



EYQI Updates

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



Week beginning

9.2.26

Upcoming training announcements

EYHUB Network Meetings for Childminders
(online) 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Wednesday 18th February 2026

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

Behaviour and Attitudes – Online Workshop.

Understanding Ofsted's Early Years inspection toolkit (Group-based providers) In preparation, please read and reflect on the Curriculum and teaching section of the Early Years Inspection Toolkit, pages 31-35

Two sessions available on the day, (a repetition of the same session)

Thursday 26th February 2026

10:15 – 11:15am OR 1:15 -2:15pm

Out of School Alliance

Diary date: Live session with Ofsted – Thursday 26 February 2026

We're pleased to invite you to a live online session with Ofsted on

Thursday 26 February, 10am–12pm,

**focusing on inspections and the new Ofsted inspection framework
for out-of-school childcare.**

This session is a great opportunity to hear directly from Ofsted, gain clarity on what inspectors are currently looking for, and better understand how the updated framework applies in practice and how it's going so far for providers.

Whether you're preparing for an upcoming inspection, want to support your team with confidence, or simply want to stay informed and ask questions, this session will be highly valuable.

To help shape the session, we're inviting attendees to submit questions in advance. Please email your questions to abby@outofschoolalliance.co.uk by Monday 23 February.

Join us on Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 321 447 199 134 38

Passcode: nN9vC3Ev

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 26 February at 10am

[Festival of Learning](#)

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/88698>

This year our Festival takes place on:

- **Monday 16th March 2026** - In person event and Marketplace
- **Tuesday 17th March 2026** - St Helens' Services Online Offer
- **Wednesday 18th March 2026** - In person School Spotlight
- **Thursday 19th March 2026** - In person School Spotlight
- **Saturday 14th March 2026** - In person Governor Forum

[Invitation to Take Part in the Festival of Learning](#)

We are still looking for settings to take part in this year's **Festival of Learning!**

Would you be willing to **open your doors** and welcome fellow Early Years practitioners for a short visit? This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the practice happening across our sector and to learn from one another in a supportive, professional way.

What could you share?

Think about the aspects of your provision that you are **proud of**—big or small. For example:

- An inspiring learning environment
- A strength in your curriculum planning or sequencing
- Effective approaches to behaviour, communication, or SEND
- Your continuous provision or enhancements
- A successful family engagement strategy
- Outdoor learning that others might love to see
- A particular routine or pedagogical approach you've embedded well

If there's **anything** you feel reflects strong practice or positive impact for children, then it's worth sharing.

Why take part?

- Showcase the brilliant work your team is doing
- Connect with other passionate Early Years practitioners
- Strengthen collaboration across settings
- Celebrate achievements and inspire others
- Contribute to a culture of openness and professional curiosity

If your setting would like to participate, just let us know—and we'll support you with the next steps.

Please email EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk to volunteer.

[Sway](#) follow the sway link for more information



Wellbeing

Improving your mental health when you're at work can feel like a challenge.

It's even harder if you work in a busy or stressful environment. But the 5 ways to wellbeing offer some simple steps which you can do every single day.

The 5 Ways to Wellbeing as promoted by the mental health charity MIND

- 1.**Connect**: Build strong relationships with family, friends, and colleagues.
- 2.**Be Active**: Engage in physical activities that you enjoy.
- 3.**Take Notice**: Be aware of your surroundings and appreciate the moment.
- 4.**Keep Learning**: Stay curious and try new things to expand your knowledge.
- 5.**Give**: Perform acts of kindness and help others.

Public advised to stop using some non-sterile alcohol-free wipes

UKHSA and MHRA are urging the public not to use 4 specified non-sterile alcohol-free wipe products due to the risk of infection associated with their use.

[Public advised to stop using some non-sterile alcohol-free wipes - GOV.UK](#)

Please see attached ***UKHSA Health Protection Briefing Note 2026/003 - Update - Outbreak of Burkholderia stabilis ST480 linked to non-sterile alcohol-free skin cleansing wipe products – urgent public health message and press release issued.***

UKHSA is reiterating recommendations previously communicated, to mitigate risk. During outbreak investigations in 2025, the following products were found to be contaminated with Burkholderia.

These four products should not be used under any circumstances:

- ***ValueAid Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes.***
 - ***Microsafe Moist Wipe Alcohol Free.***
- ***Steroplast Sterowipe Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes.***
- ***Reliwipe Alcohol free Cleansing Wipes (testing revealed contamination with a Burkholderia strain not related to the outbreak cases).***

These products, previously used for 'skin cleansing' and wound cleaning, have been withdrawn from sale but may still be in homes and first aid kits.

Speech and Language Pathway



The St Helens Early Years Speech and Language Pathway follows a graduated approach to support your child's speech and language development. Here's how it works:

Universal Support: All children receive support at this level. This includes general strategies and activities to help with speech and language development.

Early Support: Some children may need additional short-term intervention. If your child needs more help, they will move to this level where they receive targeted support for a short period.

Targeted Support: If the short-term support at the Early Support level isn't enough, your child will move to Targeted Support. Here, interventions are longer and often include guidance from the Speech and Language Therapy team.

Specialist Support: A very small number of children may need even more help. At this level, children work directly with professionals from the Speech and Language Therapy team for specialized support.

This pathway ensures that every child gets the right level of support they need at the right time. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us –

EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk

Product Recall Information Infant Formula

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is asking parents, early years settings and other caregivers to check their infant formula against specific batches of Aptamil and Cow & Gate products listed in the Product Recall Information Notice published on Friday 6 February 2026.

As you might have seen in media coverage and on social media, Danone's recall has been issued due to potential cereulide contamination, which can cause illness including vomiting and stomach

cramps. The issue only affects the batches listed in the [recall notice](#), in addition to the product included in Danone's [earlier recall on 23 January 2026](#).

The FSA's advice to parents and carers is that if they have any of the affected products, stop using them and switch to an alternative formula. If formula was prescribed, they should speak to a pharmacist or doctor before changing. If they have recently fed the formula to their baby and are concerned about symptoms, they should contact their GP or call NHS 111.

Additional recalls

This follows recent [recalls from Nestlé of SMA infant formula](#) products due to the same contamination issue.

The FSA have published the following:

- [Product Recall Information Notice](#) detailing the further recalled batches of Danone infant formula product
- our [infant formula recalls page](#) providing a full list of recalled products and the latest advice
- [news story asking parents and caregivers to check their infant formula products](#)

RISK ASSESSMENTS



Steps needed to manage risks

Following on from our EY Hub Day 11.2.26 here is a link from Donna Cullen to support you and your risk assessments.

[Risk assessment: Steps needed to manage risk - HSE](#)

[Education and Learning newsletter](#)
[Education and Learning Weekly Newsletter](#)

PVI MS Teams Forum for private nurseries and childminders: [Here](#)

Schools MS Teams Forum: [Here](#)

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