



EYQI Updates

Lidia Wolos 01744 67 1051/mobile 07784360762

Gemma Oakes 01744 67 5397/07706991364

Kate Campbell 01744 671834

Amanda Quirk 01744 674175

EY Quality and Inclusion Team

EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk

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



12.12.2025

Upcoming training announcements

Early Talk Boost Training

22nd January 2026, delivered in St Helens school

Boost Children's Communication Skills with Early Talk Boost!

Are you looking for practical ways to support children with delayed language development?
Early Talk Boost is a targeted intervention designed for 3–4-year-olds to help close the gap in
speech, language, and
communication skills.

Evidence-based programme

Fun, interactive sessions

Builds confidence in speaking and listening

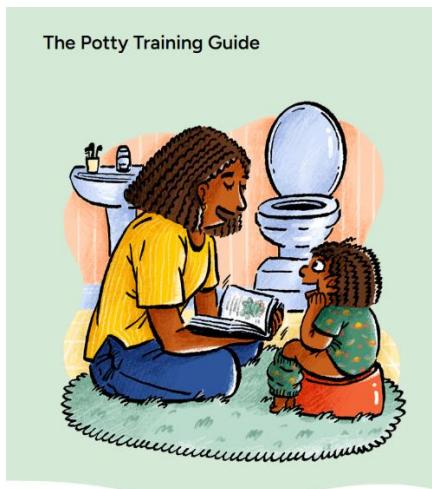
Give your children the best start by helping them thrive in conversations and learning.

Join us and make every talk count!

Contact us today to find out more or book your training session.

EYHUB@sthelens.gov.uk

The Potty Training Guide



The new, Government-backed guide to when and how to potty train your child

[View the guide](#)

[Download the guide](#)

Across the country, 1 in 4 children are not toilet trained when they start Reception. This means children begin their education without the independence they need and places extra pressures on schools.

Following requests from schools, nurseries and local authorities across the country, we're delighted to launch the brand-new [Potty Training Guide](#).

[Read the Potty Training Guide](#)

The free Potty Training Guide has been developed by the early years sector and offers clear, research-based guidance around when and how to potty train. Evidence shows that the best time to stop using nappies for bowel and bladder health is between 18-30 months, and the Guide will support schools and early years settings in working with parents to help children achieve this.

The Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson and Health Secretary Wes Streeting both today welcomed the new advice. Government guidance on potty training for settings is also being updated today to align to the [Potty Training Guide](#), ensuring one clear set of messages for parents, schools, nurseries and childminders. This follows the Government's backing of a new agreed definition of school readiness with the launch of the [Starting Reception website](#) earlier this year, linked to their [Best Start in Life strategy](#).

Using and promoting the Potty-Training Guide

The Guide is designed to be a one-stop-shop for the best advice on toilet training. Please help us to share it widely.

You can:

- Add your own logo to the front cover of the Potty Training Guide
- Host the Guide on your website, or link to the [Potty Training Guide website](#)
- Adopt the Guide as your own guidance if appropriate

- Share the Guide with schools, nurseries, childminders and early years professionals across your area
- Tell colleagues about the Guide, including those from education, health and social care teams
- Promote the Guide directly to families – online and face-to-face
- Use the [**Potty Training Guide Communications Toolkit**](#) created specifically for Local Authorities and Local Authority Services, to help spread the word. It contains key messages, a press release, template emails and editable social media assets.

Stay in touch

Please let us know how you are using the Potty Training Guide and [email us](#) if you'd be happy for us to create a case study about your work.

Starting Reception



Starting Reception now available in more languages!

Learning to use the toilet independently is just one of the life skills we know children need to have when they start Reception. See the [**Starting Reception definition**](#) for a comprehensive list of skills. Following recent feedback, Starting Reception is now available in [Polish](#) and [Ukrainian](#) as well 10 other languages!

Family Hub Navigators are working within St. Helens and we would like to share how they can support the children and families within your setting.

Family Hubs are designed to offer a welcoming, accessible point of contact for families with children of all ages. Our Navigators will connect families with the right advice, guidance, and services to help them thrive.

