Children and Families, Early Years Division

Weekly News Bulletin: 18th November 2020

**Message from Eleni Ioannides Interim DCS and Chief Executive**

Dear Early Years Provider,

First of all, I want to say a big thank you to everybody for the very warm welcome I’ve received since coming to Slough.

It has obviously been a busy first two weeks, trying to meet as many people as possible, as well as maintaining the important duties that were undertaken by the previous Director of Children’s Service, Cate Dufy and the Chief Executive of the Trust, Lisa Humphreys.  I have appreciated all the help and support I’ve received and will continue to value it in the months to come.  It’s a privilege to take this role on, focusing completely on children’s needs across the Borough.  As the key service delivering for children in the Borough, you will not need any encouragement to understand the importance of getting things right for our children and young people.  I want to thank you for all that you do for them, most specifically in this difficult year when you have been called upon to undertake even more than usual, and the response has been testament to the commitment, motivation and flexibility of the people in our education system.  I look forward to working with you in partnership to ensure that Slough is a fantastic place to grow up.

I expect to be in Slough until the end of March, by which time we hope to have appointed a permanent successor. The advert is currently out with a closing date towards the end of November. The appointment should coincide with the formal process of moving from the Trust arrangement to becoming a company wholly owned by the Council. Whilst this will require much work behind the scenes, we will do everything we can to avoid an impact on services.  You will be aware that in most Council areas, all services to children come under one umbrella in order to ensure full integration and coordination.  The creation of this new joint role across the Council and the Trust offers a significant and timely opportunity to increase mutual cooperation and ensure seamless services to children, young people and their families. It should also clarify communication and reporting lines.

Sadly, introductory face to face meetings are not as easy as they used to be, but I hope to meet some of you during my time at Slough, and will be working closely with and through Johnny and Michael to ensure that the focus on education, and on improving life chances for all, remains as important as ever.

With huge respect and best wishes,

Eleni



**Eleni Ioannides**

**Interim DCS and Chief Executive**

Slough Children’s Services Trust

**Important Update – Reporting a case of positive COVID-19 to Ofsted**

For the attention of Early Years managers, childminders and other day care settings.

Ofsted has newly [published guidance](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tell-ofsted-if-you-have-a-covid-19-incident-at-your-childcare-business?utm_source=c676c9a3-9ff0-4291-a304-85dbab2b9d21&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily) on 11th November; **Tell Ofsted if you have a COVID-19 incident at your childcare business.**

You must report to Ofsted:

* any confirmed cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the setting, either in children or staff
* if the setting is advised to close as a result
* This must be within 14 days of a confirmed positive test for COVID-19.

The new guidance clearly shows you how and where to report and what information you will be required to share.

**Please note** you must still follow the Government guidance for COVID-19 in addition to these actions from Ofsted.

**Ofsted Update – Early Years inspection arrangements**

For the attention of Early Years managers and childminders.

On the 12th November 2020, Ofsted announced their new policy paper; **Inspection of early years register providers: requirements for Ofsted.**

This paper sets out the [Early Years inspection arrangements](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-announces-new-early-years-inspection-arrangements)  for when Ofsted resumes full inspections routine post COVID-19.

The new arrangements include:

* prioritising providers rated less than good
* schedule early years inspections based on the most current risk assessment of the provision from its work as a regulator, including each provider’s previous judgement
* inspect providers on the early years register - within 6 years from the date of their last inspection
* prioritise the first inspection of providers on the early years register, aiming to still inspect all new childcare providers within 30 months of registrations where possible.
* childcare providers judged to require improvement will be inspected within a year and inadequate childcare provision will be inspected within 6 months.

You can sign up for email updates from Ofsted on the Government website <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>

## **Updated guidance on national restrictions for education and childcare settings**

We have updated our guidance on what the [national restrictions mean for education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020?utm_source=16%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) to include further information on the provision of extra-curricular activities, sport and physical education in schools and colleges. This update also includes information for further education providers on the provision of remote education and enrolment during the period of national restrictions.

The national restrictions are in force up to and including Wednesday 2 December.

[Education and childcare settings: national restrictions from 5 November 2020](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020?utm_source=47c78d6e-9a2c-48b4-9591-2bc5e665494b&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)

How national restrictions to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) impact education, childcare and children’s social care settings.

