Cornwall & Beyond
Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

Meet the EYSPA Team

Meet Our Early Years Stronger Practice Hub Advisers (EYSPA) and Coordinator - the team supporting Early Years practitioners and settings through Cornwall and Beyond Early Years Stronger Practice Hub. Our team brings together a range of professional backgrounds, experiences and interests, with a shared commitment to supporting effective practice and improving outcomes for children.













Emma Short

Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser Coordinator

Professional Background
Emma has 30 years of experience teaching in Early Years, having worked in Cornwall, Rome, Prague and London.

About Emma
Emma Short is an experienced Early Years educator who is passionate about creating inclusive learning environments that support families within their local communities.
She has co-authored the Froebel Trust pamphlet ‘Creating Environments for Children to Play and Learn’.

Areas of Particular Interest

- Inclusive learning environments
- Supporting families within local communities
- Creating environments for children to play and learn
- Collaboration and shared learning between Early Years educators

Role Within the Hub
As EYSPA Coordinator for Cornwall and Beyond, Emma values the importance of educators supporting one another and continuing to learn from shared experiences.
She is enthusiastic about working alongside the Hub’s experienced advisers, who offer support and a listening ear to Early Years educators.
Emma believes that collaboration, mutual support and opportunities to learn from one another are important in supporting children and educators across Cornwall and Devon.



Lorna Trudgeon

Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser

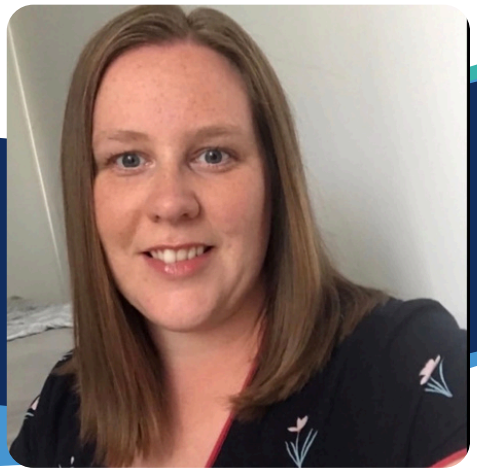
Professional Background
Lorna currently manages Oasis Childcare Centres and has over 25 years of experience working in Early Years education, supporting children aged three months to 14 years.

About Lorna
Lorna Trudgeon has dedicated her career to creating safe, nurturing and inclusive environments where every child is valued and given the opportunity to thrive.
She is passionate about giving every child the best possible start in life and believes children learn and flourish when they feel safe, listened to, included and inspired.
Lorna believes that every child has unique strengths and potential, and that Early Years professionals have an important role in recognising, nurturing and celebrating these.

Areas of Particular Interest

- Play-based learning
- Inclusion
- Safeguarding
- Supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Supporting children with English as an additional language (EAL)
- Supporting children who may experience disadvantage or additional barriers

Role Within the Hub
As an Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser across Cornwall, North Devon and the Isles of Scilly, Lorna brings together her experience, knowledge and passion for Early Years to support and inspire practitioners.
She is committed to sharing effective practice, learning from others and working collaboratively to strengthen practice and improve outcomes for children.
For Lorna, being an EYSPA is about sharing a passion for Early Years, learning from others and working together to ensure every child has the opportunity to flourish.



Hannah Bastin

Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser

Professional Background
Hannah is a qualified teacher and Early Years Advisory Teacher with Cornwall Council, with experience working in and alongside a range of Early Years settings.

About Hannah
Hannah Bastin has a particular interest in babies and the youngest children and is passionate about supporting all children to have the best possible start in life.
She enjoys getting to know Early Years settings, understanding what matters to them and working alongside practitioners to develop their practice.

Areas of Particular Interest

- Babies and the youngest children
- Working alongside Early Years practitioners
- Coaching and reflective approaches
- Building on practitioners' existing strengths
- Supporting positive, lasting changes for children

Role Within the Hub
Hannah joined Cornwall and Beyond Early Years Stronger Practice Hub because she enjoys working collaboratively with settings and practitioners to develop their practice.
She values a coaching and reflective approach that builds on practitioners' strengths and supports positive, lasting changes for children.
Hannah looks forward to opportunities to work with practitioners and their settings.



Amy Fedrick

Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser

Professional Background
Amy is an experienced Early Years professional with a background in teaching, local authority leadership and inspection. She currently works within Devon County Council's Early Years Service.

About Amy
Amy Fedrick is passionate about giving children the very best start in life and believes that the Early Years are a particularly special and important stage of childhood.
She values the unique, nurturing, home-based approach that childminders provide, including the warm relationships and responsive environments that help children thrive.
Amy believes strongly in continuous improvement and lifelong learning, and particularly enjoys opportunities for Early Years professionals to learn from one another and celebrate the work taking place across the sector.

Areas of Particular Interest

- Child development
- Relationships and attachment
- Wellbeing
- Nature-based learning
- Creating rich environments for learning through play, curiosity and meaningful experiences
- The nurturing, home-based approach provided by childminders
- Continuous improvement and lifelong learning

Role Within the Hub
As an Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser, Amy is enthusiastic about connecting with educators, settings and childminders to share ideas and support the use of research and evidence-informed practice.
She is passionate about helping practitioners feel inspired and empowered to use evidence-informed approaches in ways that are relevant, practical and achievable in everyday Early Years practice.
Amy hopes to bring enthusiasm and a genuine love of Early Years practice to her role.

.



Kylie Evans

Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser

Professional Background
Kylie is the Assistant Headteacher at Sandy Hill Academy in St Austell, with responsibility for Early Years. She has worked in education for 18 years, with the majority of her career dedicated to Early Years and Key Stage 1.

About Kylie
Kylie Evans has extensive experience in curriculum leadership, inclusion, child development and supporting children to achieve their full potential.
In her current role, she works closely with staff to develop high-quality provision, support children's learning and development, and ensure positive outcomes for all pupils.
One of the most rewarding aspects of her work is supporting educators to recognise their strengths, develop their skills and grow in confidence.
Kylie believes that when practitioners feel supported and empowered, the quality of provision improves and children thrive.

Areas of Particular Interest

- Curriculum leadership
- Inclusion
- Child development
- Supporting children's learning and development
- Developing high-quality Early Years provision
- Supporting and empowering practitioners
- Learning through play, exploration and meaningful interactions

Role Within the Hub
Kylie joined Cornwall and Beyond Early Years Stronger Practice Hub to collaborate with like-minded professionals, share effective practice and continue developing her knowledge of the latest research in Early Years.
She is committed to improving outcomes for children and values opportunities to learn from and support other professionals across the sector.
Kylie is passionate about creating nurturing, engaging environments where children feel safe, valued and inspired to learn through play, exploration and meaningful interactions.

Find Out More About Our Support

Cornwall and Beyond Early Years Stronger Practice Hub offers free, bespoke support for schools and Early Years settings.

To find out more about the support available and how our team can work with your setting, please contact the Hub by scanning the QR code below.