The support available through the Family Hub includes:

- Parenting support and guidance – including help with sleep routines, managing challenging behaviours, and child development.
- Speech and language support – advice and signposting to services that can strengthen children's communication skills.
- Family support and wellbeing – offering early help, emotional support, and connections to local services.
- Volunteering and community opportunities – enabling parents and carers to build confidence, skills, and local networks.
- Practical advice and signposting – for a wide range of issues affecting family life.

Our aim is to work alongside all settings to ensure that every child has the best start in life. We know that childcare settings are often the first-place families turn to for support, and we want to complement the fantastic work you already do by providing additional resources and guidance.

I would be delighted to arrange a time to meet with you and your team to talk more about the Family Hub offer, answer any questions, and explore how we can best work together (please email Eamonn O'Donnell
EamonnO'Donnell@sthelens.gov.uk

Thank you for your time, we look forward to supporting your setting.

NEW SERVICES IN PARR

Previous attachment

HOME START St Helens

CRADLE TO CAREER PARR

BOOK NOW ON EVENTBRITE

SCAN HERE

OR SEARCH FOR 'LUCEM HOUSE EVENT FUNDED BY CRADLE TO CAREER'

JULIA DONALDSON FILM DAY

STICK MAN & THE GRUFFALO

FREE EVENT FOR FAMILIES LIVING IN PARR, LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

LUCEM HOUSE COMMUNITY CINEMA

PLUS+

78 CORPORATION ST.

WA10 1GQ

PARR FAMILIES

THURSDAY

18

DECEMBER

AT 10:15 AM

STICK MAN THE GRUFFALO

0-5 Link Worker -Parr



LIFE'S NEXT CHAPTER: 0-5 LINK WORKER - PARR



Supporting your child's first and next steps

Free, confidential support for families of parr in the comfort of their own home.

Non judgmental

Personalised support

For children 0-5

In your own home

How we can support:

✓ Feeding and weaning	✓ Parental guidance and support
✓ Routines and sleep	✓ Building independence
✓ Early learning and play ideas	✓ Accessing and finding groups
✓ Help with paperwork	✓ Getting ready for school or nursery
✓ Toilet/ potty training	

Get in touch today

Let's tackle Life's Next Chapter together!

