

The Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

August Newsletter and Key Dates for your Diary



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.

There are new dates for your diary so please ensure you check them out!

Please note, when you scroll to the bottom of this newsletter, the message might be clipped. Please press 'View entire message' to see the full newsletter.

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Our Recent Events

August's Highlights: Summer Learning and Growth

While the summer holidays meant a quieter month for in-person events, August was still buzzing with fantastic learning opportunities. **Stronger Practice Hubs** across England hosted a wonderful series of online webinars, giving practitioners nationwide access to a variety of valuable topics.

From **enabling environments** and **climate action planning** to **sleep support for SEND families** and **supporting self-regulation**, there was a rich range of content available.

We hope you were able to take advantage of these great sessions!

Dates for your Diary

Please see below for a range of **fully funded** CPD available to book. Unless stated otherwise, these sessions are open to all childminders and educators working in Early Years settings across the North East.

[See all our events](#)

Tuesday 9th September 5pm-7.30pm

Webinar: 'Baby Room Training' with Sue Asquith

[Learn more](#)

Monday 15th September 5pm-7.30pm

Webinar: 'Working with Two Year Olds' with Sue Asquith

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 16th September 4pm-5.30pm

Wingate Nursery Network- Conflict, Collaboration and Cooperation: Supporting Children as they Navigate the Social World

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 17th September 1pm-4pm

New Early Years Leaders Network - Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders at Croftway Academy, Blyth (Session 1)

[Learn more](#)

Saturday 20th Sept 9.30am-11.30am

The Power of Music in Early Years: A Practical Training Session with Tiny Tweeties at Great Park Community Centre

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 23rd September 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years Leaders Breakfast Briefing Network

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 23rd Sept 1.00pm-3.00pm

Autism Education Trust (AET) CPD - Good Autism Practice at Great Park Community Centre

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 24th September 1pm-4pm

New Early Years Leaders Network - Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders at Lighthouse View, Seaham (Session 1)

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 25th Sept 9.30am-11.30am

Childminder Network at Brocksbushes Play Barn

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 25th Sept 6.30pm-7.30pm

Castle Kindergarten (Albany) Network - From Grinding Herbs to Making Juice: Purposeful Play with Tools

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 30th September 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years SEND Breakfast Briefing Network

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 30th September Time TBC

Autism Education Trust CPD - Suite of Resources for Leaders Venue TBC

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 8th October 7pm-8pm

Webinar - BBC Tiny Happy People Champion Training

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 9th October 10.30am-11.30am

Sand, Sea and Coastal Curiosity Network with Goosehill Early Excellence at Cresswell Beach

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 14th October 6.30pm-7.30pm

Under 2s Network - Building a Happy Brain in Babies at Goosehill Early Excellence

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 22nd October 5pm-6pm

Autumn Forest School Network with Goosehill Early Excellence at Bothal Woods

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 11th November 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years Leaders Breakfast Briefing Network

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 19th Nov 3.45pm-4.45pm

Online: New Early Years Leaders Network - Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders (Session 2)

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 25th November 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years SEND Breakfast Briefing Network

[Learn more](#)

Childminder Network Sessions



These sessions are FREE for childminders and for children 0-5 years. They will give you the opportunity to network and build relationships with like minded individuals, whilst supporting the children to engage in fun & interactive singing and storytelling sessions with a highly trained and skilled Hartbeeps Imaginator.

We have organised a monthly childminder network in the following venues:

Rising Sun Country Park, Benton (9.30am-10.30am)

Thursday 4th September, Thursday 2nd October, Thursday 6th November

Click [here](#) to book.

Fawdon, Newcastle, Venue TBC (9.30am-10.30am)

Thursday 18th September, Thursday 9th October

Blyth South Beach HQ (10.40am-11.40am)

Tuesday 9th September, Tuesday 14th October, Tuesday 4th November

Click [here](#) to book.

Lanchester Community Centre (10.30am-11.30am)

Friday 19th September, Friday 3rd October, Friday 14th November

Click [here](#) to book.

Spennymoor Community Centre (1.30pm-2.30pm)

Wednesday 17th September, Wednesday 22nd October, Wednesday 12th November

Click [here](#) to book.

