



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>



Week beginning

23.3.26

Upcoming training announcements

Designated Safeguarding Lead training for Childminders

This course aims to help childminders understand their responsibilities for safeguarding children. It explains how to recognise and respond to abuse, how to respond to a disclosure, and how to act upon concerns about the safety and welfare of children and young people according to statutory guidance EYFS, 2025.

BOTH SESSIONS TO BE ATTENDED

Session 1: Wednesday 1st April 2026 &

Session 2: Wednesday 8th April 2026

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Virtual via Microsoft Teams

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

National Lottery Community Fund

Education settings can now apply for Awards for All England - Environment Programme, offering grants from £300 to £20,000. This is a rolling programme, and schools must apply at least 16 weeks before their project start date.

The fund supports community-led projects that help people connect with, care for and protect the local environment. Schools must demonstrate how their project will deliver wider community benefit. Examples of activities include:

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- Community gardens
 - Rewilding projects
 - Forest schools / outdoor learning
 - Tree planting
 - Repair and reuse sessions
 - Food-growing schemes
 - Energy-saving initiatives (such as solar panels)

Apply using their online form.

Do Something Big Campaign-National Childminding Week

The Do Something Big campaign are looking to put together an article for National Childminding Week in May. They would love to include current childminders in the article so they can share their experiences and inspire others who might be thinking about a career as a childminder.

Once published, the article will be featured across National Careers Service and DfE channels, so it's a great opportunity for childminders to reach a wide audience.

If any childminders in St Helens that would be interested in sharing your story, the DfE would love to hear from you. You can express your interest by completing the attached short case study form and returning it to Luke.PRESCOTT@education.gov.uk .

Please do reassure any interested childminders that the DfE will share the full article with them before it goes live, so they have the opportunity to review it and approve their quotes.

BBC CBeebies Parenting: Supporting parents to discover the power of play

BBC CBeebies Parenting is celebrating the vital role of play in a preschooler's life from birth, right through to starting school.

Fundamental to a child's core development and in particular their language and communication skills, CBeebies Parenting has lots of great content to help support parents/ caregivers to discover more about play in all its forms, highlighting the power it has to connect, educate and inspire.

Check out the BBC CBeebies Parenting collection of expert-backed tips, simple activity ideas, and practical advice to make play easy to fit into everyday life, helping parents/caregivers to support their children's early development. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/play>

Within in the collection, you can find information on how children engage and learn through play: from sensory play for newborns and tummy time tips, to creative crafts, outdoor adventures, and quick 10-minute games there's something for every age and stage, and check out the expert led articles below that explain the different types of play.

How do children learn to play? 6 styles of play in early childhood - a guide to the different ways children play and develop at each stage <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/articles/zsc9qyc>

What is Active Play? - Child development expert Dr Amanda Gummer explains how physical activity benefits your child. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/articles/zqdcfdm>

Why is imaginative play so great for kids? - How playing with sock puppets can support imaginative play <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/articles/zyy3p4j>

Families can also explore:

CBeebies Learn App – free, safe, ad-free games and videos mapped to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/cbeebies-learn-app>

Andy's Dino Island – new series launching in March produced by the BBC Natural History Unit, it encourages imaginative play and adventure. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/andys-dinosaur-adventures>

CBeebies Parenting Download Podcast – special episodes on play, including a live bonus episode recorded at the Natural History Museum with play expert Dr Amanda Gummer, celebrity parents Olivia and Alex Bowen and CBeebies legend Andy Day. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0lfx0f4/episodes/downloads>

Bluey on BBC iPlayer – everyday inspiration for playful moments with the Heeler family. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m000vbrk/bluey>

The CBeebies Parenting website is full of expert advice, practical ideas, and inspiring activities. Free to share with families you work with.

For more information, visit bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting

[This week's Education and Learning Newsletter](#)

[Education and Learning Weekly Newsletter](#)

[Overview of the School to Setting Transition Document](#)

The *School to Setting Transition Document* is a structured form designed to support smooth information-sharing when a child moves from an early years setting to school (or between settings). It ensures that receiving practitioners have a holistic understanding of the child's development, needs, and circumstances before transition meetings take place.

The document captures the following key areas:

Summary of Progress

Settings provide a **best-fit judgement** of the child's developmental stage across all seven EYFS areas of learning, using either:

- **Development Matters 3–4** (with options: *Well-below, Emerging, Expected*)
- **Birth to 5 Matters** (current range entered)

This gives schools a snapshot of the child's current attainment and developmental stage.

[Register for a live online event for those working in early years](#)

Wednesday 22 April 2026: Register for a live online event for those working in early years with, the Early Education Minister, Olivia Bailey, the Best Start in Life Champion, Sue Robb and Sarah Ronan, Executive Director of the Early Education and Childcare Alliance, about the government's plans for the sector and the what the SEND reforms mean for early years at 6pm (please note that this event has been rescheduled from 23 March).

[Sign up now](#)

[Action for all settings: Ensure your defibrillator is rescue ready and visible to the ambulance service](#)

Is your defibrillator 'rescue ready' and visible to 999?

Over 14,000 schools have registered their defibrillators on the national defibrillator database, [The Circuit](#), but did you know almost 7,000 schools have defibrillators that emergency services can't see?

A cardiac arrest can strike anyone, at any time. The Circuit has been updated to make it even easier for you to register your defibrillator and update its availability.

Make your defibrillator 'rescue ready' by:

- [checking if your defibrillator is visible to the ambulance service](#)
- if not, register it on The Circuit; the Circuit's [school's page](#) shows you how

If your device is already registered, check your defibrillator is rescue ready and [record your check](#) on The Circuit so the ambulance service know it's ready.

If your defibrillator isn't available 24/7, please update [The Circuit](#) with your school closing dates before the end of term – this [video](#) shows you how.

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

Schools MS Teams Forum: [Here](#)

PO Box 512
ST HELENS
WA10 9JX