

Early years & childcare services

E-newsletter - August 2010



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Welcome to this month's e-newsletter, keeping you up-to-date with all early years' news, updates and events.

We hope you find this e-newsletter useful. If you would prefer not to receive this email, just let us know by emailing victoria.windsor-beck@nottscc.gov.uk
Look out for the next issue of this newsletter due out 30 September.

Early Years News

Training and Development Opportunities (TADO) Update

All childcare providers should have received a letter saying that the TADO will no longer be printed and distributed but will be available to download from the Nottinghamshire County Council's website. A copy of the TADO is attached with this newsletter for you to download and save on your computer.

The TADO can also be downloaded from www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/earlyyears

★ Courses coming up this month! ★

The following courses are starting soon and still have spare places:

Book your place now!

Course	Date	Time	Venue	Page reference
Leadership & Management (network)	27 Sept	6:30 - 8:30pm	Woodthorpe Day Nursery, Woodthorpe	Page 7 in TADO Page 24 PDF
Leading to Inspire	30 Sept	9:30am - 4:30pm	Nottingham Forest Football Club, The City Ground, West Bridgford	Page 14 in TADO Page 31 in PDF
Recruitment and Retention in the Childcare Sector	30 Sept	9:30am - 3:30pm	Patchings Art Centre, Calverton	Page 17 in TADO Page 34 in PDF
Audit Toolkit Training	28 Sept	9.30am - 12.30pm	South Forest Leisure Centre, Edwinstowe	Page 18 in TADO Page 35 in PDF
Health & Safety	9 Sept	9:30am - 5pm	Ashfield Play Forum, Morven Avenue Sutton-in-Ashfield	Page 32 in TADO Page 49 in PDF
Health & Safety Risk assessment workshop	27 Sept	9:30am - 12:30pm	Pleasley Landmark Centre, Pleasley, Mansfield	Page 33 in TADO Page 50 in PDF
Safeguarding	18 Sept	9:30am - 3:30pm	St George's Centre, Netherfield	Page 37 in TADO Page 54 in PDF

	22& 29 Sept	1 - 3pm	Edwinstowe House, Edwinstowe	Page 37 in TADO Page 54 in PDF
Behaviours that challenge	18 Oct	9:30am - 3:30pm	Beeston Fields Golf Club, Old Drive, Wollaton Road, Beeston	Page 60 in TADO Page 77 in PDF
Using Observation Effectively To Assess Children's Progress	29 Sept	9:30am - 12:30pm	Newark Beacon, Cafferata Way, Newark	Page 78 in TADO Page 95 in PDF
Developing the Thinking Skills of Children Aged 0 – 5 Years	27 Sept	9:30am - 3:30pm	Everyday Champion's Centre, Jessop Close, Newark	Page 92 in TADO Page 109 in PDF
An Introduction to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)	27 Sept	6:30 - 9pm	The Beeches Hotel, West Bridgford	Page 97 in TADO Page 114 in PDF
Talking Matters! The speech, language and communication induction course	29 Sept	9am - 12pm	National Watersports Centre, Adbolton Lane Holme Pierrepont	Page 108 in TADO Page 125 in PDF
Let's interact	22 Sept	9am -12pm	National Watersports Centre, Adbolton Lane Holme Pierrepont	Page 109 in TADO Page 126 in PDF
The Social Child Promoting Positive Behaviour	21 Sept	6:45 - 9:15pm	Highfields Fire Station, Beeston	Page 117 in TADO Page 134 in PDF
Therapeutic Play	22 Sept	6:30 – 9pm	Holy Trinity Community Centre, Newark	Page 120 in TADO Page 137 in PDF

To book any of the above places, download an application form from www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/earlyyears. For more information, please ring 0115 977 2437 or email ey&cc.training@nottscc.gov.uk

Owners, Managers and Leaders Briefings – Spaces still left

Find out about new information, initiatives, guidance and funding relevant to your setting by coming to an Owner, Manager and Leaders briefing:

Tue 14 September – 1:30-3:30pm
The Turbine, Coach Close, Worksop

Thu 16 September – 10am-12pm
Newark Beacon, Cafferata Way, Newark

Wed 6 October – 1:30-3:30pm
Pleasley Landmark Centre, Pleasley

Code of Practice for Local Authorities on the delivery of free Early Years Provision for 3 & 4 year olds

The revised **Code of Practice for the Free Entitlement** takes effect from 1 September 2010. It is important that providers familiarise themselves with the code as it outlines the requirements, for both providers and local authorities, for the delivery of the extended free entitlement.