**Change made**  
We have updated the guidance on out-of-school activities and wraparound childcare, clinically extremely vulnerable children and staff, and extra-curricular activities in schools, and added clarification on when face coverings should be worn.

Updated: 16 November 2020

**Updated national COVID guidance on the ‘Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings’**

**Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings - issued post national lockdown**

There have been updates to the government guidance produced in relation to the use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings. The following is an overview of the government updates:-

1. There are added links in the guidance documents in relation to wraparound care and early years providers guidance. The links are;-
   1. [Guidance for providers of holiday, breakfast and after-school clubs or other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak)
   2. [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures#responsibilities-of-local-authorities-and-early-years-providers)
2. The necessary and required actions have been reclassified. Here is the list;-
   1. [Necessary action: leaders and staff should familiarise themselves with the features of the app](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#necessary-action-leaders-and-staff-should-familiarise-themselves-with-the-features-of-the-app)
   2. [Necessary action: leaders should understand how the app relates to their setting’s process for managing a positive case and/or an outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#necessary-action-leaders-should-understand-how-the-app-relates-to-their-settings-process-for-managing-a-positive-case-andor-an-outbreak)
   3. [Necessary action: leaders should understand how the app’s ‘Trace’ feature relates to their setting’s existing process for being informed about contacts of positive cases](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#necessary-action-leaders-should-understand-how-the-apps-trace-feature-relates-to-their-settings-existing-process-for-being-informed-about-contacts-of-positive-cases)
   4. [Required action: leaders must display a QR code for any activities or provision in their setting where members of the public take part or make use of premises for hospitality, leisure or close contact services](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#required-action-leaders-must-display-a-qr-code-for-any-activities-or-provision-in-their-setting-where-members-of-the-public-take-part-or-make-use-of-premises-for-hospitality-leisure-or-close-contact-services)
   5. [Necessary action: consider how the app relates to your setting’s mobile phone policies](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#necessary-action-consider-how-the-app-relates-to-your-settings-mobile-phone-policies)
   6. [Necessary action: communicate with staff about use of the app](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#necessary-action-communicate-with-staff-about-use-of-the-app)
   7. [Desired action: consider communicating with students and parents about the use of the app](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges#desired-action-consider-communicating-with-students-and-parents-about-the-use-of-the-app)
3. The guidance has added further information about QR code display
4. Education settings are not expected to create NHS QR code posters for the provision of childcare, education or training in their settings as part of their normal day to day operations
5. Where education, training or childcare is provided in a community centre, education and childcare settings will need to consider whether they are required by relevant legislation to display a QR code, as detailed in the current guidance for maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace. NHS QR posters could also be considered in the following circumstances:
   * 1. if a setting hosts an event with external guests on the premises, depending on the registration arrangements in place, NHS QR check-in would be for people visiting rather than students and staff in these contexts
     2. if the premises are let out during evenings, weekends or holidays to external providers
     3. if a setting thinks that use of NHS QR codes and the app is more effective than their existing process for recording external visitors, and providing those visitors’ details to NHS Test and Trace in the event of a positive case at the setting

Click here for the full guidance [Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges?utm_source=a78cd9d2-11e0-4e84-805f-79f010d3adde&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

Please note that the app is intended for anyone aged 16 and over if they choose to do so.

As always if you have any queries please contact the health and safety team on [\_healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk](mailto:_healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk) or call 01753 875046 or 01753875742

## **Updated guidance on providing apprenticeships during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**

We have updated our [guidance on providing apprenticeships](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response?utm_source=13%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to include information about the extension of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, the package of support available for those who have been made redundant on or after 15 October and guidance on the national restrictions that came into force on 5 November.

**Safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)**

This guidance applies to:

* staff working in education, childcare and children’s social care settings in England
* children, young people and learners who attend these settings
* their parents or carers

It explains the strategy for infection prevention and control, including the specific circumstances in which PPE should be used, to enable safe working during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. If something is essential for public health reasons, as advised by Public Health England (PHE), this guidance uses the term ‘must’. This guidance does not create any new legal obligations.

**Main changes to previous guidance**

We have added guidance on [aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe#aerosol-generating-procedures-agps) in education and children’s social care settings.

