



Early Years Quality Improvement Team's Weekly Bulletin 19th December 2024

Welcome to this week's bulletin, recent bulletins can be found [here](#)

Contact the team: EarlyYearsCentre@lancashire.gov.uk or 01772 539058

Webpage: www.lancashire.gov.uk/early-years-support-and-training/ (training courses, support and information from the team)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LancsEarlyYears/ www.facebook.com/groups/lancsearlyyears/)

Advertise your job vacancies on our webpage www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/supporting-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-years-settings/ (uploaded weekly, no charge) complete this form:

New Managers Academy: Are you new to the role of managing a PVI nursery?

Perhaps you have only been a manager for the last 6 months or so. Let us know and we can offer you some additional support whilst you fully find your feet (no charge). One of the Early Years Project Officer's will meet with you to discuss your current challenges and offer advice and guidance and you will also be invited to termly, virtual group meetings to network with other new managers for peer support. What next: just complete this short [Microsoft Teams form](#)

New Practitioners Academy: Are you training or been in early years for less than a year?

Join by coming on any (or all) of the free meetings - there is no need to book just click on the links below on the date at 4pm. We will chat to you about all sorts of elements of practice as well as giving you the opportunity to ask questions. We are really looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the best profession in the world!
Tuesday 21st January 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)
Tuesday 18th March 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)
Tuesday 13th May 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)
Tuesday 8th July 2025 [Join the meeting now](#)

Happy Christmas and New Year



This is the last newsletter of 2024 –

**Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year
From The Early Years Quality Improvement Team.**

Something to do this week! Take time for yourself

December can be a chilly month with dark evenings yet one of the busiest times of the year. This week take a moment to think - when was the last time you did something just for you? Just because you wanted to and not because you should.



Now, make yourself a promise to do just that and if you cannot do it today then put a time in your schedule and stick to it! Maybe connect with a friend, read a book or magazine for pleasure, play a sport or online game, take a walk, pamper yourself or draw a picture.

Not sure what you want to do? Visit the Action for Happiness website for lots of ideas each month:

<https://actionforhappiness.org/all-calendars>

Let's Celebrate!

This week we are shouting a magnificent Wednesday Well Done to three settings in Lancashire who have recently had their Ofsted inspection reports published.

🌟 Linda Slattery a childminder from Oswaldtwistle shared that she is thrilled with her inspection outcome. She notes that it was the best inspection experience she's had and the day went really quick. Linda said that the inspector put her at ease as soon as she arrived. Her inspection report notes how - 'Regular evaluation helps the childminder to highlight any training needs. She keeps her knowledge up to date, seeks advice from other professionals and discusses good practice with other childminders. This helps to maintain a good standard of care and learning for children.'

🌟 Greenhouse Farm Nursery in Haslingden- Manager Lorraine Cook shared that they had two inspectors who explored and observed practice in different rooms. They sought parental feedback from 11 parents and the inspector noted just how excellent this was. Their report notes - 'Parents are extremely happy with the care their children receive. Parents comment on the 'exceptional support' they receive from leaders and staff at the setting. Staff are consistent with sharing children's development and next steps. This helps parents to continue their children's learning at home.'

🌟 Moss Lane Preschool in Lostock Hall have also had their inspection report published recently. Deputy manager Michelle Pickering shared that the day went well and the inspector put them at ease and her feedback was wonderful. The setting has very close links with parents and does close observations of children in order to know where they are up to and next steps. The inspector noted how well - 'Staff consistently start with the children's own interests and experiences, ensuring that learning is engaging and relevant. All children are provided with enriching opportunities that enhance their understanding of the world.'

Michelle's Top tip is to believe in yourself and the wonderful job you do every day, don't change anything and be consistent.

On behalf of everyone in the Early Years Quality Improvement Team, we would like to say thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality childcare and education to children in Lancashire 🌟🌟❤️



Liverpool City Region and Beyond Early Years Stronger Practice Hub Newsletter

In the attached December Newsletter, the stronger practice hub includes information about SEN and Dingley's promise and Childminder resource bags and drop in sessions. For other articles and further information in the December issue, please see the attached.

