



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER TOGETHER EARLY YEARS STRONGER PRACTICE HUB

Supported by



Department
for Education



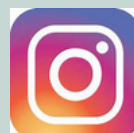
AUGUST NEWS 2026



Happy August! We hope you are enjoying the warm weather we've been blessed with so far this summer. We have exciting news to share and more fully funded CPD opportunities available for you to book onto in the coming months!

What's on?

Check the national Stronger Practice Hubs website for all the latest updates and useful resources



<https://www.strongerpracticehubs.org.uk/>



★ Big News! ★



Due to the growing number of Stronger Practice Hubs within our region we are rebranding from September we will be known as 'Childhaven Early Years Stronger Practice Hub' - to keep receiving news from us and to access our CPD opportunities - please register on this new link asap:

<https://forms.gle/6WpoJZMorhpoAA5M9>

Watch this space for our updated logo!

We are also over the moon to announce that TWO new partner settings have joined our Hub! They are...

Mana Childcare Services in Scarborough

"I am a family-oriented educator with a deep belief that children thrive through meaningful relationships, connection, and a gentle, respectful approach. From my Hygge-accredited setting in Scarborough, I have created a warm, welcoming environment where every child feels safe, valued, and inspired to explore at their own pace. My practice is rooted in slow pedagogy, embracing the idea that childhood should never be rushed. I encourage curiosity, creativity, and wonder by allowing children the time and space to think deeply, play purposefully, and build confidence through authentic experiences. Guided by the principles of Hygge, I nurture calm, belonging, and joy, helping young minds develop a lifelong love of learning while supporting each child as the unique individual they are."

Puddleducks Children's Day Nurseries in Sheriff Hutton

"It is an honour to have become a partner setting for the Childhaven Stronger Practice Hub. The Hub's core focus and commitment to improving outcomes for children is very much aligned with our nursery group and our dedication to providing the very best start for children in their early years. We very much look forward to supporting and advising other settings and sharing our knowledge. We are proud to be an outstanding nursery group and hope to have lots to offer other settings who are committed to improving outcomes for children. The sharing of best practice and knowledge is a vital improvement tool, and we are excited to be joining up with Childhaven to support their commitment to improving outcomes for children."

We can't wait to get to work with both new partners and continue supporting Early Years Practitioners across the region!



New Event - Face to Face 0-2 Years

Nurturing Young Minds: The Foundations for life

FACE TO FACE - HARROGATE - 3 X SATURDAY SESSIONS 9:30AM-12:30PM
3RD OCTOBER 2026, 14TH NOVEMBER 2026 AND 27TH FEBRUARY 2027
ALL 3 SESSIONS MUST BE ATTENDED TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATION

Empowering educators to support children's development from 0 to 2.

This FULLY FUNDED project aims to support practitioners in developing a deeper understanding of how young children learn and grow, and how, in your role, you can effectively support their development.

As part of the project, you will be encouraged to keep a simple reflection diary to record your learning and reflect on its impact on the children.

Session 1: Brain development Develop an understanding of how the brain grows and develops during these crucial early years. Explore ways in which you can effectively support young children's development. Examine the significance of schematic play in early childhood and how it contributes to brain development.

Session 2: Emotional Development Consider how to support children's emotional development. Explore how the brain is influenced by emotions. Explore how play and laughter affect the brain. Reflect on the relationship between colours and emotions. Examine the importance of attachment in emotional development.

Session 3: Celebration Share your progress in small groups, reflecting on your journey throughout the project and discussing how it has impacted your setting and the children's learning. Examine the role of heuristic play and treasure baskets in early development.

BOOK NOW



New Event - Face to Face

Supporting Deep Learning

Through SchemaPlay(TM)

Unlock the Power of Children's Self-Chosen Play

Join us in **York City Centre on Saturday 28th November, 9.30-3.30pm** for an inspiring full-day SchemaPlayTM training event designed for early years practitioners across the Hull & Humber region. This highly interactive session will deepen your understanding of how children's play reveals their developing schemes, concepts, and learning continuities — and how we can respond with rich environments, sensitive interactions and purposeful planning.

What You Will Explore

Identifying and interpreting children's trajectory, positioning, transporting, enveloping and other core schemes

Seeding environments that extend children's thinking and support metacognition
Using Sustained Shared Thinking (SST) to deepen children's problem-solving and enquiry

How SchemaPlayTM supports curriculum design, observation, assessment and planning

Real case studies from babies, toddlers, SEND and outdoor learning

Who Is This Training For?

Nursery practitioners

Childminders

Early years teachers

SEND practitioners

Leaders and managers

Anyone passionate about meaningful, child-led learning

A Day of Inspiration, Exploration & Practical Strategies

Expect a warm, collaborative atmosphere with hands-on activities, professional dialogue and ideas you can take straight back to your setting.





The Golden Key:

The Golden Key is an online training programme for early years practitioners, including those working as key person in maintained nurseries, PVI settings and as childminders.



