

Dear colleague

This Spring 16 email newsletter is to inform you of important updates

Please **click on links** to access information

National

Staying up to date

To receive monthly early years updates from Ofsted click [here](#) (GOV.UK website)

Sign up for email alerts from Foundation Years [here](#) (foundation years website)

Watch [Foundation Years website podcasts](#) for updates on Department for Education policy development, changes to Ofsted inspections, SEND reforms and improving early years education

[Department for Education](#)- sign up to email alerts (GOV.UK website)

[The National Children's Bureau, Early Childhood Unit fortnightly bulletin](#) (ncb website)

[4Children news updates](#) (4Children website)

Department for Education (DfE)

30 hours Childcare Entitlement

In June 2015, the government introduced the Childcare Bill to bring in 30 hours of free childcare for employed families of 3 and 4 year olds.

The childcare expansion will be rolled out nationally in 2017, [with early implementation in some areas](#) to begin in September 2016. The DfE 30 hours events which took place all over the country have now come to an end and the latest presentation from the events can be found [here](#)

In December 2015 the DfE produced a [policy statement](#) to provide details of how the extended entitlement to free childcare will work in practice

The DfE has produced a [frequently asked question document](#) about the free childcare entitlement. The document answers questions about eligibility, funding rates, EYPP and government investment in the early years.

The DfE are currently seeking views on key elements of the operation and delivery of the 30 hours extended free entitlement. Take part in the [Childcare free entitlement delivery model consultation](#). The consultation closes on the 6th June 2016.

An opportunity to develop a collaborative response to the DfE consultation will be made available through Ealing CPD online in May.

[DfE Education excellence everywhere](#)- education white paper released which outlines plans to transform England's schools and build on the progress that has already been made. Includes DfE strategy overview 2015-20

[DfE Childcare and early years survey of parents 2014-2015](#) – key findings published March

During the next months, DfE will be carrying out the [childcare and early years providers survey](#). If you are contacted to provide information, please respond to help the DfE develop an accurate picture of the characteristics of childcare and early years provision in England

Ofsted

[Early Years and Childcare registration handbook January 2016](#)- newly published handbook to provide information on applying to join the Early Years Register and Childcare Register

[Conduct during inspections \(published February 2016\)](#)- outlines the conduct expected during an inspection from both inspectors and providers. The guidance applies to inspections in all of Ofsted's remits: early years, schools, further education and skills, and social care

[Ofsted to directly manage early years inspections](#)- from April 2017 all inspections will be managed in-house, Ofsted will have full control over the selection, training and management of early years inspectors

[Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 December 2015: Key findings](#)- Numbers of registered childcare providers, places and most recent inspection outcomes as at 31 December 2015

Information Commissioner's Office- data protection

If you store personal data on a computer there is a legal requirement to register with the Information Commissioner's Office (the independent body that monitors the legislation), this is known as 'notification'.

You should check with the ICO if you are unsure whether you are exempt from notification. Follow [this link](#) for further information on requirements and how to notify the ICO

Standards & Testing Agency

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)

[The EYFSP handbook 2016](#) has been updated December 2015

[The EYFS assessment and reporting arrangements](#) have been updated January 2016
For further information on EYFSP moderation processes nationally and locally, including supporting resources, please visit [Ealing Grid for Learning](#)

[Reception baseline comparability study published](#). Reception baseline assessment will not be used as a starting point to measure pupil progress following a comparability study. The study concludes that the 3 different assessments are not sufficiently comparable to create a fair starting point from which to measure pupils' progress. As a result, the results cannot be used as the baseline for progress measures, as it would be inappropriate and unfair to schools. Key stage 1 (KS1) will continue to be used as the starting point from which to measure this year's reception pupils' progress to key stage 2 (KS2).

Public Health England

Updated [routine immunisation schedule from summer 2015](#)- please share with the families at your setting

Reminder- Updated Early Year's Publications and Guidance

Please ensure you have reviewed and are familiar with the [updated publications and guidance information](#), sent to your setting as an email update in the Autumn term 15

Local

Speech and Language Therapy

Ealing SLT have advised that the completion of the [Early Communication and Language monitoring tool](#) supports referrals and can help assessment of needs take place more accurately and quickly. This national strategies tool is used to track the progress of children's language development

Ensure the completion of the monitoring record is in collaboration with parents and carers. An example of practice is parents highlighting in one colour and the setting another, to show the full picture of the child's language and communication.

Transition to Reception

Parents and carers will be informed of Reception places by the 15th April. Ensure you gain this information working in partnership with families, and begin to plan your transition support.

Successful transition happens where:

- Transition is made a priority
- Children are familiar with the people, places and routines
- Parents are involved, consulted and supported
- Friendships are acknowledged
- There is a degree of predictability
- An effective key person system is in place
- Children have opportunity to take control of what is happening to them within a safe yet challenging place.

It is vitally important that settings are beginning to consider the transition arrangements for those children with special educational needs, who may need a more in-depth transition to ensure the assessment of needs is accurate upon entry to reception. The early years team have developed a [transition form](#) that will assist you in appropriately and accurately sharing information

Family Information Service

[Children and families directory](#)- Online tool for advice and guidance for accessing family services in Ealing. Includes 2 year old eligibility checker, SEND local offer, family and adult services and a direct link to Ealing safeguarding children's board

[SEND local offer](#)- Online services directory and information resource for children, young people and families living with additional needs and disability in the London Borough of Ealing

[Two year old free childcare eligibility checker](#)

A five-minute online form that parents can complete themselves with or without assistance, to find out instantly whether their two-year-old qualifies for the free childcare offer. Successful applicants will be issued with a confirmation letter that they can take along to the nursery of their choice to prove their eligibility. Parents will be directed to an online list of childcare providers that run the scheme which can be searched by entering their postcode.

Ealing Early Years Conference

Over 150 of Ealing's early years practitioners including Childminders, PVI settings and Children's centres came together on Saturday the 23rd January for our annual Ealing Early Years Conference, again demonstrating the dedication of the Ealing early years workforce. The focus was 'It All Adds Up - Maths in the Early Years', with key note speeches and hands on workshops looking at creative and meaningful ways maths can be taught in settings. Practitioners shared how they had been provided with 'inspirational and practical ideas' and had been involved in 'thought provoking discussions', with many examples of how practice will be developed following the conference shared.

Ealing early years content online

Keep up to date online on the [Ealing Grid for Learning \(EGfL\)](#) website

Training

To view full details of all training and to book- visit [Ealing CPD online](#)

Updates to the training programme will follow in the summer term

Upcoming Ealing early years training:

Early help assessment & plan (formerly CAF)- 20/4/16, 17/5/16

Safeguarding refresher for Childminders- 16/4/16

EYFSP moderation meeting- statutory- 9/5/16, 10/5/16, 13/5/16, 16/5/16, 19/5/16

Leaders and managers briefing sessions- 9/6/16

EYFS leaders' briefing- 28/6/16