If you would like to sign up to receive a monthly copy direct to your own email address, you can sign up here

[Subscribe | ENSFC](#)

Lancashire SEND Partnership: Inspection update



As you will know, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have undertaken an inspection of the partnership support in Lancashire for children with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

The inspection team has engaged with a range of children, parents and representative groups, as well as practitioners and leaders in Social Care, Education and the NHS, to understand how we deliver support across the partnership.

Inspectors undertook a deep dive into the experiences and progress for a smaller number of children, which included speaking to those children and their parents directly, as well as the multi-agency team working with the family.

Inspectors also met with key practitioners from across the partnership and visited a range of schools, services and settings across Lancashire. We'd like to say a huge thank you to those of you who met with inspectors and facilitated visits during the inspection period. The inspectors have shared their appreciation for the warmth, passion, and commitment they have experienced as they met people from across the partnership.

We will receive a published final report around late January 2025. The Local Area Partnership will then refresh and publish its Strategic Plan for the delivery and development of SEND services, taking into account the feedback we have received from inspectors.

NEW launch of the Domestic Abuse Support Service Lancashire (DASSL)

We are pleased to announce the launch of Lancashire County Councils Domestic Abuse Support Service Lancashire (DASSL)

A new domestic abuse support service has been launched for people in Lancashire who are currently experiencing or have experienced domestic abuse, including specialist support for children and young people.

The [Domestic Abuse Support Service Lancashire](#) (DASSL) offers support in safe accommodation and outreach services for adults and children. The service is a partnership between a number of specialist domestic abuse services in Lancashire :

- [The Liberty Centre – West Lancashire](#)
- [HARV – Hyndburn and Ribble Valley](#)
- [Safenet – Preston , Burnley and Lancaster](#)
- [Fylde Coast Women's Aid – Fylde and Wyre](#)
- [Key – Chorley and South Ribble](#)
- [Be Free – Pendle and Rossendale](#)
- [Emily Davison Centre – Loving Me – Lancashire Wide](#)

Please check out the new website www.dassl.org.uk you can access information and support for victims of domestic abuse via the 24 hour Helpline and by Live Chat.

Lancashire County Councils [domestic abuse webpage](#) has been updated with these details , we have also added a "Quick Exit" button to this page and a link to A-Z on the [intranet page](#).

A formal launch will take place in February , if you have any queries please get in touch with your [local provider](#) and/or you can email any questions to domesticabusecommissions@lancashire.gov.uk.

We will be offering briefings about the service to county council services in the new year if your service would be interested in attending one of these please email domesticabusecommissions@lancashire.gov.uk. with the names and email addresses of those that would be interested.

Help shape future early years projects funded by the Education Endowment Foundation

The Education Endowment Foundation has commissioned CooperGibson Research to explore the professional development and support programmes available to the early years sector in England. The research will provide information about the packages of support that are being used to improve 2–5-year-old children's learning outcomes, and how these programmes relate to key thematic areas that could be included on the EEF's research agenda in future.

We would be grateful if you could **complete the survey** so that we can get the best picture of the professional development and support programmes available to the sector.

You can access the survey here, which should take around 10 minutes to complete and will be live until **20 December**:

[Early years CPD survey.](#)

Registration for Big Garden Birdwatch 2025 is now open!

Big Garden Birdwatch is the largest garden wildlife survey in the world, and we'd love for you to be a part of it! Thousands of nature lovers will be counting birds from their gardens, balconies, parks and local green spaces over one weekend.

It's fun, free and will only take an hour, whenever it suits you, from

Friday 24 – Sunday 26 January

[Count me in](#)

Selected DfE Updates 10th - 16th December

- National professional qualification (NPQ) courses - Professional development courses for teachers and leaders to develop skills, progress careers and improve school outcomes. [National professional qualification \(NPQ\) courses - GOV.UK](#)
Updated 16 December 2024