

Bristol Early Years

Bulletin for Early Years Providers

6th October 2022

1. BRISTOL CHILDREN'S KITCHEN NATIONAL AWARD



We are pleased to announce that Bristol-based, The Children's Kitchen, has been awarded the Health and Well-being Award in the 2022 Nursery World Award, an award which recognises the best practice in early years settings across the country.

The Children's Kitchen is a collaboration between Bristol Early Years, Feeding Bristol, led by Food Educator Jo Ingleby (Food and Farming award 'Cook of the Year' 2015). The project encourages young children and their families to explore, cook and grow fresh produce and is based in the Maintained Nursery Schools and early years settings in areas of high food insecurity. The project brings a Project Developer (usually a chef) to each setting to support the running of Food Sessions, developing growing spaces and



building the skills of practitioners. Fresh produced is grown onsite and also sourced from Fareshare South West and FOOD clubs where families can access affordable food.

The Children's Kitchen currently works with 16 settings across the city and is also a key part of the strategic development of Food Education within the Healthy Activities and Food Programme. This includes running hands on family food sessions, training and creating recipe resources which are translated into 16 languages."

You can find out more about the Children's Kitchen's transformative work here:

<https://www.nurseryworld.co.uk/features/article/nursery-world-awards-2022-health-well-being>

[The Children's Kitchen | Bristol Early Years](#)

<https://vimeo.com/493529003/049a28c362>

2. PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES 2023-24

Please ensure that all parents and carers are aware that they must make an application for Reception in September 2023 **by midnight on 15th January 2023**. A pdf flyer is attached to the Bulletin email which should be shared with families. Settings may wish to contact parents/carers via Facebook, Twitter, and Group Text, as well making information available on the school's website and by issuing paper or on-line newsletters.



Please make it clear to parents/carers when carrying out pre-school home visits or meetings that they must apply separately for a Reception school place by the closing date of 15th January 2023. School Admissions information is available [on-line](#) for parents/carers to view and download.

3. PROGRESS CHECK AT TWO SURVEY

To support practitioners with making the Progress Check at Age Two, and following consultation with partners in education, health and social care, Bristol Early Years has developed a set of materials for good practice in making the assessment that providers may wish to use. The Bristol Progress Check at Two materials have been in a pilot phase and are now due for review.

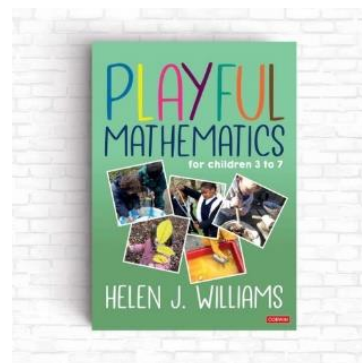
If you have used the materials with 2-year olds we would very much appreciate you completing a short [survey](#) about the resources. Thank you very much for your time and taking part in this development in Bristol. Please complete the survey by 31st October 2022.

4. PLAYFUL MATHS WITH HELEN WILLIAMS

Don't miss the opportunity of **free CPD with author of the brilliant book Playful Maths, Dr Helen Williams.**



Dr William's book recently won the Nursery World Awards for Book of the Year and we are delighted to welcome her to Bristol. Each session (only need to book 1) will explore playful approaches to supporting a strong mathematical foundation for all children, supporting and deepening practitioners' knowledge and practice. There will be lots of practical play for adults too!



[2nd November at Engineers House](#)
[1.30pm – 3.30pm](#)

Or

[2nd November at Engineers House](#)
[4.30pm – 6.30pm](#)

Booking is via The Bristol EY Calendar or click the link in the preferred time above. These sessions are expected to be very popular so do book your place quickly!

5. BRISTOL STANDARD – DIGITAL UPDATE



The planned migration of submissions to the Phase 2 digital system has been slightly delayed due to final adjustments and to enable our web designer to run tests around the validation process before the migration takes place. You do not need to do anything, it will all be a smooth transfer and we will be in touch once it has taken place. In the meantime, you can still access your submission via the current system. There will be network meeting to introduce the new system. This is a very exciting development for the Bristol Standard and we thank you for your patience while we have worked through this.

6. AUTUMN VACCINATIONS

We are anticipating flu and Covid to be co-circulating this winter and are strongly urging all eligible to access their vaccinations when offered. This will help to protect against severe illness and support business continuity

Flu

The 2022/23 NHS flu programme has now been launched offering free flu vaccination to a wide range of people through their GP practice or pharmacy.

