



EYQI Updates

EY Quality and Inclusion Team

Lidia Wolos 01744 67 1051/mobile 07784360762

Gemma Oakes 01744 67 5397/07706991364

Kate Campbell 01744 671834

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/EarlyYearsHub>

Week beginning 03/03/2025

Upcoming training

Tomorrow (Friday, 7th March 2025)- Drawing Club Gregg Botrill - We start at 10 am.

Dear Colleagues, all links were sent out for the Drawing Club training. If you did not get the links please email EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk

Tuesday 11th March 2025 10.30 am-12.00 pm St Helens Early Years SENCO training (session three)

Wednesday 12th March 2025 Moderation for Reception Class Teachers & Early Years Leads
The Living Well, Willowbrook, Alex Suite 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Please click the book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DTEM>

Tuesday 18th March 2025 1.30 pm-3.30 pm Safeguarding Solutions drop-in session

Tuesday 18th March 2025 10.30 am-12.00 pm St Helens Early Years SENCO training (session four)

Monday 24th March 2025 9.30 am-12.00 pm- Supporting children with emotional well-being

Tuesday 25th March 2025 10.30 am-12.00 pm St Helens Early Years SENCO training (session five)

Tuesday 1st April 2025 10.30 am-12.00 pm St Helens Early Years SENCO training (final session)

EYFS P Moderation

Dear Reception Teachers, we are looking forward to welcoming you at the EYFS Profile Moderation on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at the Living Well.

Can we ask that you bring samples of children's writing from the Autumn and Spring Term?

We will focus on writing (including EAL/SEND learners), and early maths.

If you have not booked a place please follow the link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DTEM>

CONFERENCE ONLINE: SATURDAY 8th March 10 am – 12 pm - Sustainability in the Early Years online on Zoom:

This sustainability in the early years online session aims to support educators on the **17 Sustainability Development Goals** and how they can be put into practice in early childhood settings.

Audience: Childminders, nursery practitioners in PVI's, and schools working with under 5s.

Please email sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk if you would like to access a place online.

CONFERENCE ONLINE: SATURDAY 22nd March 10 am – 12 pm - Can I undertake Beach exploration near me? Online on Zoom:

This early years online session aims to support educators in exploring what activities can be undertaken with under fives using the beach-sharing examples from Wirral, Crosby, and Morecambe and how these examples can be put into practice in early childhood settings.

Audience: Childminders, nursery practitioners in PVI's and schools working with under 5s

Please email sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk if you would like to access a place online.

CONFERENCE: Wednesday 26th March 2025 3.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. Face to Face at **Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, Spencer Street, Liverpool, Merseyside, L6 2WF.**

Our theme for the conference is **Intergenerational Sustainability and Early Numeracy** with Diane Boyd (Independent Consultant). Diane will share examples of

how young children under five explore early numeracy linked to Intergenerational sustainability.

CONFERENCE: Saturday 29th March 2025 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Face to Face at **Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, Spencer Street, Liverpool, Merseyside, L6 2WF. 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.**

Our theme for the conference is: **Exploring Interactive Reading with Young Children** with Alex Gower-Jones (Independent Consultant). Alex will share examples of how young children under five and Interactive Reading can be explored with the educators who work with them.

Open to all Early Years practitioners in the LCR and Beyond Stronger Practice Hub Local Authorities. PVLs, Nursery Schools, and EYFS school staff. Please email to secure a place. on sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk

Dan Wuori- 3 Simple Truths of Early Development

Hope you are all well-just sharing an exciting opportunity in case it is of interest!

We are very excited to welcome Dan Wuori to Sefton to talk about his 3 simple truths of Early development. You may be familiar with Dan's social media posts where he shares videos of babies and young children and analyses interactions and development. Dan is also an author and founder of Early Childhood Policy Solutions in America. Dan is touring the UK, speaking at many events including our annual Early Years conference. As we anticipate that the session will be popular, Dan has also agreed to hold an additional session whilst he is in Sefton on Saturday 22nd March. This is available to any partners who are interested in his work, please share as you wish. This may include Early years providers and colleagues working in health, social care, early help, children's centres, etc. It may be of particular interest to childminders who often struggle to attend weekday training sessions. More details are on the attached poster.

Places can be booked here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfmDSVfeL1NHtCD9NLomsaU84MgWpwj_k_L2IT-wt9g6jy8oQ/viewform?usp=header

Dan is also offering a discount on his new book please see the flyer attached.

News and developments

Information for all settings: Norovirus resources and toolkit

Norovirus rates are currently higher than normal.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has updated its [toolkit](#) with posters and social media materials promoting easy ways to prevent norovirus spreading, like handwashing and staying at home for 48 hours if you get norovirus.

