

Welcome to the first edition of this newsletter produced by the Early Years Business Support and Quality Improvement Team. This newsletter will be produced on a termly basis and will contain web links to relevant sites, Ofsted updates, celebrations and anything else we think may be of interest. We hope in the future you will offer contributions to share with all childcare providers on the Wirral – these could be examples of good practice or any particularly useful information.

The team consists of

Sarah Harper Team manager ①

Lucy Eyre Funding officer ②

Stephen Lindop Administration ③



Childcare Quality Improvement Officers

QIO's are currently based at Cloughton Children's Centre. We are developing the service and defining our offer, this will include support, advice and information to various sectors of childcare provision.

Joanne Fahy Wirral West ④

Karen Norbury Birkenhead ⑤

Ellie McMillan Wallasey ⑥

There are currently two vacancies within the team. One for a Quality Improvement Officer to cover the South Wirral area and another for a data officer.

Early Years Intervention officers

EYIO's work primarily with early years settings that have an Ofsted rating of below good and offer advice and support relating to children with special educational needs or disability (SEND).

Penny Bishop Team Manager

Joanne France West + Wallasey ⑦

Sue Lamey South + Birkenhead ⑧

Funding Updates

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

To help increase the take-up of Early Years Pupil Premium we are devising a process which isn't reliant on application forms. This is in the early stages of discussion with the legal department and we are hopeful this will be implemented for Autumn 2016.

30 hours extension to 3/4 year funding

Wirral Local Authority is not part of the pilot which begins in Sept 2016, but will be making links with Cheshire West and Chester who are taking part. Wirral L.A will be offering the additional 15 hours to parents/carers to begin Sept 2017. An expression of interest has been completed and submitted to government by Wirral Borough council. This is to bid for capital funding to increase capacity for 3 and 4 year olds. If successful we may use factors such as number of eligible parents, number of parents who already pay for additional hours, spare capacity in each area and consultation with parents to then target this funding appropriately. We will be holding consultations in the near future with parents and the childcare sector on how best to put this into practice.

Headcount Provider Portal for 2, 3 and 4 year funding

The provider portal is an electronic head count so that providers can submit details of children they are claiming for online, this will be quicker and easier than the current paper process. This is currently being piloted with a small group and more providers will be joining the pilot in September with full roll out aimed for April 2017.

Training

2 year integrated review

As some of you may be aware we have recently delivered a number of Integrated Review training sessions for day-care and pre-school settings. The training has proved popular and further dates will be offered in the future.

By now we are hoping that all settings have been contacted by their Link Health Professional (LHP) and are waiting on the completed paperwork necessary to undertake the Integrated Review process to be delivered by your LHP.

We will soon be inviting child-minders to a briefing session to introduce the Integrated Review Process and consult with them on how the Integrated Review process can be implemented when a child attends a child-minder setting. Following this briefing we will roll out training to support child-minders to implement the review from January 2017.

PREVENT

The team have recently facilitated Prevent training, this concerns preventing the radicalisation of families or children. If it is an expectation from Ofsted that settings would have knowledge of the Prevent duty. If any providers would like a place on future Prevent training please contact **0151 488 5948** or **0151 334 1381** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk

Childminder information Session

This session is to inform potential childminders of what legal requirements need to be met and to help them make a decision as to whether childminding is the right career choice for them. The next session is to be held on July 12th at Pensby Children's Centre, Fishers Lane, Pensby CH61 8SD, 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Please contact **0151 488 5948** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk to book a place.

Useful links

Wirral Safeguarding Children's Board (WSCB) <https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk>

Wirral Families Information Service (FIS) fis@wirral.gov.uk

Wirral Council website Early Years and Childcare section – for information regarding 2 year funding, what's on in children's centres and other relevant information <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare>

Please do not hesitate to contact **the Business support and quality Improvements Teams** on **488 5948** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk or **the School Readiness Team** on **631 3311** or email pennybishop@wirral.gov.uk, suelamey@wirral.gov.uk or joannefrance@wirral.gov.uk

Childminder Information

Childminder stay and play sessions

These are sessions specifically run by childminders for childminders within children's centres. Currently these take place at

Pensby Children's Centre,
Fishers Lane, Pensby CH61 8SD
Monday 9.30am – 11.30am

Brassey Gardens Children's Centre,
2 Brassey Street, Birkenhead CH41 8DA
Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am

Seacombe Children's Centre,
St Pauls Road, Seacombe CH44 7AN
Wednesday 9.30am – 11.00am

We are hoping to add to these sessions as the service develops.

Below is a link to the Early years and Childcare registration handbook produced by Ofsted this contains information regarding the new rule enabling childminders to use 50% of their Ofsted registration on non-domestic premises

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/497338/EY_and_childcare_reg_handbook.pdf

Car Seat Safety

Wirral Council's Road Safety Team often get asked questions about child car seats by parents such as:

When do I move my child to the next car seat?

Why do they face backwards?"

What age are children allowed in the front?

Can I use a friend's car seat?
amongst many others.

The Road Safety Team offer free car seat talks to groups to answer these questions and to give further advice on fitting, buying, storing and the recent changes in legislation.

To book a talk contact the **Road Safety Team** on **0151 606 2191** or email roadsafety@wirral.gov.uk