‘What specific steps should be taken to care for children with complex medical needs, such as tracheostomies?’ to include guidance on aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) in education and children’s social care settings.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>

## **Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) paper on the benefits of remaining in education**

The Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) has published a paper that provides the [latest evidence of incidence and transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in schools](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spi-bdfe-covid-19-benefits-of-remaining-in-education-evidence-and-considerations-4-november-2020?utm_source=16%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) and the benefits to children and young people of remaining in education. This research shows that closing schools would have a negative impact on children and young people’s mental health and development. We are prioritising their education and wellbeing by keeping schools open.

Using the information within this report, the [Department for Education blog](https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2020/11/13/question-and-answers-sage-papers-on-covid-19-transmissions-in-schools/?utm_source=16%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) provides answers to some key questions.

**Early adopter list published on gov.uk**

DfE have now published a list of schools participating in the EYFS reforms early adopter programme on gov.uk – it can be viewed alongside the early adopter framework and curriculum guidance at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-adopter-schools-eyfs-framework>

The list is also available so that individual schools can check that they are registered to participate. The list is time stamped 4 November, and may be subject to change if schools contact us to withdraw from the scheme. The deadline for withdrawal has been set at Friday 18 December 2020. After this deadline we will publish an updated – and final – list of early adopters.

**Advertising vacancies**

Does your setting currently have vacant places for early years children?

If you would like the Early Years Service to promote your vacancies on our [early years facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/sloughearlyyears/) or the Slough Borough Council [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/sloughcouncil/) and [twitter](https://twitter.com/SloughCouncil?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor) pages please email [earlyyears@slough.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@slough.gov.uk) and we will include your details in future posts about vacancies. Deadline this week Thursday 19th November by 11am

Alternatively please call Raj Braich on 07395 258 096

**Housing**

* The Government has announced a pause on [enforcement of evictions](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-landlords-and-tenants) from December until 11th January, except in the most serious circumstances.
* The Government has also introduced a scheme to provide accommodation for rough sleepers during the second wave. The ['Protect Programme'](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jenrick-launches-protect-programme-the-next-step-in-winter-rough-sleeping-plan) will provide a further £15 million to support the ongoing efforts to provide accommodation for rough sleepers.
* Homelessness charities have published data showing that [tens of thousands of people have been made homeless](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/nov/08/tens-thousands-homeless-despite-uk-ban-evictions-covid-pandemic) since the start of the pandemic, despite a ban on evictions.
* They also warned that those with precarious living arrangements are particularly vulnerable as they are not protected by the evictions ban.

**Food Poverty**

* The government has announced a new [package of support for children and families](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-winter-package-to-provide-further-support-for-children-and-families):
  + £170million of funding will be allocated to local authorities under the new COVID Winter Grant Scheme. This funding will be ring-fenced, with at least 80% to support food and bills for hard hit families, and will run up to the end of March 2021. Local authorities are expected to use some of this funding to provide meals for disadvantaged children during school holidays.
  + The Holiday Activities and Food programme will be expanded to cover the Easter, Summer and Christmas Holidays in 2021. It will be available to children in every local authority in England, and will receive up to £220million in funding.
  + Healthy Start scheme payments are also set to increase from £3.10 to £4.25 a week from April 2021. The scheme supports pregnant people or those with children under four who have a low income to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

**Share your experience of accessing services at your local GP practice during the Coronavirus Pandemic with local NHS Commissioners**

NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) launches an online survey as part of its drive to understand what the experience has been for local people in Slough accessing Primary Care Services (services at your local GP practice) during the Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic.

The survey will run from **10 November – 4 December** and is for patients registered with a Slough practice.

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has meant that many health services have had to be delivered differently.

We want to understand how these changes have impacted you.

Tracey Faraday-Drake, Executive Place Managing Director Slough, said: “We need local people to share their experiences of how they accessed care for their needs since the pandemic started and tell us what matters to them when accessing Primary Care services.”

She added: “I would like to reassure the people of Slough that their feedback will be taken into account in developing options for the future.”

The survey is anonymous and will be used by NHS providers and commissioners in Slough to help us improve our services.

The \*survey can be found using the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SloughGPSurvey>

**\*You must be registered with a Slough practice**

Please contact [eastberksccg.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:eastberksccg.enquiries@nhs.net) if you would like the survey in another format or language.

