

The Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

January Newsletter



Welcome!

Our newsletter will cover how we can help you and your setting through evidence-informed practices. Click below to access the areas of interest.

Recent Events

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Our Recent Events

Forest School Session: A Journey into the Woods with Goosehill Nursery

On Saturday 27th January, childminders and PVI/school-based practitioners from Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle came together in the woods to find out about the outstanding forest school evidence-informed practice that Goosehill Early Excellence provide for children.

We had a motivating and inspiring session in the forest with the passionate staff where we heard all about how they foster communication and language development and the advantages of forest school, especially for children with SEND.

A special thank you to the staff at Goosehill for such a fantastic morning and thank you to everyone who attended!

"This session was very helpful...I learned some new tips on language development!"

"I found it inspiring how to promote communication mixed with outdoor learning."



ALERT

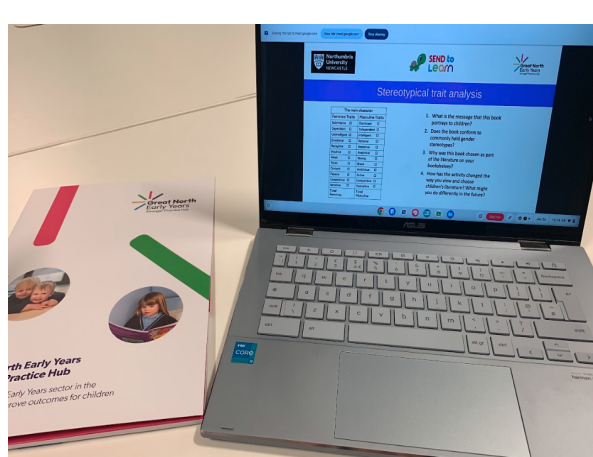
Exciting News! Coming soon....we are collaborating with Goosehill Nursery to provide FREE sessions for childminders and children (18 months-5 years) in the forest! Check you emails and social media for updates so you don't miss out!

Webinar: Examining Unconscious Gender Bias in Early Years

This was such a thought provoking session by Dr Kath Dickinson and Sarah Dickinson from one of our strategic partner settings, SEND to Learn Nursery. We found out about unconscious gender bias and looked at some strategies to be more mindful with our book selections, language, practice and provision.

"The research was really interesting."

"Thank you - a short and precise session - great to hear from practitioners and their honesty with what they did previously before they were more informed and the changes they have since made."



Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and PSED in the Early Years

Katrina Di Girolami (GNEYSPH Lead) and Rebecca Longstaff (Town End Academy EYs Lead) were joined by several practitioners from across the North East to look at key research into SEL and PSED. We looked at EEF evidence-informed approaches and listened to a case study from Rebecca into the impact of these approaches in her provision. We finished with a tour of Town End Academy's Early Years setting which inspired practitioners into changes they could implement into their environments linked to SEL/PSED.

"Thank you so much, I feel like I have lots to take back and hopefully it will have a great impact in my EYFS for the staff and most importantly our children."

"All of the CPD was helpful but finding out about navigating the EEF was really useful!"

"The parts I found useful were highlighting the importance of PSED and talking about things we can put into practice to help develop this after the huge impact of COVID has had on our children."



Dates for your Diary

We have several evidence-informed CPD opportunities available to book on which has been tailored to the results of the audit we sent out in Autumn term. These sessions are available for all childminders and Early Years practitioners working with children 0-5 across Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle.

Watch out for further dates being released bespoke to each Local Authority! **Each PD training session is also carefully matched to a free resource linked to the PD subject theme, to support practitioners to implement evidence based approaches in their own settings.**

Thursday 1st February 6-6.45pm

Monday 5th February 4-4.45pm

'Spark a Thought' Webinar by Goosehill
Early Excellence

'Making the Ordinary Extraordinary' Webinar
by Goosehill Early Excellence

Learn more

Learn more

Tuesday 6th February 4-5.30pm

Early Identification/Early Action:Working with Parents/Carers at Central Primary

[Learn more](#)

Monday 12th February 4-5.30pm

Total Communication at Cleaswell High School

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 15th February 6-7.30pm

How intelligent materials can support mathematical learning at Goosehill Nursery

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 27th February 4-5pm

Developing Prosody into Fluency in Language Part 1 at Central Primary

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 5th March 4-5pm

Developing Prosody into Fluency in Language Part 2 at Central Primary

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 7th March 6-7.30pm

Movement is a Child's First Language at Goosehill Nursery

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 14th March 4-4.45pm

Webinar: 'How can stories and characters be used to develop PSSED'?

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 28th March 4-4.45pm

Webinar: 'High quality interactions through shared reading'

[Learn more](#)

View all of our upcoming CPD events on our website!

[See all our events](#)

Free Networking/PD sessions for Childminders

We are delighted to announce that Hartbeeps magical, multi-sensory musical classes are coming to 14 venues across Northumberland, Newcastle and Durham with over 40 sessions in total in February and March!

