



EYQI Updates

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EY Quality and Inclusion Team

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

Week beginning 15.9.2025



***We have one license left for Tales Toolkit if you are interested, please email EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk (it will be given on a first come first served basis) ***

Upcoming training announcement


EYQI training in September 2025


For all training, go to the Try Booking link to book on training sessions:

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

Any problems, please contact us at eyhub@sthelens.gov.uk

Safeguarding awareness for practitioners working in early years setting.


 **Date:** Wednesday 24th September

 **Time:** 6:30pm-8pm

 **Location:** Microsoft teams

New to EYFS- Schools


 **Date:** Friday 24th September

 **Time:** 9:30am – 4pm

 **Location:** Forester House




Early Years SENCO network

 **Date:** Monday 29th September




 **Time:** 9:30am – 12:00pm

 **Location:** The Bridge centre

Keep in Touch

-  **Date:** Tuesday 30th September
-  **Time:** Book a time slot
-  **Location:** Microsoft teams

Wraparound network

-  **Date:** Tuesday 30th September
-  **Time:** 10am-11:30am
-  **Location:** Microsoft teams

FORMS for Talk PANTS

<https://forms.office.com/e/P2EpKEyMR9>

Please can **all settings, schools and childminders** complete this short questionnaire for feedback **on the St Helens NSPCC Talk PANTS campaign**

This will help us to identify engagement and plan areas for future development.



Deadline 1st October 2025
Thank you

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Childcare Works Webinar

Making the most of digital Microsoft tools – Wednesday 1st October 2025

Childcare Works will deliver a live webinar focused on making the most of the digital Microsoft tools available within the context of local authority early years and wraparound.

This session is designed to build on all our capabilities and to explore practical ways of using Microsoft tools, supporting smarter working, stronger collaboration, time-saving and confident data management that can be applied to the wraparound and early years programmes as well as future or similar projects.

Through strengthening foundational digital skills, the webinar will aim to help unlock efficiencies, improve governance, and foster sustainable working practices. The webinar will also aim to demystify more advanced tools.

What to expect:

- Live demonstrations of key tools and features
- Pre-recorded tutorials for you to refer back to
- Practical tips for saving time and improving collaboration
- Signposting to free learning resources available via Office 365

Areas of focus will include Microsoft Forms, SharePoint, Excel, Power BI & Power Automate.

See [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#) for more details and to book your place.

Social Media Assets Promoting the Childcare Works HUB

Take a look at the updated collection of Childcare Works social media assets for sharing in September 2025 and beyond.

Childcare Works has developed a [package of social media assets \(PDF version\)](#) for you to use and share via your social media accounts and newsletters. This refreshed collection of assets is designed to help you spread the word about the free Childcare Works resources and support available to all childcare providers, childminders and schools. [Social Media Assets Promoting the Childcare Works HUB - childcareworks.org.uk](#)

Webinar: Multiple Disadvantage and Trauma Responses

Register for free webinar:

"Multiple Disadvantage and Trauma Responses"

25th September 2025 | 11:00am – 12:00pm

[Register](#)

Following the fantastic enthusiasm for our last webinar on ACEs (with over 650 registered), we're looking forward to welcoming you to the **next free session in our series**.

Rock Pool founder and CEO, Sue Penna, will next explore the concept of **multiple disadvantage — where individuals experience three or more overlapping adversities** such as domestic

abuse, mental ill-health, substance use, homelessness, or involvement with the criminal justice system.

You'll hear how these experiences can shape behaviour and emotional responses, and why a trauma-informed approach is key to offering effective, compassionate support.

Webinar: Multiple Disadvantage and Trauma Responses

Date: Thursday 25th September 2025

Time: 11:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Cost: Free to attend

👉 [Find out more and register here.](#)

Space is limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Find out more about our webinar series and see future events [here](#).

As ever, please note that our webinars are not a substitute for formal training. They are designed to provide **insight, reflection and discussion for professionals who are new to the topic** or interested in learning more.



[Registering and inspecting school-based early years provision: what the updated guidance means for you](#)

[Lee Owston, National Director, Education](#) and [Yvette Stanley, National Director, Social Care and Regulation](#), 11 September 2025 - [early years,](#)

[inspection, schools](#)



[Registering and inspecting school-based early years provision: what the updated guidance means for you – Ofsted: education](#)

[Save Kids From Sugar website.](https://savekidsfromsugar.co.uk/)

Save Kids From Sugar is a Public Health Liverpool initiative aimed at helping families reduce children's sugar intake and make healthier food choices. The site offers a wealth of practical resources and engaging tools to support parents and carers in promoting better nutrition.