- all children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2022

- all primary school aged children (from Reception to Year 6)
- secondary school-aged children (focusing on Years 7, 8 and 9 following the primary school vaccination visits with any remaining vaccine being offered to Years 10 and 11, subject to vaccine availability later in the season)
- **those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups***
- all pregnant women (including those women who become pregnant during the influenza season)
- those aged 65 years and over
- those aged 50 to 64 years old not in clinical risk groups (including those who turn 50 by 31 March 2023). (Providers are asked not to start vaccinating this age group until mid-October 2022 to enable prioritisation of those with clinical risks and in the older age groups)
- those living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities
- carers
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline staff employed by social care providers without employer led occupational health schemes

*Those aged 6 months to 64 years old in a clinical risk group includes health conditions such as chronic asthma, diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease, a BMI of 40+.

If you are not eligible for the free vaccination it can be bought via a chemist for approx. £15

COVID-19 Autumn Boosters

This programme has been launched and can be booked via the national booking service, [Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

The groups currently being prioritised are

- aged 65 or over
- pregnant
- aged 5 and over and at high risk due to a health condition
- aged 5 and over and at high risk because of a weakened immune system
- aged 5 and over and lives with someone who has a weakened immune system
- aged 16 and over and is a carer
- a frontline health and social care worker

The appointment dates you'll be offered will start from 3 months (91 days) after your previous dose. People aged 50 years - 64 years who are not in the high risk groups will be invited to book in the coming weeks

7. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Following a wave of COVID-19 infections in July and August we do appear to be in a period of lower infections again. We have however seen the re-emergence of other infectious diseases such as scarlet fever and D&V which COVID-19 infection prevention measures/ restrictions had suppressed. UKHSA is recommending continued good interpersonal care; handwashing, ventilation, general environmental cleaning to assist in reducing risk of infection spread as we progress through the autumn term.

No additional guidance has been published for schools or early years on infectious diseases over the summer. We have been advised that the review book for infectious diseases for education settings is being reviewed nationally and is likely to be published soon. We will notify settings of any updates. In the interim the current guidance can be found here [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and provides detail on infection prevention, specific illnesses and action to take if incidents or outbreaks occur.

Having met with both UKHSA and BCC Education colleagues we are proposing that **we return to the pre pandemic pathways for reporting incidents or outbreaks which reflect the guidance [Chapter 4: action in the event of an outbreak or incident - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)**:

Education and childcare settings may consider seeking specialist advice from the relevant UKHSA HPT if they are concerned and have seen:

- *higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to acute respiratory infection or diarrhoea and vomiting*

- *evidence of severe disease due to an infection, for example if a pupil, student, child, or staff member is admitted to hospital*
- *more than one infection circulating in the same group of students and staff for example chicken pox and scarlet fever*

Education and childcare settings are also asked to contact their UKHSA HPT as soon as possible to report any outbreak or serious or unusual illness for example:

- *E.coli 0157 or E coli STEC infection*
- *food poisoning*
- *hepatitis*
- *measles, mumps, rubella (rubella is also called German measles)*
- *meningococcal meningitis or septicaemia*
- *scarlet fever (if an outbreak or co-circulating chicken pox)*
- *tuberculosis (TB)*
- *typhoid*
- *whooping cough (also called pertussis)*

UKHSA can be contacted on 0300 303 8162 option 1 then option 2 or swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk

UKHSA will notify us in the LA of any school settings with an incident / outbreak and we will of course provide additional local support when needed.

8. SEND TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We are aware of the ongoing challenges in accessing training opportunities over the last 12 months and have reviewed our offer as a result. Termly clusters will revert to being on an area basis, focussing on local networking opportunities and citywide briefing updates. They will run for just an hour to deliver key messages and share ideas. The following week, we will provide an online summary for those who have been unable to access the face to face sessions. We will continue to use clusters and our inclusion visits as a way of gathering feedback and facilitating and additional training that is needed.