**The Early Childhood Unit at NCB: Latest news and information from the early years sector**

[COVID-19 guidance: Education and childcare](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=fa69539ec8&e=6e26d5602e)

Updated guidance from the DfE for parents, childcare and early years settings during the second national lockdown in England, 5th November – 2nd December.

**Listening to the voices of young children** - new training from ECU launching in early 2021 - a one-day introductory course for all those who work with young children, in settings or services. Contact  [ecuadmin@ncb.org.uk](mailto:ecuadmin@ncb.org.uk) to find out more  
  
[**Anti-bullying Week**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=ff4e91c901&e=6e26d5602e) **2020**  
Anti-Bullying Week 2020, organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, is taking place from **Monday 16th - Friday 20th November 2020**, starting with [Odd Socks Day](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=e6d186a300&e=6e26d5602e) on Monday 16th November. The theme is United Against Bullying, with information and resources available on the website, including for [schools](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=9ca99131a3&e=6e26d5602e) and for [parents and carers](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=61d4dcf515&e=6e26d5602e).  
  
[News from the A Better Start Projects](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=4738376b37&e=6e26d5602e)  
A Better Start is a ten-year (2015-2025), £215 million programme set-up by The National Lottery Community Fund across five A Better Start partnerships, based in Blackpool, Bradford, Lambeth, Nottingham and Southend

[Child development podcasts from Salford Cognitive Lab](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=369bcac054&e=6e26d5602e)  
The University of Salford's Cognitive Development Lab has recently launched a child development podcast series where each week a guest scientist is invited to share some of the latest research in child development..

## **The Foundation Stage Forum EYFS November Newsletter 2020**

At the time of writing this we are beginning a new national lockdown in England, although many parts of the UK have been under tighter restrictions for a while. Schools and settings remain open and on the frontline supporting children and families, not just with teaching and learning but with emotional and practical support too. Here at the FSF we thank you for all the work you do everyday to improve the lives of our children.

This week [Marcus Rashford acknowledged](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-54841316) the difference a new winter grant scheme announced by the Government will make to nearly 1.7 million children, including help with food and bills for families. The young footballer continues to campaign against food poverty with his child food poverty taskforce. Marcus Rashford's campaign resonates with the United Nations message -  *for every child, every right.*This message is amplified by [World Children’s Day](https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-childrens-day) on 20th November, held every year to promote togetherness and improve children’s welfare.

The 16th to the 20th of November is [World Nursery Rhyme week](https://www.worldnurseryrhymeweek.com/). First held in 2013, it promotes the value of nursery rhymes in child development, and over 4 million children from 106 countries have taken part since the initiative began. Families have their own traditional songs and rhymes representing their culture and story, and sharing these provides a rich learning opportunity for all children.

If you are an early years practitioner, you will be interested in reading Dr Julian Grenier's [The Revised Early Years Foundation Stage: Principles into Practice](http://development-matters.org.uk/). This is an independently written guidance designed to support practitioners, teachers and settings in understanding and implementing the new Development Matters.

November is an important month in both the Sikh and the Hindu year. Sikhs around the world will be celebrating Guru Nanak Dev Ji Gurpurab, Guru Nanak’s birthday and Hindus share in Diwali, the festival of lights. We send warmest wishes to the Sikh community and to the Hindu community as they observe these special times while coping with the pandemic restrictions.

**The Foundation Stage Forum: New Content**

On the FSF this month we included a [Coffee Break](https://eyfs.info/news.html/eyfsf/what-do-educators-really-think-r316/) write up of the findings of the survey we carried out recently.  These findings were also reported in an article in [Nursery Management Today.](http://nmt-magazine.co.uk/better-communications-with-hard-to-reach-parents-and-access-to-technology-essential/)  Thank you to everyone who took part.

As always there are new articles for you. We have a piece by Liz Pemberton – [How do I talk about race with children in the early years setting?](https://eyfs.info/articles.html/teaching-and-learning/how-do-i-talk-about-race-with-children-in-the-early-years-setting-r332/); Super Manny [Joss Cambridge-Simmons](https://eyfs.info/articles.html/teaching-and-learning/putting-love-at-the-centre-of-your-practice-being-on-a-journey-with-joss-cambridge-simmons-founder-of-jossy-care-r333/) shares his story; and [The Secret SENCo](https://eyfs.info/articles.html/primary/the-experiences-of-one-senco-during-lockdown-and-beyond-r335/) looks back at the first lockdown and forwards into the future, thinking about how she will be supporting children with special educational needs in her school.