<https://savekidsfromsugar.co.uk/>

[Stronger Practice Hubs Webinars](#)

Hi everyone,

Over the summer term we met lots of wonderful educators who were experienced practitioners, but not in the Early Years. Staff were moving from both Key Stage One and Two, into Nursery and Reception with little or no understanding of Early Years pedagogy. With this in mind, we have developed a series of webinars called 'An Introduction to...'. There will be three webinars in the series and they will focus on Communication and Language, Physical Development and PSED. They will each be about an hour long and are going to be delivered online, after school at 3.45-4.45pm. These webinars would also be appropriate for educators who have *some* EYFS experience but would benefit from refresher training.

Our first session will be on **Wednesday 24th September at 3.45-4.45pm** where we will be focusing on **Communication and Language**.

If you would like to book a place on this webinar (you can attend one, two or all three in the series), please email the hub on sphubnw@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk and we will share a link to the session.

[Sign-up to the virtual DfE Early Years and Childcare Childminder Roadshow](#)

This event for Childminders is the first early years event since the publication of government's [Giving Every Child The Best Start In Life](#) strategy, and is a great opportunity for you to engage with DfE and be part of shaping government's next steps on its delivery.

The event will include an overview and update from the Department for Education, and opportunity for you to ask questions, and share experiences and views in virtual breakout sessions.

Attendees will be invited to choose two sessions from the list below and will be provided the link to these rooms during the event.

EY Entitlement & Funding	The Childcare Entitlements team and the Funding team will be present to hear about your challenges and barriers and opportunities on the working parent entitlements, it is also an opportunity to share your thoughts to the funding team ahead of the funding consultation planned launch in the Spring and how we can design and deliver a simpler system to access early education and childcare.
EY Qualifications & Workforce	A room to discuss issues relating to the recruitment and retention of childminders, as well as qualification requirements. The team will be particularly interested to hear your views on the workforce initiatives announced in the Best Start in Life strategy.
EY Quality & SEND	We are keen for childminders to share their perspectives on the free training and support provided by the department to help deliver quality education and hear your experiences of looking after and supporting children with SEND and developmental differences and delays.
School Based Nurseries	This session will include information about the recently announced phases of the School-Based Nurseries capital grant programme, and the opportunities for childminders to get involved.
Best Start Family Services	This session is an opportunity to hear more about the Best Start Family Service and the role of Childminders in helping to provide support for families. We will be seeking your input to the next phase of developing the strategy published in July.

The event will be held online on **Thursday 25th September 18:30-20:00**, please use this [link](#) to sign up.

This event and room sessions will not be recorded due to event restrictions.

Publication: updated parent information leaflets for all assessments in the academic year 2025 to 2026

On Monday 15 September, we updated all outstanding parent information leaflets for assessments in the academic year 2025 to 2026.

Information for parents is available to read online or to download as a PDF leaflet, and explains:

- what parents need to know
- what each assessment involves
- when tests will take place
- how results will be shared and used

You can find all leaflets in our collection of [national curriculum assessments information for parents](#), covering the:

- RBA
- phonics screening check
- optional KS1 national curriculum tests
- multiplication tables check (MTC)
- KS2 national curriculum tests, results and teacher assessment
- pre-key stage standards
- engagement model

We encourage you to share this information with parents and carers of pupils who are participating in the assessments this academic year.

Publication: updated early years foundation stage profile handbook

On Tuesday 9 September, the Department for Education updated the [early years foundation stage profile \(EYFSP\) handbook](#).

The handbook provides support for teachers completing the EYFSP assessments in line with statutory requirements.

The latest changes to the handbook include clarifications on the guidance and reflect new uses of the EYFSP data.

Reminder: administer the reception baseline assessment

Schools must administer the RBA to all eligible pupils in the first 6 weeks after they enter reception.

The Baseline e-Portal has now closed. School staff involved in the administration of the RBA should now use [DfE Sign-in](#) to access the:

- Assessment service: start an assessment
- Assessment service: manage your school's assessments

You should use the 'Assessment service: start an assessment' to:

- complete training
- familiarise yourself with the assessment content*
- ensure your devices can connect successfully
- access modified guidance
- manage accessibility settings
- start an assessment

You can preview the assessment questions within the 'Familiarise yourself with the assessment' section, but you must not use a pupil's assessment to preview them.

Please also note that the practice questions within the pupil's assessment are intended for you to use with the pupil.

You should use the 'Assessment service: manage your school's assessments' to:

- register pupils
- record reasons for pupils not taking the assessment
- complete the headteacher's declaration form (HDF)
- view and download narrative statements

All pupils must be uploaded to the service. If your headteacher decides a pupil should not take the assessment, you must provide a reason and update the pupil's status.

