✓ Influence safeguarding strategy and priorities across Nottingham City
- ✓ Strengthen safeguarding outcomes for children and young people

The required commitment is to actively contribute to a 3-hour face to face or online meeting each term with occasional involvement in short-term task groups. If you are interested, please contact

[Rochelle.patterson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Rochelle.patterson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

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