The Nottinghamshire funding conditions have been reviewed in line with the new code and the revised Provider Agreement was issued during the summer term 2010 with a return sheet requesting signed agreement to the new funding conditions.

Please note that headcount payments can only be made to settings that have returned their signed agreement. Autumn term estimate payments will be withheld until the signed agreement is received. Providers who have not sent their signed forms back have already been sent a letter reminding them to do this. Please contact the Early Years and Childcare Service if you require a further copy of the original agreement.

The Code of Practice for Local Authorities on the Delivery of Free Early Years Provision for 3&4 year olds can be downloaded at;

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/resources-and-practice/IG00689/>

Childminder News

Childminding network meetings:

Find out the latest information at childminding network meetings:

Date	Venue
Tue 5 Oct	Rushcliffe Edwalton Primary, Wellin Lane, Edwalton NG12 4AS
Wed 6 Oct	Ashfield Summit Centre, Pavilion Rd, K in A NG17 7LL
Wed 13 Oct	Bassetlaw The Crossing, Newcastle St, Worksop S80 2AT
Wed13 Oct	Rushcliffe Edwalton Primary, Wellin Lane, Edwalton NG12 4AS
Thu 14 Oct	Newark Holy Trinity Community & Partnership Centre, Boundary Rd, Newark NG24 4AU
Wed 20 Oct	Gedling St James Church, Marshall Hill Drive, Mapperley NG3 6FY
Weds 20 Oct	Mansfield Manor Sport & Recreation, Kingsley Avenue Mansfield Woodhouse NG19 9JT
Thur 21 Oct	Broxtowe The Hub, Newidgate St, Kimberley NG16 2NJ
Wed 3 Nov	Gedling (2) St James Church, Marshall Hill Drive, Mapperley NG3 6FY

NCMA's annual conference

As mentioned in last month's E-News, the NCMA's Annual Conference is being held at the Royal Marriott Hotel, Bristol from Friday 12 to Saturday 13 November.

This year's conference will feature keynote speaker Dave Benson Phillips and NCMA's President Dame Gillian Pugh, as well as six workshops on a range of topics. NCMA will also hold its annual policy debate on resolutions put forward by members on the Saturday.

NCMA members will find full information in the August/September issue of Who Minds? as well as on the NCMA's website at www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/events/annual_conference.aspx

Ofsted inquiry

People are currently being invited to make submissions to an inquiry into the role and performance of Ofsted being carried out by the Education Select Committee.

The Education Committee monitors the policy, administration and spending of the Department for Education and its associated arms length bodies, including Ofsted.

The Committee is inviting written submissions which address the following points:

- what the purposes of inspection should be (relating not only to schools but to all organisations, settings and services under Ofsted's remit);
- the impact of the inspection process on school improvement;
- the performance of Ofsted in carrying out its work;
- the consistency and quality of inspection teams in the Ofsted inspection process;
- the weight given to different factors within the inspection process;
- whether inspection of all organisations, settings and services to support children' learning and welfare is best conducted by a single inspectorate; and
- the role of Ofsted in providing an accountability mechanism for schools operating with greater autonomy.

NCMA will be making a formal response to the inquiry but childminders can also make a written submission. The closing date for submissions is **Friday 8 October 2010**.

Unlike a consultation, there is not a series of questions to answer, instead the inquiry is asking for written submissions which can be up to 3000 words long.

