

The Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

February 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

Highlights and Happenings: A Busy Month of Learning and Collaboration

What a Month It's Been!

A huge thank you to Wingate Community Nursery School for hosting a fantastic session on 'The Art of Conversation...with 3-4 Year Olds.' It was a wonderful opportunity to explore communication at this crucial developmental stage.

We also want to thank Goosehill Early Excellence for their inspiring 'Maths in Nature' Forest School in Action Network—an incredible way to bring learning to life outdoors.

A special shoutout to NASEN for delivering insightful SEND Reviewer training, packed with valuable information. Pete Moorhouse's thought-provoking webinar on 'Outdoor Learning' was another highlight, sparking great ideas for embracing education beyond the classroom.

Our monthly online SEND and Leadership Breakfast Briefing Networks continued to provide evidence-informed insights, keeping everyone up-to-date with the latest developments.

This month also marked the launch of our Online Childminder Network, which has been met with great enthusiasm. Meanwhile, the Hartbeep Childminder sessions remain a success.

Thank you to everyone involved in making this month so impactful!

We look forward to another exciting month of learning and collaboration!



Dates for your Diary

Please see below for a range of CPD available to book for FREE. Unless stated otherwise, these sessions are open to all childminders and practitioners working in early years settings across the North East.

[See all our events](#)

Monday 3rd March 10-11.30am

'Forest School in Action Network: Seeing the Forest through a Sensory Lens' with Goosehill Early Excellence in Bothal Woods, Morpeth

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 4th March 4pm-5pm

Webinar - 'BBC Tiny Happy People Champion Training'

[Learn more](#)

Monday 10th March 4pm-5pm

Webinar - 'The Art of Conversation...with 3-4 year olds' with Wingate Community Nursery School

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 11th March 1pm-3.30pm

Online Accredited Training - 'Sensory Processing in the Early Years: What it is and why it matters' with the Council for Disabled Children

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 13th March 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years Leaders Breakfast Briefing

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 13th March 4pm-6pm

Online Early Years NASEN SEND Reviewer Training

[Learn more](#)

Friday 14th March 9-11.30am OR 12.45-3.15pm

'The Power of the Page - Getting the most out of picture books' at Newcastle Civic Centre

[Learn more](#)

Monday 17th March 4pm-5.15pm

'First Moves: Babies need to move their bodies to build their brains' with Goosehill Early Excellence at Croftway Academy, Blyth

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 18th March 7pm-7.45pm

Online Early Years Childminders' Staffroom Network

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 20th March 4.15-5.15pm

Early Action and Early Identification: with Bothal Primary School at WISE Academies Head Office, Sunderland

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 25th March 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years SEND Breakfast Briefing

[Learn more](#)

There are even more events, networks and CPD coming soon so please keep checking our website!



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

Thursday 6th March 9.30am, Thursday 3rd April 9.30am

Click [here](#) to book.

Blyth Family Hub

Wednesday 5th March 9.10am, Wednesday 9th April 9.10am

Click [here](#) to book.

Morpeth Chantry Play Hub

Wednesday 5th March 9.30am

Click [here](#) to book.

Lanchester Community Centre

Friday 14th March 10am

Click [here](#) to book.

Spennymoor Community Centre

Wednesday 19th March 1.30pm

Click [here](#) to book.

Sherburn Community Centre

Wednesday 5th March 1pm, Wednesday 26th March 1pm

Click [here](#) to book.

Dingley's Promise Training have developed a range of inclusion training courses to help others supporting children with SEND in the early years.



Each course has been designed to enable flexible remote learning and includes webinars and resources for practical application of the learning within daily practice. Courses available include:

- Introduction to Early Years Inclusion
- Early Years SEND Transitions
- The Voice of the Child
- Managing Difficult Conversations
- Behaviours That Challenge

[Secure your place](#)

Blogs

'The Art of Conversation...with 3-4 year olds' by Wingate Community Nursery School



Have you ever stopped to wonder about that phrase 'The art of conversation'? What is it about conversation that makes it so complex and creative that we sometimes refer to it as an art? And how do we support our youngest learners to understand these complex exchanges – and ultimately, participate in them?

Read the blog to find out more!

[Read the Blog](#)

DfE News

Toilet Training: How to support babies and young children with toilet training in your early years setting.



The Department for Education has published new toilet training guidance on the [Help for Early Years Providers](#) website. This will help educators understand how to support babies and young children with toilet training in early years settings.

[Find out more](#)

Other News

We were delighted to attend the Great North Maths Hub Conference. Thank you for including us in this excellent event.



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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