



Stay Connected with Early Years!

Issue 19 – 17th September 2025

Read me now – Urgent and important information

Letter from the Prime Minister to Parents

To mark last week's childcare expansion milestone, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has written to parents reaffirming his Plan for Change promise to give children the best possible start with 75% of 5-year-olds reaching a good level of development by 2028. To help this letter reach as many parents as possible, please do share the **attachment** to this week's Stay Connected email with families in your setting.

New Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (EIF) launches 10th November 2025



The new EIF will come into force later this term and will set out how Ofsted inspects registered early years settings, including principles that apply to inspection and the main evaluations that inspectors make. You can read more and find additional information, including links to attend national Ofsted webinars [here](#).

In addition, the Early Years Team are pleased to be able to offer additional briefings, specifically for Nottingham City PVI Providers. These will be led by Ofsted Early Years Senior Officer, Will Good, on Tuesday 14th October 2025 and are free to attend. There is an afternoon and evening session available and you can find out more and [book here!](#)

Big Reading Challenge – 22nd – 27th September 2025

Are you a group based early years setting that would like to get involved in this year's challenge? Every year, Nottingham City Councillors take on a very special challenge to raise funds for the Nottingham Imagination Library, an amazing scheme that delivers a free book every month to local children in our most deprived wards, from birth up to 5 years of age.

Check out our [News Article](#) for full details, but there are lots of great ways to get involved including hosting a Councillor for a story session, getting involved with fundraising activities and making a donation at <https://gofund.me/4e1719b95>



School Based Nurseries Capital Programme – Phase 2

At the beginning of September, the Department for Education launched Phase 2 of the School Based Nurseries Programme, which will be a school bidding round, focused on delivering places in the 2026-27 academic year. This phase will prioritise quality bids from schools serving some of the most disadvantaged communities, delivering thousands of new places nationally for families who need them most. The programme can provide up to £150,000 in capital funding for eligible state-funded primary schools and maintained nursery schools to help create new, or expand, existing nursery provision. Applications will be open from 22nd September – 11th December 2025 and further information and application guidance can be [found here](#).

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

Childminders! Sign up to the Virtual DfE Early Years and Childcare Childminder Roadshow!

This event will be online on **Thursday 25th September 2025, 6.30pm – 8pm**. The event will include an overview and update from the Department for Education and the opportunity to attend 2 focus sessions, with options including early years entitlement and funding, qualifications and workforce, quality and SEND, School Based Nurseries and Best Start Family Services. Please do make the most of this great opportunity and [sign up here!](#)

Additional Introduction to Safeguarding Course – Monday 6th October 2025

Due to exceptional demand, we have added an additional date for our Introduction to Safeguarding course on Monday 6th October 2025. For details of all our Introduction to Safeguarding Courses, [click here](#).

Face to Face Training about Online Safety

Thursday 20th November 2025, 9.30am – 11.30am at The Nottingham Emmanuel School (NG2 7YF)

The UK Safer Internet Centre, in partnership with Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council, invites you to an essential FREE face to face briefing session about Online Safety, bringing the latest online safety updates straight to your doorstep. Designed for anyone working with children and young people, this interactive session delivers the most up-to-date insights on emerging online risks, legislation updates, cutting-edge technology trends, and expert guidance. Plus, attendees receive exclusive access to presentation materials and a wealth of additional resources.

Book now at [Online Safety Live - Nottinghamshire Tickets, Thu 20 Nov 2025 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)



Free Oral Health Training and Supervised Brushing Programme

The EYFS Statutory Framework expects early years providers to promote children's good health and oral hygiene, which should be introduced to children at an early age. Nottingham Oral Health Improvement Team are offering [free oral health training](#) to provide accurate, evidence-based oral health promotion advice to both children and their parents. The Team also offers supervised brushing programmes for early years settings. Eligible participating setting will receive a full range of free resources for their setting and for the children to take home. To find out if your setting is eligible email Oralhealth.nottinghamshire@cds-cic.co.uk and for further information, visit the early years [website](#)

Winter Health Letters for Parents

Colleagues from NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have asked us to share with you a letter for parents about keeping children safe this winter. The letter covers information to help parents decide when they can treat their child at home, when they need to seek medical help and which service to choose, as well as information on support from pharmacies and information on vaccinations. There are 2 sector specific letters, one for early years settings and one for schools. You are encouraged to download the relevant sector letter from [our website](#) and share it with parents in your setting.

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

Ofsted Talks

The National Day Nurseries Association, along with Ofsted's Research and Evaluation Lead, Kiran Singh, and Wendy Ratcliff, Ofsted's Principal Officer for Early Education, have released a podcast episode in which they discuss the [report](#) 'Getting it right from the start: how early years practitioners work with babies and toddlers'. The report which was released in April 2025 and aims to support leaders and practitioners in refining their approaches to best support the youngest learners. The podcast can be viewed [here](#).

Healthy Little Minds

Healthy Little Minds work with parents and carers to build strong and nurturing relationships with their baby, focus on the emotional and mental health needs of the baby, offer early intervention to build on parenting strengths and provide a tailored service for individuals to thrive. Also available are Bitesize Workshops for Professionals - You can find the full brochure of their [bitesize workshops here!](#)

Education of Children in Care – Training by the Virtual Schools Team

Running in September 2025 and January 2026, this training aims to raise awareness and understanding in respect of the requirements to promote, support and improve the education and learning of early years children in care through the PEP. Find out more and [book on here](#).

Autism Team – Central Training Offer 2025-26

The Autism Team have launched their Central Training Offer for 2025-26 with a range of sessions suitable to staff working in the early years sector. [Check out their brochure and book directly here.](#)

Please do not reply to this email.

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