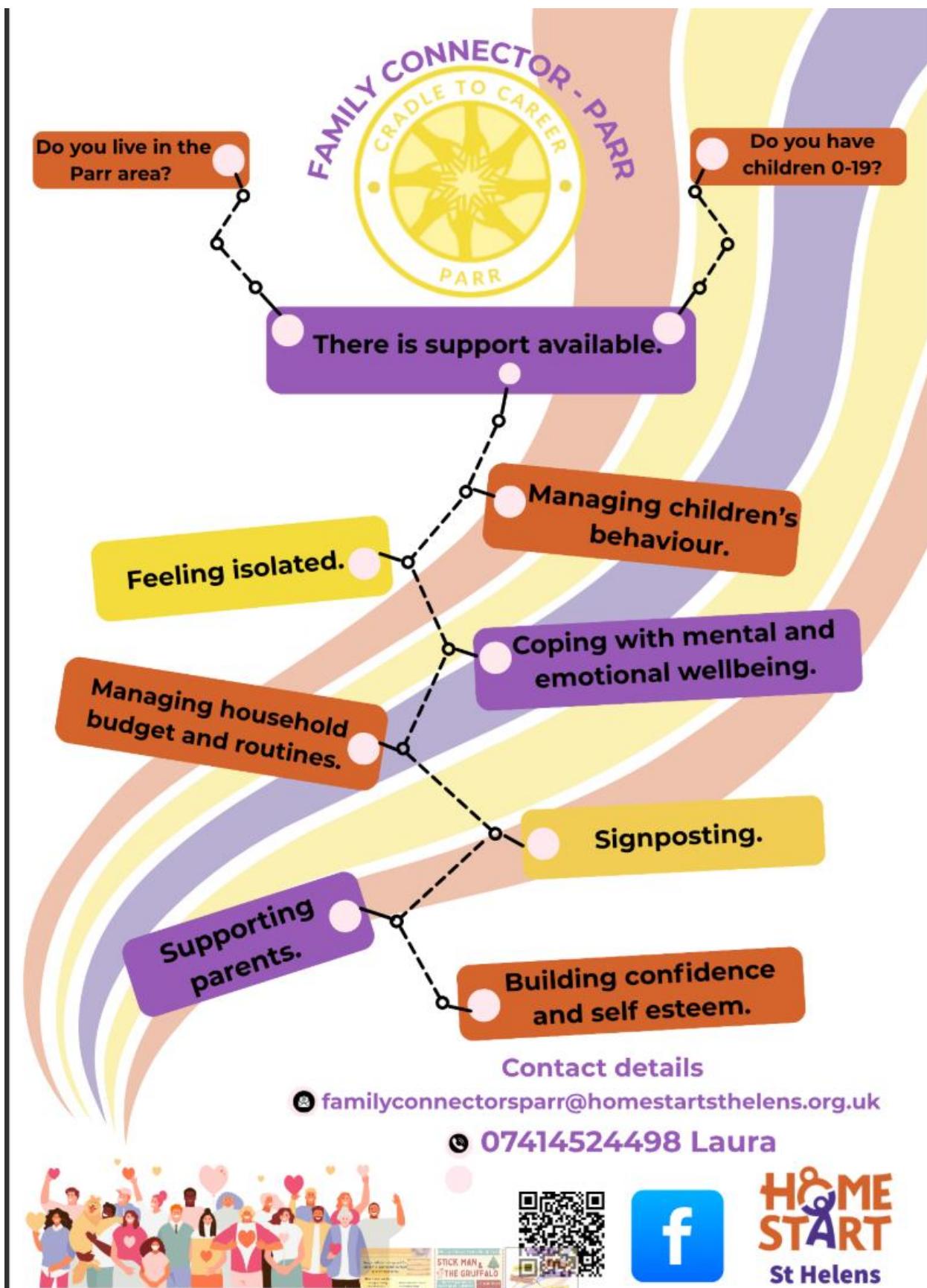
Leanne 07427248590

Courtney 07427248581

   linkworkers.parr@homestartsthelens.org.uk



Parr Family Connector



Everyone is invited to join our St Helens 'The Power of the Voice' Oracy Competition

Frank Cottrell Boyce, UK Children's Laureate 2024–2026 will be at **St Helens Town Hall at 11am on Wednesday 21st January** to award our St Helens young people who have used their voice to make a difference.

Schools are required to carry out **their own 'Power of the Voice' competition within their own settings** concluding in either a 5 minute video or written piece that takes 5 minutes to read aloud.

Young people can choose from one of the following oracy categories:

- Inspiring others
- Advocating for change
- Expressing creativity

The oracy competition relates closely to "**St. Helens 3 obsessions**" a strategic initiative by Children and Young People Services, focused on key educational and social outcomes.

The deadline for submission of your schools oracy entry is Monday 12th January 2026.

Schools will each provide one winning oracy entry, (as judged by your setting) by clicking 'new chat' in Teams and typing in

OracyCompetition@sthelens.gov.uk

then just attach the file to the chat and send. This can be a **video piece or a video, pdf or photo of the written piece.**

Please supply in the Teams chat your school name, child's name, child's age and oracy category, to receive your invitation.

On Wednesday 21st January 2026 the young person with the winning entry from each setting is invited, along with an adult of their choice, to **attend a celebration event at St Helens Town Hall** and the opportunity to **meet Frank Cottrell Boyce**, who will be reading aloud some of the entries!

Winning young people, parents, staff and Local authority representatives will all be in attendance to celebrate the oracy success of our young people and reward them with a special prize from Frank!

**OracyCompetition@sthelens.gov.uk - deadline for submission
Monday 12th January 2026**

EYFS Stronger Practice Hub January 2026 Training

Event	Location	Time and Date	Focus
January 2026			
An Introduction to Physical Development	Online - Repeat The third of a series of three webinars looking at the prime areas of learning in EYFS.	Wednesday 7th January 3.45-4.45pm	PD
Pegs to Paper fine Motor and Early Writing	Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School Northumberland Terrace, Liverpool L5 3QF	Tuesday 13th January 9.30-11.30am	PD

Website: Everton Nursery School and Family Centre | Nursery | Liverpool, UK

Email: SpHubNW@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk to book places

Please enjoy our Education and Learning Newsletter

[Education and Learning Weekly Newsletter](#)

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

Schools MS Teams Forum: [Here](#)

EY Quality and Inclusion Team
Atlas House
PO Box 512
ST HELENS
WA10 9JX