North (Southmead)

Thursday 8th Dec: 1.30 to 2.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/416532870027>

South (Inns Court):

Wed 7th Dec: 9.30 to 10.30am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/416535728577>

E&C (Oldbury Court):

Tuesday 6th Dec: 1.30 to 2.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/416536841907>

December online update: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/416545838817>

Early Years SENCo Qualification

The Department for Education recognises the importance of Early Years SENCOs having the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to perform their role effectively. As part of the Education Recovery Package, they have allocated Best Practice Network ('BPN') 5000 funded places. We have the ambition that the number of early years settings in Bristol with a qualified SENCo continues to grow, and as a result **encourage as many eligible practitioners as possible to register for these fully funded places:**

[Early Years SENCo - Level 3 | Best Practice Network.](#)

[This includes all those that have been on our waiting list for the next cohort of the course.](#) Bristol Early Years are a delivery partner alongside BPN and will be working closely with them in this exciting nationwide development. We will also continue to support the professional development of Bristol early years practitioners, advising them on inclusive provision that enables all young children to make good progress. Should you have any queries, please email sarah.swann@bristol.gov.uk.

Bristol Early Years SENCo

Although we have suspended our 'topic workshops', we recognise that there are early years SENCos that are new to the role or that would like a refresher about the key responsibilities and processes in Bristol. We will therefore continue to run this one-day training course and the first is scheduled for 7th October 2022.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/414202860907>

Makaton: Dates for Makaton training are also booked in and will be added to Eventbrite and the [early years events calendar](#).

Please also see information about the SEND work force development programme in the attached flyer. We are aware that the wording in the flyer and links is very school-oriented but please do discuss with your colleagues as courses are designed for the education whole work force as well as some specifically for SENDCOs.

9. ENERGY BILL RELIEF SCHEME & COST OF LIVING

Energy Bill Relief Scheme

All early years settings, schools and colleges will benefit from a new government Energy Bill Relief Scheme, providing a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic customers. This support will be equivalent to the Energy Price Guarantee put in place for households. Equivalent support will also be provided for non-domestic consumers who use heating oil or alternative fuels instead of gas. Further detail on this will be announced by the government shortly.

The scheme will run for all businesses and non-domestic customers, including public sector organisations, and apply to energy usage from Saturday 1 October 2022 to Friday 31 March 2023. The Energy Bill Relief Scheme will set a Support Wholesale Price for the wholesale cost of energy, limiting the amount customers can be charged for gas and electricity. The level of price reduction for each customer will vary depending on their contract type and circumstances.

As with the Energy Price Guarantee for households, customers do not need to take action or apply to the scheme to access the support. Support (in the form of a p/kWh discount) will automatically be applied to bills. The savings will be first seen in October bills, which are typically received in November. After three months, there will be a review into the operation of the scheme, to inform decisions on further support after March 2023. This will focus on identifying the most vulnerable non-domestic customers and how the government will continue assisting them with energy costs. Further details of the support and how it will benefit customers can be found in the [GOV.UK explainer](#).

Cost of Living Support

We are all aware of the increasing financial pressures on staff and households. Information about support for households can be found in the government's [Energy Price Guarantee](#) and the [Help for Households](#) explainer.



Bristol City Council also has a dedicated [cost-of-living-support web page](#) to provide links to support and organisations that can help. Please share all links with friends and colleagues.

10. SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY UPDATES

A Telephone advice service for parents of children aged 0-4 years living in Bristol (pre-school) is available from the speech and language therapy team. Please do share the area-appropriate poster with your families or in your newsletters. Also of interest:

- **Our YouTube Playlist: Information videos and bitesize clips to share with colleagues & families**
– Look out for our new 'Sorting Out Sounds' video and our updated 'Confident Communicators' video as well as tips and activity ideas.
- **Click here to visit our playlist:** <https://bit.ly/EarlyYearsSpeechandLanguageTherapy>

Details of our 'Toddler Talk' session will be coming soon! If you are working with a family that will struggle to contact the Speech & Language team independently, you can put us in touch using the Speech & Language Therapy Early Support Request form.

11. KBSP NEWSLETTER



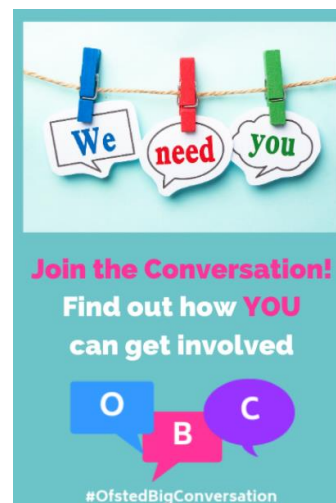
Please see September's KBSP newsletter via this link: [KBSP Newsletter September 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

12. OFSTED BIG CONVERSATION 11th NOVEMBER

Ofsted Big Conversation is an organisation that brings together providers and Ofsted representatives in a forum to discuss a range of issues as well as inspections.