For more information:

- watch our video on [managing pupils and administering assessments](#)
- refer to our full [collection of RBA guidance](#)
- in case of technical issues, try the troubleshooting steps in our [updated RBA IT guidance](#)

- get further support in the [RBA help centre](#)

Please also tell us about your experience of using the RBA service by completing our [RBA feedback survey](#).

[Education and Learning Weekly newsletter from St Helens Education and Learning Department](#)

To sign up to this newsletter please use this link: [Education and Learning Weekly Newsletter](#)

[Ofsted inspection pilot volunteers](#)

Ofsted are seeking volunteer early years settings to take part in a pilot ahead of the start of inspections under the renewed framework in November.

These pilots will enable providers to have an early experience of the new framework.

Key dates

- You must be able to accommodate a pilot between mid-September and end of October.
- Not have had an inspection within the last 6 months

If you are interested and able to take part, please contact SEEPT@ofsted.gov.uk quoting 'EY inspection pilots' in the subject line by **Wednesday 24 September**.

Please be aware that volunteering does not automatically mean a pilot will take place at your setting.

Dear Colleague

Re: EHCP PROVISION AGREEMENT PANEL: Requests for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment

ESS FUNDING PROVISION AGREEMENT PANEL: Requests for Enhanced SEN Support Funding for Early Years and OOB

ESS FUNDING PROVISION REVIEW PANEL: Review of Enhanced SEN Support Funding

ESS FUNDING TRANSITION PANEL: Review of Enhanced SEN Support Funding, Y6 and Y-1

Please find attached a list of dates on which the panels will meet for the academic Year 2025/2026. You will appreciate that panel members need time to consider the information carefully and referrals will be processed in order of panel availability.

Please note the new process for referring School Age ESS Funding requests, which will now be via TESSA, as per the last SENCO meeting and email from the Inclusion Manager, Sarah Davenport.

If submitting an application for EHC Needs Assessment, please ensure that your application includes:

- Signed parental consent (verbal consent or typed consent cannot be accepted). Please note if the young person is 16+, we will also require their consent.
- Current support arrangements for the young person and all relevant information regarding their rates of progress.
- Advice and recommendations from supporting professionals from Health, Education and Social Care.
- Evidence that these recommendations have been implemented in your planning and information on their impact, including any resources that you have used.
- Please do not send encrypted documents and remove passwords.
- Scan your referral as one document.

Transition Panels

As in the last academic year, panels are being convened in order to consider funding arrangements for Y6/Y7 transfers and Y-1/Y0 transfers for children who currently receive ESS funding (have a current Provision Agreement). These panels dates are attached.

Before making a referral to the panel there must be a review in school/nursery, with parents and all relevant professionals invited. If someone cannot attend, an updated report should be requested from them if appropriate.

Guidance regarding information to be provided for all of the above panels can be found on the local offer www.sthelens.gov.uk/send. A copy of the appropriate referral form for your setting is enclosed with this letter. If you have any queries regarding this information, please contact your Inclusion Officer directly or contact the SEND Team Helpline on 01744 671054 or email SENDAdmin@sthelens.gov.uk

Please email your completed referrals to our team email [address SENDAdmin@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:SENDAdmin@sthelens.gov.uk).

Thank you.

School Effectiveness Team English Training

We will be running a series of English training sessions over the coming term facilitated by Jacqui French, English Consultant for the School Effectiveness Team.

Unpicking The Writing Framework

On 8 July 2025, the Department for Education (DfE) released a brand-new Writing Framework designed to raise standards in primary writing across England. Based on evidence-led practice, this new guidance follows the success of the Phonics Framework and offers a structured, developmental approach to teaching writing from Reception through to Year 6.

This session will enable subject leaders (from Primary and Secondary) to

- Develop their understanding of The Writing Framework
- Consult and collaborate with subject leads from other schools and share good practice
- Start to audit current approaches to the teaching of writing
- Align action plans and scope out areas for further development

Tuesday 30th September
9.00-12.00 am

or
1.00-4.00 pm

Percival Suite, Ruskin Sports Village, Ruskin Drive, St Helens. WA10 6RP.

Please contact Sandra Black (sandrablack@sthelens.gov.uk) to book a place. Please provide the name and email address of the person attending.

Assessing Writing - Year 6 Expectations and Moderation

This session will:

- allow Year 6 teachers and Subject leaders to engage with standardisation materials in order to understand the expectations in writing at the end of KS2
- provide guidance on interpretation of STA Teacher Assessment statements
- support year 6 teachers with preparation for moderation
- provide practical ideas to support pupils with writing through planning, feedback, drafting and editing at Key Stage 2.

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

Schools MS Teams Forum: [Here](#)

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