You can find details of the inquiry at www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/education-committee/news/new-inquiry-announced-ofsted/

You can find more details of how to prepare a written submission at www.parliament.uk/documents/upload/witnessguide.pdf

Play Service News

Play for Disabled Children Holiday Projects continue to grow

Over the last 18 months, we have established holiday clubs in Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark and Rushcliffe and we finally opened our 7th club at Foxwood School (Broxtowe) at the beginning of the summer holidays. The clubs run one day per week each holiday except Christmas and currently provide short breaks care and play opportunities for 62 children and young people aged 5-14 with high level and complex needs. The children accessing the projects are disabled in a number of ways, e.g. downs syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy, other physical disabilities and gastrostomy feeding systems.

Currently we are working in partnership with the Childcare Development team to support childcare sessions for disabled young people. This Pilot provision runs alongside our short breaks services in Newark and Gedling. The partnership work has enabled an additional 19 children and young people aged 5-19 to access full day and wrap around childcare. Some parents have also opted to access the wrap around care as an addition to their short break play opportunity

The programme of activities for this summer included climbing wall, graffiti art, cheer leading, music therapy, bouncy castle, opportunity to meet a variety of "interesting" animals (including big hairy spiders and bearded dragons), cooking, disco and disability sports.

It has been an exciting time for us developing these projects and very rewarding seeing the children and young people experience activities that they often find challenging or have limited access to. Parents and carers express that the services offered by the Play for Disabled Children Team as "wonderful", "life saving" and "enables quality time for other siblings".

For more information about the Play for Disabled Children Holiday Project, please contact Sarah Blackhurst on 07771 3444 91.

Play Days 2010

Five of the six Play Days went ahead with Retford being a casualty of the heavy rain. Numbers were a little down on last year but we are still likely to achieve our target of 6,000 children and carers when all the figures are totted up.

Play Days ran at Mansfield (Carr Bank Park), Kirkby in Ashfield (Kingsway Park), Newark (Sconce Hills Park), Gedling (Arnot Hill Park) and Eastwood (Mansfield Road Park). The emphasis on these Play Days, organised through the Play Service, was to provide cheap play activities which could easily be done at home during the rest of the summer holiday. The costs were estimated at 50 pence per child, although final figures are yet to come in. Parents could also obtain our 'How to Survive the Summer Holidays' Guide which contains many pages of play ideas.

We enjoyed den building, sand play, big painting, crafts, spacehoppers, environmental play, drumming, face painting, sensory room and games. Play Forums were actively at every stage of planning and delivery. They provided some creative activities on the day including badgemaking, kite making and a near life-size cardboard castle at Gedling.

The respective district or borough council leisure services were also involved in every play day and a fine spirit of cooperation and partnership prevailed. Family Information Service staff gave out information and ran their own activity at each event.

The Play Service also gave support to other Play/Fun Day events over the summer such as Lark in the Park (Rushcliffe) and Papplewick.

A big vote of thanks to Linda Cobb, Wendy Haley and Sheena Barlow from the Play Development Team for their hard work in coordinating Play Service efforts on these days, also thanks to all the Play Service Teams who gave their time to support the project. Of course thanks goes out to all those who contributed and took part, not least the children, whose ideas we will be taking to our future planning sessions.

For anyone wishing to organise their own Play Day, we do a 'Play Days to Go' Pack and we can always come and talk through your play day ideas with you (preferably well before the summer!).

Have fun and don't forget to book the weather!

Neil McCarthy
Principal Play Officer

Business & Marketing Support News

Early Years and Childcare Capital Grant scheme update

Settings that have received a small or large capital grant under the Early Years Capital Grant scheme should forward their original invoices evidencing expenditure (if they haven't already done so) to:

Andy Walker
Nottinghamshire County Council
Welbeck House
Darwin Drive
Sherwood Energy Village
Ollerton, Nottinghamshire
NG22 9FF

Settings, who have not completed their projects, should complete as soon as possible. All projects must be completed and receipts provided by March 2011, otherwise we may ask for grants to be returned. Please contact Business Support Officers immediately if there is a risk of your project not being completed within this timescale.

Contact:

Andy Walker
andrew.walker@nottscc.gov.uk
Tel: 07717 205 374

David Rogers
Email: david.rogers@nottscc.gov.uk
Tel: 07977 210 151.