See pages 29 to 36 of the toolkit PDF for a list of available resources. The resources are also available to download via the [assets](#) folder.

Information for early years settings and schools: Resources to manage allergies

The Natasha Allergy Research Foundation has launched [Allergy School](#) offering free resources to support both staff and pupils to ensure children with food allergies feel safe and supported.

The Department for Education encourages settings to use such resources as part of their work to fulfill their statutory duties to manage allergy risks, as set out in the government's [allergy guidance for schools](#) and the [Early Years Foundation Framework](#).

Information for early years settings and local authorities: Stay connected with Foundation Years

[Foundation Years](#) is the go-to platform for early years educators, providing the latest policy updates, expert guidance, and practical resources to support you in delivering high-quality early education and childcare.

To make sure you never miss an update [sign up](#) for our newsletter and follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest news, insights, and opportunities.

Information for schools and further education settings: The National Centre for Computing Education is changing

From 1 April 2025, the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) will begin expanding its online continuing professional development (CPD) offer, making more courses available for teachers to engage with at their convenience.

The support is available for computing teachers includes a range of offers, such as programmes to encourage more girls into computing and a self-assessment tool to review computing provision in your school.

Visit the [NCCE website](#) to find out how the NCCE can help your school.

Information for schools and local authorities: Changes to the Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools Regulations now in force

On Monday 3 March 2025, the changes to remove the requirement to follow the [statutory prescribed alterations process](#) when a local authority or governing body wishes to amend the age range of a community, foundation, or voluntary school to make changes to nursery provision (including adding a new nursery, removing a nursery or changing the age range of an existing nursery) came into force. All other age range changes of a year or more (excluding temporary changes or those related to nurseries) are prescribed alteration.

To support the government's commitment to create or expand 3,000 nurseries in primary phase schools this change will make it easier for governing bodies and local authorities to add a nursery to maintained primary schools.

The [Making significant changes \('prescribed alterations'\) to maintained schools](#) guidance has been updated and guidance on 'Changes that can be made outside of the statutory process' on page 32 should be followed.

Please note this only applies to maintained schools. Academies will continue to follow the [making significant changes to an academy](#) process.

Early maths programme available for nurseries

Through the DfE's Accelerator Fund, the EEF is this year inviting early years settings to sign up to deliver Maths Champions, a programme that has shown positive impacts on children's attainment in large-scale, rigorous EEF trials.

Developed by the National Day Nurseries Association, [Maths Champions](#) delivers high-quality professional development to early years educators to support improvements to early maths provision in PVI, maintained, and school-based settings. The programme trains a Maths Champion and Deputy Maths Champion in key mathematical concepts and increases staff confidence. Practitioners receive online training and one to one support with reviewing current maths provision, and planning and implementing steps to improve maths practice over the one-year programme duration.

EEF's most recent independent evaluation found that children taught by practitioners who received the programme made, on average, three months' additional progress in both maths and language development. There are places for early years settings to start the 12-month programme in April, May, and June 2025. Nurseries can find out more and register interest here: [Maths Champions - scale-up evaluation | EEF](#).

Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs Extended Until March 2026

We're pleased to announce that the Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs programme has been extended until March 2026. This means Hubs will continue to provide funded support and advice to improve quality in early years settings, by sharing evidence-informed practice through their local networks.

You can find your nearest Stronger Practice Hub and get involved at: www.strongerpracticehubs.org.uk/hubs

DFE Feedback

Have you **applied for or recently started a role working with children aged up to four**? The Department for Education would like to hear more about your job search.

Click here to take a short 5–10-minute survey with a £5 voucher as a thank you for your time. You can also express your interest in a follow-up interview, for which, if selected you will receive a £35 voucher."

survey link: www.iffresearch.com/eyfi/la

Early Help Conference

This week we attended the Early Help Conference alongside Amy from NSPCC- it was a very informative day, and it was lovely to see some of our Early Years settings and schools there.

If you have any upcoming event that you would like Amy to attend and bring information about the NSPCC talk pants campaign- do send us an email – EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk



St Helens Familiarisation Sessions (for professionals and volunteers)

Talk Pants campaign helps both parents and schools to introduce important key messages about abuse in a child friendly way. The Talk PANTS rules are shown in the banner below.

As part of this, NSPCC are hosting free hour-long familiarisation sessions on Microsoft Teams for professionals and volunteers working with children in St Helens, to learn the following:

What is Talk PANTS

- How Talk PANTS helps children learn key messages about abuse and consent
- Resources available to childcare settings and how to use them

Please find the upcoming sessions below:

Friday 14th March

12 pm — 1pm

Please email nwcampaigns@nspcc.org.uk
To register your space.