Helen is writing a series about Observation, and you can find the first couple of articles in our [Observation Hub section](https://eyfs.info/articles.html/observation-hub/).

There are conversations happening about the new DMs on the Forum - [this is a good one to start with](https://eyfs.info/forums/topic/52998-new-development-matters-and-the-observation-checkpoints/). If you have read an article on the FSF, we'd love to hear what you think about it. You can add your thoughts in the comment box below each article. We often set up a dedicated forum thread for an article too.

We have some new podcasts: [Joss Cambridge-Simmons](https://fsf-podcasts.simplecast.com/episodes/challenging-male-stereotypes-in-the-childcare-sector-and-putting-love-at-the-centre-of-your-practice) joined us to talk about being a man working in the childcare sector; [Wendy Scott](https://fsf-podcasts.simplecast.com/episodes/transforming-lives-through-early-years-teaching-and-learning), President of TACTYC and Early Years representative on the board of NAPE shared her thoughts on working with families and how the early years can transform lives; [Doreen Barton](https://fsf-podcasts.simplecast.com/episodes/one-childminders-journey-ethos-and-advice) (Sounique Child) chatted with us about childminding; and [Dr Julian Grenier, Gill Jones and Wendy Ratcliff](https://fsf-podcasts.simplecast.com/episodes/eyfs-early-adopters-your-questions-answered) answered questions on the role of assessment and what to say to your SLT. This is the one to listen to if you are an Early Adopter this year.

There have been some new features added to Tapestry this month. **Child Login** allows you to enable your Tapestry account so children can log in from specific computers at your setting and/or allow them to log in from home. Children can then access the child-friendly version of Tapestry to see observations that have been made for them and upload their own. The beta version is now available, and you can find out more about Child Login on Tapestry's [main tutorials page](https://eyfs.info/forums/topic/46927-full-contents-page/) and in this [article on Tapestry.info](https://tapestry.info/2020/10/14/introducing-child-login.html). Tapestry are really interested to hear feedback about Child Login, so do get in touch by emailing [customer.service@eyfs.info](mailto:customer.service@eyfs.info).

**The New Development Matters are now available on Tapestry.** We have responded to the move away from collecting and analysing data and to the renewed focus on careful curriculum design, depth of learning, and an educator’s knowledge of each child. You can read more about the thinking behind how Tapestry have added the new Development Matters [here](https://www.tapestry.info/2020/11/10/development-matters-for-early-adopters-on-tapestry.html) and check out some tutorials [here](https://eyfs.info/forums/topic/53119-setting-up-development-matters-2020/).

Thank you to everyone who comes to the FSF, whether to read articles, follow threads about practice and policy, or to join in conversations. We appreciate you all.

## **From The Forum**

(Click or tap on the subject headings to view the threads on the forum.)

[**Outdoor Provision**](https://eyfs.info/forums/topic/53130-outdoor-provision/?tab=comments#comment-467470)

Our outdoor area is a large tarmac area.

[**Theories on CPD in Practice**](https://eyfs.info/forums/topic/53140-theories-on-cpd-in-practice/?tab=comments#comment-467528)

I'm a level 3 practitioner and for a course I'm required to find out other practitioners opinions and theories on CPD and how it all actually works in practice for you all.

**What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**

Page summary  
Information for parents and carers about going back to schools, nurseries and colleges in the autumn term.

Change made  
We have updated this guidance to include information on the national restrictions by adding a ‘national restrictions’ section and updating the relevant information about face coverings, clinically extremely vulnerable children and extra curricular activities.

Time updated  
11:21am, 12 November 2020

**Addendum to CYP Mental Health training offer**

Please find addendum (attached), which is intended as a supplement to the [Children and Young People’s Mental Health Training Offer – for Professionals and Volunteers](https://www.eastberkshireccg.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/CCG-training-offer-full.fin_.pdf) published in February 2020.