Business and Marketing support for childcare providers

Nottinghamshire County Council's early years and childcare services have Business Support and Marketing Officers who provide advice, guidance and support to both new and existing childcare businesses to ensure that they become and remain viable. All information provided remains confidential.

Business support

The Business Support Officers can help with:

- business planning and administration;
- business health checks;
- budgeting and cash flow forecasting;
- book keeping and accounting systems advice;
- pricing policies and pay structures;
- staff ratio management; and
- Business training programmes

Marketing support

The Marketing Officer can help you with:

- Marketing planning, monitoring and evaluation;
- Producing publicity materials;
- Organising and holding events
- Working with the media

For free business support, contact the Business Support Officers using details on previous page.

For free marketing support, email victoria.windsor-beck@nottscc.gov.uk or ring 07956 438 068.

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Nottinghamshire early years and childcare services are urging parents and carers in Nottinghamshire to take part in a childcare audit to help develop current and future childcare needs.

The County Council is required under the Childcare Act 2006 to carry out an audit. This is to shape local childcare markets which are responsive to parents needs and provide sufficient high-quality and accessible childcare.

Questionnaires are being sent to 10,000 parents and carers of children in Nottinghamshire and are being given out at events across the county. Questionnaires are available to download at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/earlyyears. Copies can also be requested by calling Nottinghamshire Families Information Service on 0800 781 2168 or by emailing fis@nottscc.gov.uk

The findings of the audit will form a draft childcare sufficiency assessment and will be published in January 2011. This will be available on the Nottinghamshire County Council's website for consultation. The final version of the assessment will be published in March 2011.

National News

Department for Education

Dame Clare Tickell is today launching a call for evidence to inform her independent review of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Announced on 6 July 2010, the EYFS review is looking at how best to protect young children's safety and welfare and support their development and learning. For more information visit:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/news/call-for-evidence-eyfs-review>

National Children's Bureau

A recent survey by leading national charities, National Children's Bureau and the British Youth Council (BYC), has found that children and young people feel unsafe when using public transport in England. For more information visit:

http://www.ncb.org.uk/campaigning/media_news/2010/jul_to_dec/children_and_young_people_feel.aspx

National Day Nurseries Association

National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) today welcomed the publication of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) consultation document and said it was important that the early years sector considered the questions outlined and shared its views. For more information visit:

<http://www.ndna.org.uk/news/press+releases/EYFS-review-announcement>

National Childminding Association

NCMA is encouraging childminders to respond to ensure their voice is heard through the consultation of the review of the Early Years Foundation Stage. For more information visit:

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/july_to_december_2010/childminder_response_to_eyfs.aspx

Ofsted has updated many of their fact sheets this summer, including several for childminders. For more information visit:

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/july_to_december_2010/new_factsheets_from_ofsted.aspx

A brand new dedicated training course has been developed by the Children's Workforce Development Council in consultation with NCMA.

The home-based unit is an introductory course for those preparing to become registered childminders or beginning work as a nanny. For more information visit:

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/july_to_december_2010/new_home-based_course_on_offer.aspx

Play England

Play England reorganises to be fit for the future.

Play England has announced its new structure and programme of work, to ensure that it is best able to represent and support the play sector and respond to the changing political and economic context. For more information visit:

http://www.playengland.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_2373rx_6483898322555u30a_2010715114v

Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)

Read the latest newsletter from the Child Accident Prevention Trust which includes impact results from National Child Safety Week. For more information visit:

<http://www.capt.org.uk/news/default.htm>

Fatherhood Institute

The Fatherhood Institute will be one of 15 leading family charities arguing for continued investment in families, at this year's Conservative, Liberal Democrat, and Labour Party Conferences, starting next month. For more information visit:

<http://www.fatherhoodinstitute.org/index.php?id=0&cID=1125>

'Engaging Fathers as Partners' conference taking place 11 November 2010 at the Royal Horticultural Halls, London. For more information, visit:

<http://www.fatherhoodinstitute.org/index.php?id=3&cID=1116>