More information with follow soon so please follow us on social media and keep checking your emails!



Our Latest Blog

Blog: Nurturing Young Minds - An Insight into Social and Emotional Learning in Early Years



Now more than ever Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) has a critical importance in the early years of a child's life. In this blog, we'll explore evidence-based strategies and resources drawn from the [Education Endowment Foundation](#) (EEF) to support the holistic development of children's social and emotional skills. We will look into the research, share practical tips, and celebrate the significant impact of SEL on children's well-being and lifelong success.

[Read our blog post](#)

DfE Training Programmes

Early Years Professional Development Programme

Funded by
Department for Education



Early Years
Professional Development Programme

High quality, evidence-based CPD for Early Years Practitioners

- eLearning sessions
- Online facilitated webinars
- Resources including video, articles and recommended reading
- Programme Trainer and peer support opportunities

Delivered by
Education Development Trust

In partnership with
Speech and Language UK
Changing young lives.

 **Anna Freud**

Dr Sue Gifford
Dr Catherine Gipton

Last chance to register for the FREE to access, government funded CPD for early years practitioners and childminders starting this April! Don't miss out, register today!

The Early Years Professional Development Programme (EYPDP) is available to early practitioners and childminders across England. With expertly written content covering Communication and Language, Early Mathematics and PSSED, the EYPDP supports practitioners with the practical skills and tools to support the unique development needs of children aged 2-4 years.

Delivered online with a blended mix of e-Learning and facilitated webinars, this CPD takes around 8 months and 60 hours to complete and is recommended by 90% of practitioners currently on the course.

This is a government funded programme with limited places available. Don't miss out, secure your place today for April! Find out more and register here on the [EYPDP website](#).

Do you want to find out more before you register?

Early Years
Professional Development Programme

EYPDP Discovery Webinars

Recruitment for the FINAL Cohort of the DfE funded Early Years Professional Development Programme, starting April 2024 is now open!

Sign up to a discovery webinar to find out about this high quality CPD, what to expect and how to sign up to secure a place.

Thursday 8th February
1pm-1.45pm
6pm-6.45pm



 **Great North Early Years**
Stronger Practice Hub

 **Northern Lights**
Early Years North North East

[Sign up for a Discovery Webinar](#)

Early Years SENCO Level 3 Qualification



Early Years SENCO Level 3

For a level 3 practitioner in a private, voluntary or independent setting. It is also appropriate for Ofsted-registered childminders and Ofsted-registered childminder agencies.

This is an important role to ensure the best possible educational outcomes are achieved for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Apply by February 18 and start in March!

[Learn more](#)

EEF Programmes

As part of the Department of Education's Early Years Recovery Programme, we are working with the EEF to fund the following programmes.



Elklan - Communication-Friendly Home-Based Settings

Calling all childminders! Elklan's Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings (CFHBS) will give childminders an enhanced knowledge about speech, language and communication (SLC) development and how to support all children but particularly those who have, or are at risk of having, a SLC need.

[Learn more](#)



Elklan - Communication-Friendly Settings

We have some exciting news! Recruitment for the FREE Elklan's Communication Friendly Setting Research Programme has begun. The programme involves 2 x EYPs at your setting receiving a level 3 and 4 accreditation and the whole setting receiving a Communication friendly Setting award.

We are delighted to announce there are still spaces for Early Years Settings in County Durham, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne and Northumberland.

Elklan has put on two FREE information sessions at the beginning of February. If you would like to apply to the programme, please submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) and book an information session which are compulsory as part of your EOI. If you have any immediate questions in the meantime, please email kirsten@elklan.co.uk.

[Learn more](#)

NELI Preschool

NELI Preschool is a new nursery-delivered oral language enrichment and intervention programme for children in the year before they enter formal education – usually three to four year olds. The programme provides a 20-week evidence-based language intervention for all children, as well as additional targeted support for the children who need it the most.

It includes an easy-to-use and reliable assessment of language skills, called LanguageScreen, CPD-certified training and end-to-end support.

To be eligible to take part in the trial you must:

- be a state-maintained or PVI nursery in England,
- have at least 14 children who attend 15+ hours and
- must not be taking part or planning to take part in other EEF or similar trials during the academic year of the trial.

Get in touch with NELI Preschool research and delivery team: nelipreschool@oxedandassessment.com if you have any questions.

[Learn more](#)

Other Great North Stronger Practice Hub News

We are delighted to share the news that our Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Lead school, Haltwhistle Academy, had the highest combined KS2 Reading, Writing and Maths outcomes in Northumberland. Congratulations and well done to all children and staff!



[Learn more](#)



We are proud to work alongside Town End Research School for evidence-informed practices and research to strengthen Early Years settings!

[Learn more about Town End Research School](#)

We hope you have found some content that can support you within this newsletter. If you are looking for something more specific, don't hesitate to reach out to us directly!

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