In line with the current COVID-19 restrictions, all of the training included in this update is virtual. The next children and young people’s (CYP) workforce training offer will be published in 2021

**Early Years Service Annual Provider Audit 2020-21**

Slough Borough Council has an annual duty to evaluate the early years and childcare provision available in Slough. We therefore need to gather information from all providers regarding services offered to families and details about each setting’s operational arrangements. As outlined in the Provider Agreement for the Provision of Funded Early Education for 2, 3 and 4 Year Olds 2020 the local authority requires providers to complete an annual provider audit for sufficiency purposes.

This year’s annual provider audit focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on the early years sector. The results will be used to create a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) which will enhance our understanding of the early years market in Slough, enabling us to consider future developments and targeted support.

We are requesting that all providers complete the audit via an **online** **survey**

* **Childminders:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CSACMAUDIT>
* **PVI settings**: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CSAPVIAudit>
* **Nursery Schools and schools with nursery classes:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CSASchoolsAudit>

If you have any problems completing the audit online please contact Raj Braich - Project Support Officer on 07395 258096 or Aneesa Younus – Project Support Officer on 07923 260397. The deadline for the audit is **5pm on Tuesday 1st December 2020.**

For any further questions regarding the Annual Audit or the Childcare Sufficiency Refresh please contact Slough Early Years Service on 01753 476583.

**Home Office campaign launched to protect victims of child abuse**

The Home Office has joined forces with charities including Childline, Barnardo’s and The Children’s Society to launch a new campaign to protect victims of child abuse.

The month-long campaign, [‘Something’s Not Right’](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-leads-national-drive-to-protect-victims-of-child-abuse?utm_source=17%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19), encourages young people to recognise different forms of abuse, including sexual and physical abuse, report it and receive help. The campaign will see animated adverts aimed at secondary school aged pupils aged 13 and over, running across Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook. Young people will be directed to a [dedicated page on the Childline website](https://www.childline.org.uk/somethings-not-right) where they can access information and seek support.

The campaign has been introduced in response to evidence that suggested young people faced a greater risk of sexual abuse, criminal exploitation and domestic abuse due to the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19). The monthly average number of Childline counselling sessions about domestic abuse and abuse increased by 20% and 22% respectively in April to July 2020, compared to pre-lockdown levels.

The campaign will help victims understand what may be happening to them and provide age-appropriate advice on how to report concerns to a trusted adult such as a teacher.

**Training and Continuous Professional Development**

**MULTI-AGENCY TRAINING OFFER 2020-21 is under review (Level 2 Safeguarding)**

Covid 19 has presented many challenges for our workforce and has taught us a lot about Virtual working together!

We are currently revising all our training and developing virtual modules. We have committed to virtual training September through to March 2021 unless it is safe to have face to face training.

<https://www.sloughsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/scsp/scsp/training/multi-agency-training-offer-2020-21-refreshed-in-light-of-covid-19>

**Safeguarding basics and COVID-19**

Below is a link to a video which has been developed to cover the basics of safeguarding during COVID-19.  It covers safeguarding for both children and adults at home and also includes domestic abuse and exploitation.

It takes less than 10 minutes to view and may be particularly useful as a resource for:-

* redeployed staff
* staff or volunteers  working in different ways within the safeguarding arena during this period
* volunteers who do not read English very well as there is no requirement to read the slides.

The messages are simple - “There is no excuse for abuse during Lockdown” and “Help is available -It is business as usual for safeguarding services”

Link to Slough Safeguarding basics <https://youtu.be/RDc4mBGbRmA>

**Safeguarding Level 3**

*It is always recommended that Designated Safeguarding Leads complete a localised Safeguarding course to ensure they have up to date information about local policy’s and procedures. Due to COVID 19 the Slough Safeguarding Partnership are currently unable to offer face to face training but will endeavour to review other options such as online training in the future. In the meantime there are a number of other organisations who offer Level 3 Safeguarding training online which you could access, however we strongly recommend that you ensure you are aware and up to date with Slough’s Safeguarding procedures* [*https://berks.proceduresonline.com/slough/index.html*](https://berks.proceduresonline.com/slough/index.html)

**Please note these courses are not recommendations and we are not endorsing the training. This list is not exhaustive**

**Level 3 Safeguarding Children: Paediatric First Aid Training Online**

This online safeguarding training level 3 course programme is aimed at all childminders, nursery staff, but also school teachers & support staff working with children & infants who could potentially assess and evaluating the needs of a child, infant or young person, who may be potentially at risk of harm.