There are regular online meetings where providers can collectively bring together concerns or themes that they seek clarification on by Ofsted, and Ofsted are able to give updates and dispel any 'myths' about inspection that may be circulating.

Save the date. OBC operates in regional groups and the next South West meeting is on 11th November 3.30pm – 5.30pm online. Bristol Early Years encourages as many Bristol providers as possible to attend these meetings as they are a great way for you to find out more about Ofsted inspections, and ensure that Ofsted representatives hear from you about children's learning and development and the challenges faced by the sector.



13. HATE CRIME

A hate crime is sadly something which families and or staff may experience. Hate crime is defined as 'Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.'

A hate incident is any incident which the victim, or anyone else, thinks is based on someone's prejudice towards them because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or because they are transgender. Not all hate incidents will amount to criminal offences, but it is equally important that these are reported and recorded by the police.

Providers can find out more about how to support children, families, staff or anyone experiencing Hate Crime via these two FREE CPD opportunities.

Inclusive Schools & settings - Let's talk about anti-racism. 12th October 2022 9.00-13.00 Online (via teams)
For National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2022, An opportunity for education staff across Avon and Somerset to come together to reflect on the impact of racism on children and young people.

<https://www.tradingwithschools.org/Event/184180>

Bristol Let's Tackle Hate Crime Together' - Unique Voice and Crimestoppers. Tues 11th October 2022 9.30-11.30am Bristol Metropolitan Academy Snowdon Road Bristol BS16 2HD

This event will help break down the barriers we may face in equipping young people with the safe space they deserve to explore the topic of hate crime, whilst embracing the power of creativity to teach, inform and inspire.

14. NPQEYL



The National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL) is the first NPQ designed specifically for early years practitioners. It will develop expertise that can be applied to identifying and addressing persistent and common challenges in early years leadership and gives practitioners the knowledge to excel as a leader in your early years setting.

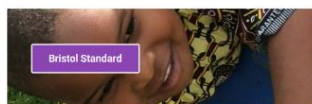
The programme follows the Department for Education's new NPQ in Early Years Leadership framework. The content is delivered through blended learning and includes a mix of real-time interactive online sessions, face-to-face training, peer-led sessions and self-guided modules which you complete in your own time.

The programme is delivered by the Ambition Institute in association with The Five Counties Teaching School Hub Alliance. This programme is funded for early years practitioners working in state schools in England and funded scholarships have been extended to include private, voluntary or independent nurseries and childminders. Contact Five Counties Teaching School Hubs Alliance to find out more.

info@fivecountiesalliance.co.uk T: 07783 511 348



15. BRISTOL EVENTS CALENDAR



Don't forget to start alert to the Bristol EY [Events Calendar](#) for all CPD updates, including the free training offer from the networks, Portage & Inclusion and the offer from Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub (BEYTH).



Do keep an eye out for the free Network Training Offer – there are some exciting sessions coming up including a chance to develop 'Playful Maths' with Dr Helen Williams.

The 2022-23 BEYTH CPD programme is also now available. Do look through the scheduled courses online <https://beytc.co.uk/our-courses/>

BEYTH are expanding their training BUNDLES to include: New to EYFS Bundle (starting on 3rd November), Conquering the 3 I's - Intent, Implementation and Impact - Bundle (starting on 24th November), Leadership Bundle (Term 3 & 4), PSED Bundle (Term 3). BEYTH will be offering a mixture of Online training and some Face to face training too, the first of which is: An In-depth Look at a Trauma Informed Approach in the EYs, on 7th November (all day) and bestselling author of 'A Guide to Mental Health for Early Years Educators', Kate Moxley, will be running 'Well Being at the Heart of EYs Leadership' on 21st November, 4-6pm.

16. USEFUL CONTACTS

All settings are able to contact their link EY Lead Teacher for further support and advice. If you are unsure of who your lead teacher is, please contact your area consultant.

North Bristol – Kate.irvine@bristol-schools.uk

East & Central – Ali.carrington@bristol-schools.uk

South – cate.peel@bristol-schools.uk

Deborah Brown Free Entitlement Development Officer deborah.brown@bristol.gov.uk

Bristol Standard – nicky.bale@bristol.gov.uk