[Click here to book!](#)



PROGRAMME DETAILS:

The programme will support practitioners to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence around:

- Legislation for SEND in the Early Years.
- High-quality interactions, observation techniques and assessment tools to identify children's learning and development needs.
- Supporting children with SEND through the Graduated Approach.
- Building relationships with children and their parents/carers.
- Awareness of the role of the SENCO, outside agencies, and how to work together effectively to support children with SEND.
- The principles of effective transition.

PROGRAMME DELIVERY:

Taking place over four 2-hour sessions ONLINE, this training programme will be delivered on:

- Session 1 - Monday 28th September 2026
- Session 2 - Monday 5th October 2026
- Session 3 - Monday 12th October 2026
- Session 4 - Monday 19th October 2026

All sessions start at 6:30pm prompt

Spaces are limited, so please register to secure your place as soon as possible.

Funded by:

Yorkshire and Humber
Together Early Years
Stronger Practice Hub





Upcoming events - join us

Communication and Language

These are online and face to face sessions focusing on supporting you with children's development in Communication and Language. You have told us that this is one of the highest areas of need for you in your settings. Join like minded people to learn, share and reflect! We are always welcoming new members to our groups.

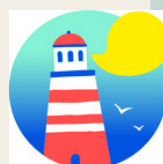
Speech and Language network

This is a regular network with a different theme each month. Delivered by the Seaside SALT team and includes Q&A

Tuesday 15th September, 6.30-8pm
Introduction to Intensive Interaction
(intervention for children developing
intentional nonverbal
communication)



BOOK NOW



Seaside SaLT
Speech and language therapy

BLOG

Read Helen Harron's blog about supporting language 0-2
<https://www.strongerpracticehubs.org.uk/hubs/yh/yh-tgh-eyeph/resources/blog-supporting-children-under-2-communication-development>

Upcoming events - join us

Childminders

We recognise the unique challenges that childminders face accessing high quality CPD. Our sessions consider timings carefully and also include sessions that your mindees can join you on!

Childminder Networks

Join Georgina Young of Young One's Childminding in these ONLINE sessions.

Tuesday 18th August, 6.45-7.30pm

Schemes Behind the Scenes: An Introduction to Schematiclay

BOOK NOW

Wednesday 16th September, 6.45-7.30pm

Seeing the Learning: Supporting Schematic Play in Practice

BOOK NOW



Upcoming events - join us

Childminders

Join Ria Machin of Mana Childcare - an outstanding Ofsted Registered Childminder with a Hygge in the early years accredited setting, for these ONLINE Childminder Webinars

Monday 10th August 6.45-7.30pm

How to become an Ofsted registered Childminder

Ria will guide you step by step through the process of becoming a childminder, making it clear and manageable. She will explain the requirements of the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage), helping you understand how to meet standards for safeguarding, learning, and development. With her support, you'll learn about registration, training, and setting up your environment so it is safe, stimulating, and compliant. Ria's guidance ensures you feel confident and well-prepared to begin your journey as a professional childminder.

BOOK NOW

Monday 24th August, 6.45-7.30pm

Childminder leadership & recruitment

Ria will support fellow childminders in developing strong leadership skills and confidently managing their settings. She will guide you on how to lead a team effectively, create a positive working environment, and ensure high standards of care in line with the EYFS. Ria will also take you through the recruitment process for hiring assistants, clearly explaining expectations and responsibilities. With reference to the Department for Education (DfE) safer recruitment process, she will help you understand how to carry out thorough checks, conduct fair interviews, and ensure all staff are suitable to work with children, so your setting remains safe, professional, and well-managed.

BOOK NOW





Upcoming events - join us

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

These are online and face to face sessions focusing on helping you to support children with SEND. This is the number 1 area of need requested at the moment.

We are utilising the expertise of our partners at St Paul's Nursery School in York who are an Enhanced Resourced Provision for children with SEND. There are a mixture of networks and webinars planned and we will be responsive to your ongoing requests for support,

SEND Network

This is a regular ONLINE network with a different theme each month.

Delivered by Claire Rigden, Headteacher at St Paul's.

DATES TBC



SEND Webinars

Join Martin Cumming, SENCo at St Paul's Nursery for these 30 minute webinars

DATES TBC



New fully funded opportunity

Maths Champions

Maths Champions is an online professional development programme with 12 months access developed by National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA).

The programme consists of nine steps which can be completed flexibly around your schedule.

The aim of the programme is to increase practitioner knowledge, awareness and confidence in supporting early mathematics in order to improve outcomes for children.

Participating nurseries will nominate a Maths Champion and Deputy Maths Champion who will lead the programme supporting and driving improvement.

Scan the QR code to express interest in this fabulous programme and start the journey to receiving over £1000 worth of training for FREE!

Check out this video showcasing the Maths Champions programme

Video featuring Greenfields Childcare:

https://youtu.be/KP_GyKM_KLI



Fully funded places now available



Worth £1205 the Maths Champions programme is FREE for nurseries in England

Secure your funded place today!



+ **=** **÷** Maths Champions