<https://www.onlinepaediatricfirstaid.co.uk/product/level-3-online-safeguarding-children-course-childminders-nursery-staff/>

**Designated Safeguarding Lead (Level 3): The National Nursery Training**

As part of the National Nursery Training Designated Safeguarding Lead course you will learn:

* Understand the safeguarding structure and have an understanding of the law, policy and recommended guidance to uphold the highest safeguarding standards
* Understand the roles and responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
* Be able to identify signs of possible abuse
* Understand the process to follow when a safeguarding issue is identified
* Understand the correct procedure for dealing with disclosures.
* Understand the varying levels of need of individuals and processes to follow.
* Understand the correct procedure for recording information and following due process beyond referral to external agencies.

<https://nationalnurserytraining.com/product/designated-safeguarding-lead-level-3/>

**Designated Safeguarding Lead online Course: EYFS Resources**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead course covers the following:

◦the definition of safeguarding and child protection,

◦recap on signs and symptoms of abuse

◦how to report concerns

◦how to respond to allegations of abuse

◦recording information correctly

◦roles and responsibilities of people and agencies

◦creating a child protection policy

◦the role of a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

<https://www.eyfsresources.co.uk/training/early-years-safeguarding-courses/designated-safeguarding-lead-online-course>

**NSPCC Safeguarding Training**

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training>

**Prevent**

Prevent should be seen as part of the existing safeguarding framework;

While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist & extremist influences or prejudiced views. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable.

Slough Borough Council working with other local partners, families and communities, play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of terrorism.

Prevent training, aims of session.

• Understand Prevents aims

• Think about who may be vulnerable to Extremism and Radicalisation – all forms

• See why some people are able to influence and manipulate others to commit crimes

• Recognise when a vulnerable individual may be in need of help

• And be clear on what help and support looks like in this area, and who you should turn to if you have concerns

• Look at the threats, risks and vulnerabilities

9th December 2020 @ 10am – 12pm

12th January 2021 @ 10am – 12pm

9th February 2021 @ 10am – 12pm

9th March 2021 @ 10am – 12pm

To book a free space please email [Philip.Dobson@slough.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Dobson@slough.gov.uk)

Alternative evening session will run on 23rd February 2021 @ 6.30pm – 8pm bookings via the Link <https://thelink.slough.gov.uk/events/early-years-prevent-training-1>

**Strong Home Learning Experience to support children’s learning and development**

**National Literacy Trust – Words for life /New digital platforms for families and teachers**

The virtual school library will help primary schools give children who have been most adversely affected by COVID-19 access to books all year round. The words for life website supports with the home learning environment for children <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/?mc_cid=ea64f10f58&mc_eid=dfacb06fa7>

The websites are packed with free books, fun activities and exclusive author content.

For more information look [here](https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/to-celebrate-international-literacy-day-hrh-the-duchess-of-cornwall-opened-ivydales-new-school-library-and-launched-our-virtual-school-library-for-all-uk-schools/?mc_cid=ea64f10f58&mc_eid=dfacb06fa7)

**For Happy Healthy Early Years** - Support from trusted NHS professionals <https://healthforunder5s.co.uk/>

**Simple, fun activities for kids, from newborn to five** <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

**Talk to your baby**

[www.talktoyourbaby.org](http://www.talktoyourbaby.org)

**Building a happy baby - a guide for parents**

[www.unicef.org.uk/babyfriendly](http://www.unicef.org.uk/babyfriendly)

**Education Endowment Foundation**

NEW: Supporting reading at home - we have made some of our resources available in Polish, Punjabi, Urdu, Bengali, and Lithuanian. <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/support-resources-to-share-with-parents/>

**Improving the Home Learning Environment** guide by the Department of Education and National Literacy Trust <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756020/Improving_the_home_learning_environment.pdf>

**The Toddler Meal Planner is a must have in every kitchen!**

Created in collaboration with parents to solve a real need, it makes it easy for parents to get the balance right, helping to take the guesswork out of toddler meals and set up healthy habits for life at a critical time in children’s development. You can find the meal planner [here](https://infantandtoddlerforum.org/blog/new-resource-inspired-by-parents-for-parents-the-toddler-meal-planner-is-a-must-have-in-every-kitchen/?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=August%20email)