

## The Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

### September 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.*

Recent Events

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## Our Recent Events

### September's Highlights: Reflecting on a Month of Professional Growth



September has been an incredibly **rich month for Continued Professional Development (CPD)**, filled with exceptional learning opportunities for our early years community! We want to extend a massive thank you to all the individuals and organisations who shared their expertise and made this such a successful period of professional growth.

We were thrilled to host and attend a variety of insightful networks and training sessions:

- **Conflict, Collaboration, and Cooperation:** A huge thank you to **Wingate Community Nursery School** for hosting a fantastic network session on this vital topic.
- **Purposeful Play with Tools:** Our appreciation goes to **Castle Kindergarten (Albany)** for an insightful network focusing on practical and meaningful play.
- **Good Autism Practice:** Thank you to the **AET team at Cleaswell Hill Specialist School** for delivering a truly valuable CPD session.
- **Working with Two-Year-Olds & Baby Room Training:** We were delighted to host two brilliant webinars from **Sue Asquith**, focusing on the unique needs of our youngest learners.
- **Music in Early Years:** A special shout-out to **Tiny Tweeties** for an engaging Saturday morning session highlighting the importance of music.
- **Improving Outcomes:** Thank you to **Jan Dubiel** for an insightful webinar that offered actionable strategies for enhancing child development.

Our commitment to ongoing support remains strong! We successfully launched our **North East Early Years Professional Development Showcase** network, and we are grateful to all the stakeholders who joined us for this important event.

Furthermore, our regular network meetings continue to thrive:

- Our online **Early Years Leadership** and **SEND** networks have seen huge success and engagement.
- Our dedicated **Hartbeeps** and **Brocksbushes childminder networks** also continue to be popular and valuable resources for our childminder community.

**Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to and participated in this wonderful month of shared learning! We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming October events.**

## 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](#)

Thursday 2nd October 1.00pm-4.00pm

Autism Education Trust (AET) CPD - Understanding Autism and Anxiety in the Early Years at Croftway Academy, Blyth

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 8th October 7.00pm-8.00pm

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](#)

Thursday 9th October

Pre-recorded webinar: Ofsted Framework for Childminders with Sue Asquith (*sign up to receive this on the above date*)

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 14th October 6.30pm-7.30pm

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

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 16th October 9.30am-11.30am

Childminder Network at Brocksbushes Play Barn

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 22nd October 5pm-6pm

Autumn Forest School Network with Goosehill Early Excellence at Bothal Woods

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 5th November 3.30pm-5pm

Webinar - Unlock Early Writing Success: A Practical Approach with WISE Academies

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 11th November 8am-8.40am

Online Early Years Leaders Breakfast Briefing Network

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 11th November 4pm-5.30pm

Wingate Community Nursery School Network - Meaningful Mathematics: Laying the Foundations for Mathematical Success in Meaningful Contexts

[Learn more](#)

Wednesday 19th Nov 3.45pm-4.45pm

Thursday 20th Nov 9.30am-11.30am

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)

Tuesday 25th November 8am-8.40am

Tuesday 2nd December 1.00pm-4.00pm

Online Early Years SEND Breakfast Briefing  
Network

AET CPD: Anxiety-Based Demand  
Avoidance at Croftway Academy, Blyth

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)

Thursday 4th December 9.30am-11.30am

Childminder Network at Brocksbushes Play  
Barn

[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 2nd October, Thursday 6th November

Click [here](#) to book.

#### Fawdon Family Hub, Newcastle (9.30am-10.30am)

Thursday 9th October

Click [here](#) to book.

#### Blyth South Beach HQ (10.40am-11.40am)

Tuesday 14th October, Tuesday 4th November

Click [here](#) to book.

#### Lanchester Community Centre (10.30am-11.30am)

Friday 3rd October, Friday 14th November

Click [here](#) to book.

#### Spennymoor Community Centre (1.30pm-2.30pm)

Wednesday 22nd October, Wednesday 12th November

Click [here](#) to book.

#### Sherburn Community Centre (1.00pm-2.00pm)

Wednesday 15th October, Wednesday 12th November

Click [here](#) to book.

## Blogs

### A Calm Start: The Power of Morning Routines in Early Years



The beginning of the day is a vital time for early years children. It is more than just a transition, it's an opportunity to create a sense of safety, calm and security that sets the tone for the entire day. In early years settings, a well designed morning routine is a strong foundation of a child's emotional stability and mental well-being.

[Read the Blog](#)

## DfE News



As part of the DfE's Plan for Change and their strategy to give every child the best start in life, on 1 September they launched a [new Best Start in Life website](#). This improved support for families builds on the proud legacy of Sure Start and will help more children be ready to start school.

The Best Start in Life Website ([beststartinlife.gov.uk](http://beststartinlife.gov.uk)) has officially replaced the Childcare Choices website as the main source of information for early education and childcare support - offering a broader range of resources for families, including eligibility for childcare offers, information about free breakfast clubs and Best Start Family Hubs in their area and support on pregnancy through to starting school and beyond.

## Other News

### Counting Collections

**NDNA**  
National Day Nurseries Association

Improve children's outcomes by three months through becoming a Maths Champion in your setting.

Express your interest here:  
[www.bit.ly/GREATeoi](http://www.bit.ly/GREATeoi)

The Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub

**Maths Champions**

### North East Early Years Partnership Padlet

Padlet  
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**North East Early Years Professional Development Partnership**  
Bringing together our Early Years community of networks, professional development and conference opportunities across the North East

- Great North Early Years Stronger Practice Hub
- Northern Lights Early Years Stronger Practice Hub
- Townend Research School
- NEAT Research School
- One Excellence English Hub
- Northern Lights Teaching Hub
- Three Rivers Teaching Hub

Events Page: STRIVE FOR FIVE

Resources - blogs, case studies, newsletters

Explore the **North East Early Years Professional Development Partnership Padlet** for a dynamic resource hub that compiles all the valuable materials and insights shared during our recent professional development showcase network.

### Launchpad for Literacy

Launchpad for Literacy is now on social media.

Kirstie Page and the team will be posting a series of Top Tips CPD on both Instagram and Facebook. There will also be some Leadership content on Linked In. All posts will focus on SLCD, SEND, Literacy Readiness and ensuring progression for all.

Follow Launchpad now via the following links:

[Instagram – Launchpad for Literacy](#)

[Facebook – Launchpad for Literacy](#)

[Linked In – Kirstie Page](#)

If you are interested in a **free** Launchpad for Literacy toolkit, funded by North East Combined Authority (NECA), please get in touch with Kirstie Page directly via email: [kirstie.page@launchpadforliteracy.co.uk](mailto:kirstie.page@launchpadforliteracy.co.uk)

## 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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