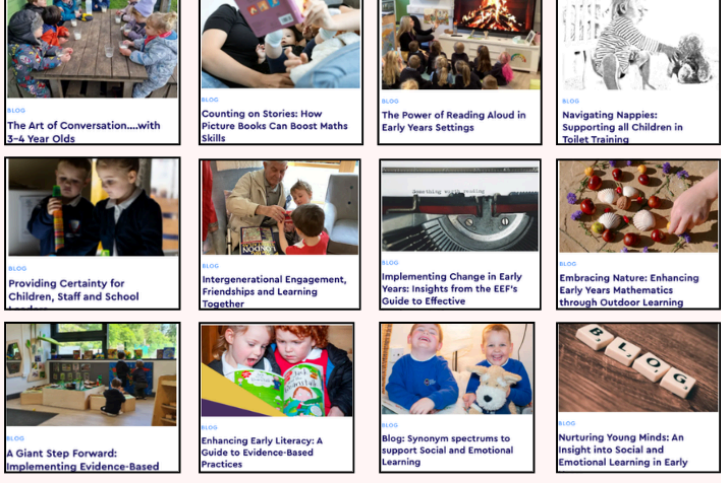
Sherburn Community Centre (1.00pm-2.00pm)

Wednesday 24th September, Wednesday 15th October, Wednesday 12th November

Click [here](#) to book.

Blogs

Explore our Blog collection



Ready for a good read? We have a collection of blogs you can download and enjoy anytime.

From understanding **picky eating** to exploring **language acquisition** and teaching **maths through stories**, there's something for every interest.

Read the Blogs

DfE/EEF News



This new version of the Early Years Statutory Framework will come into force on 1st September 2025.

The EYFS framework:

- sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well
- ensures children are kept healthy and safe
- ensures children have the knowledge and skills they need to start school

Find out more



Early years foundation stage statutory framework For childminders

Setting the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five

Dated: 14 July 2025 Effective: 01 September 2025

Early years foundation stage statutory framework For group and school-based providers

Setting the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five

Dated: 14 July 2025 Effective: 01 September 2025



Check it out!

Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) - Early Years Hub

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) Early Years webpage is an excellent resource for anyone working with young children. It offers a wealth of evidence-based resources, including the Early Years Toolkit, which provides summaries on key learning areas like communication, language, and self-regulation. You'll also find the Early Years Evidence Store with practical support, videos, and in-depth guidance reports on topics such as early literacy and mathematics. It's a fantastic place to find reliable information to support your practice.

Other News

Stronger Practice Hub Extension

Great news for early years educators! The **Stronger Practice Hubs** programme has been extended until **March 2029**, with the number of hubs also set to double to 36. This significant extension reflects the proven positive impact the hubs have had on improving outcomes for young children across England, particularly in areas of higher deprivation. It ensures continued access to vital evidence-informed practice, professional development, and strong local networks, empowering more settings and practitioners to deliver the highest quality early years education and care.

Bespoke Support

Empower your setting or school with our flexible and responsive bespoke support services! We understand that every setting has unique challenges and aspirations, which is why we offer tailored guidance precisely aligned with your individual needs. Whether you're preparing for a SEND Review, seeking to develop a robust Early Intervention Strategy, or aiming to enhance your Early Years provision through a comprehensive audit, our experienced team is dedicated to helping you achieve your specific goals.

Our bespoke support can be booked to address a range of specific requirements, including:

1. **Bespoke support for individual schools as per request:** Tailored solutions designed to address your unique challenges and priorities, drawing on the latest research evidence.
2. **Supported NASEN SEND review with an Early Years peer:** Collaborative review from an Early Years Practitioner who has completed the NASEN SEND Reviewer training. Supportive action planning drawing on EEF Early Years and SEND documentation.
3. **Early Intervention Strategy development:** Assistance in creating and implementing effective strategies to identify and support children with emerging needs. Map out the resources and training available in your locality to support children with SEND. This session draws on the advice from EEF SEND documentation.

Availability for our bespoke support is limited, and we are committed to prioritising settings and schools located in areas of disadvantage or those providing crucial support to vulnerable children. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to invest in your children's futures and cultivate a thriving learning environment. Contact us today to discuss your specific needs and secure your bespoke support package. Let us partner with you to make a meaningful and lasting impact.

Request bespoke support



We are proud to work alongside Town End Research School to raise the profile of using evidence-informed practice and research to strengthen Early Years settings and improve outcomes for children.

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

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