

Early Years Newsletter - October 2024

This week's updates include;

- Cast- Early Years Questionnaire
- Early Years October Training
- Updated Early Years Inspection Handbook
- Updated Schools Inspection Handbook
- The Inclusive Early Years Educator - Official Book Launch Event
- Handling Flour and Flour Products Safely- FSA
- The National Wraparound Programme
- Childcare Works HUB- Early Years
- Exploring Neurodiverse Sibling Relationships
- Early Years Financial Incentive- Don't miss out!

The National Wraparound Programme

The National Wraparound Childcare Programme forms part of the childcare reforms announced at the 2023 Spring Budget. The programme was established to ensure that all parents and carers of primary school-aged children (reception to year 6) who need it, will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am - 6pm, so that parents can access employment and improve the labour market.

Approximately £2m of funding has been allocated to the LA from DfE to promote wraparound expansion. All types of providers can apply for this funding – schools, PVI and childminders, or providers can work together in partnership.

Possible wraparound delivery models could include:

- School-based provision, delivered by school: Delivered by school staff on a school site and open to all children attending that school.
- School-based provision, delivered by private provider or childminder: Schools contract and work in partnership with a private provider or childminder who would pay them to operate wraparound provision on school premises. Operated and delivered by staff employed by the private provider (this provision must be Ofsted registered).
- Childminders: Provision delivered by childminders, signposted to parents by Local Authority and schools. Could be a group of Childminders working together on a single/community site.
- Cluster / hub model (on or off a school site).

Funding is being allocated to help either the expansion of existing wraparound provision or the creation of new provision, with the vision that this will become self-sustainable by 2026. Wraparound funding cannot be spent on equipment or supplies which are expected to last for more than 1 year, where the cost is more than £500, but it can be used to cover costs including staffing, training, and transport costs such as minibus hire (not purchase) or resources such as food. It can be used to contribute to running costs whilst demand for

wraparound builds, pay for training, including specialist training to ensure staff can fully support children with additional needs. It can even be used to provide free or subsidised places for children of the wraparound staff employed to deliver the service.

Applications for wraparound funding to expand existing provision through extending opening hours or creating new places, or to create completely new wraparound provision, are being accepted now. If you wish to apply for funding or want to ask more questions about this programme or the application process, please email Kirsty Hanberry, Wraparound & Sufficiency Manager on Kirsty.hanberry@doncaster.gov.uk The application form can be accessed at [Wraparound Programme Funding Application Form](#)

Childcare Works HUB- Early Years

The HUB is a bank of resources available to Local Authorities and childcare Providers implementing the childcare expansion programme. Here you will find a comprehensive library of the resources developed to support the roll-out of the early years and wraparound childcare expansion project.

Click here to browse the HUB- [HUB Early Years - childcareworks.org.uk](https://childcareworks.org.uk)

Early Years Financial Incentive- Don't miss out!

Are you aware of the Early Years financial incentive that is available for eligible employees in your settings?

The incentive was launched by the DFE in January this year to respond to the need to recruit more qualified staff into the sector. This will be done through offering a £1,000 financial incentive to eligible new or returning recruits.

The pilot will run between 1st April 2024 and 31st December 2024.

Eligible new recruits will need to satisfy the criteria below:

- Newly recruited to a full or part time early years post with an eligible provider
- Returning to the profession after a minimum of 6 months gap
- Commence employment between 1st April 2024 and 10th December 2024
- Must spend at least 70% of their time working directly with children
- Work a full 12 weeks before the incentive is paid
- An apprentice who completes their apprenticeship between 1st April and 10th December and is given a permanent contract

We have had a positive response so far, receiving the following feedback from settings and employees

“As a nursery owner I think that the incentive scheme has supported us in our recruitment and I would use it again. It did help us to recruit a staff member who was returning to the profession. I found the process fairly straightforward to follow and the guidance documents were helpful to me. I am hoping to access it again and I have some apprentices due to qualify in the next few weeks. It has been a useful incentive for them to complete their studies.”

“I am thrilled to share some exciting news which I’ve benefited from to other eligible nursery teachers out there! After taking a two-year break from the profession, I was eligible for the new financial incentive scheme introduced by the government to encourage educators like us to return to work in the profession. This initiative will significantly support my transition back into the classroom.

I learned about this fantastic opportunity through the support from my management team, who guided me every step of the way. This scheme will greatly benefit me as I settle back into the profession, reigniting my passion for teaching and providing financial recognition for early learning professionals dedication and hard work. I look forward to seeing more of our talented educators rejoining the cause and continuing to make a positive impact on our young learners.”

If you would like to apply for the pilot or have any questions, please contact earlyyearsupport@doncaster.gov.uk.

Updated Early Years Inspection Handbook – 9th September

Ofsted has updated the Early Years Inspection Handbook on the 9th September 2024. The summary of changes is:

September 2024: Throughout: we have clarified references to funded places and what should be considered on inspection.

- Paragraphs: 50, 174, 203 and footnote 10: wording amended to reflect how the inspector will consider the context of the setting, including where relevant the ongoing impact of COVID-19.
- Paragraphs 78, 130, 217 and 247: wording updated to align with part 2 and part 3 of the inspection handbook.
- Good grade descriptor for Quality of Education: amendments to bullet 3 regarding an ambitious curriculum for all children.
- Inadequate grade descriptor for Quality of Education: amendments to bullet 4 regarding disadvantaged children.

Click here for the link to view the Early Years Inspection Framework: [Early years inspection handbook - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642222/early-years-inspection-framework-handbook-2019-2021.pdf)

Updated Schools Inspection Handbook- 16th September

From this term state-funded schools will not receive an overall effectiveness grade during graded inspections, following the [decision by the Department for Education](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/department-for-education-announces-changes-to-school-inspection). This change has been reflected in the handbooks.

The handbooks have also been updated to reflect the previously announced changes to ungraded inspections, designed to reduce the burden on school leaders and allow more time and flexibility for inspectors to get to know the school, including its context and priorities.

Read more here: [Ofsted publishes updates to school inspection handbooks - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-publishes-updates-to-school-inspection-handbooks)

Early Years October Training

Early Years: Childminder Role of SENCo Training - [Early Years: Childminder Role of SENCo Training | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-childminder-role-of-senco-training)

Early Years: Refresher in The EYFS for Nursery Practitioners - [Early Years: Refresher in The EYFS for Nursery Practitioners | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-refresher-in-the-eyfs-for-nursery-practitioners)

Early Years: Talking Together - Speech Language and Communication Training Enhanced Level - [Early Years: Talking Together - Speech Language and Communication Training Enhanced Level | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-talking-together-speech-language-and-communication-training-enhanced-level)

Early Years: Self-Regulation, Co-Regulation and Trauma Informed Approaches

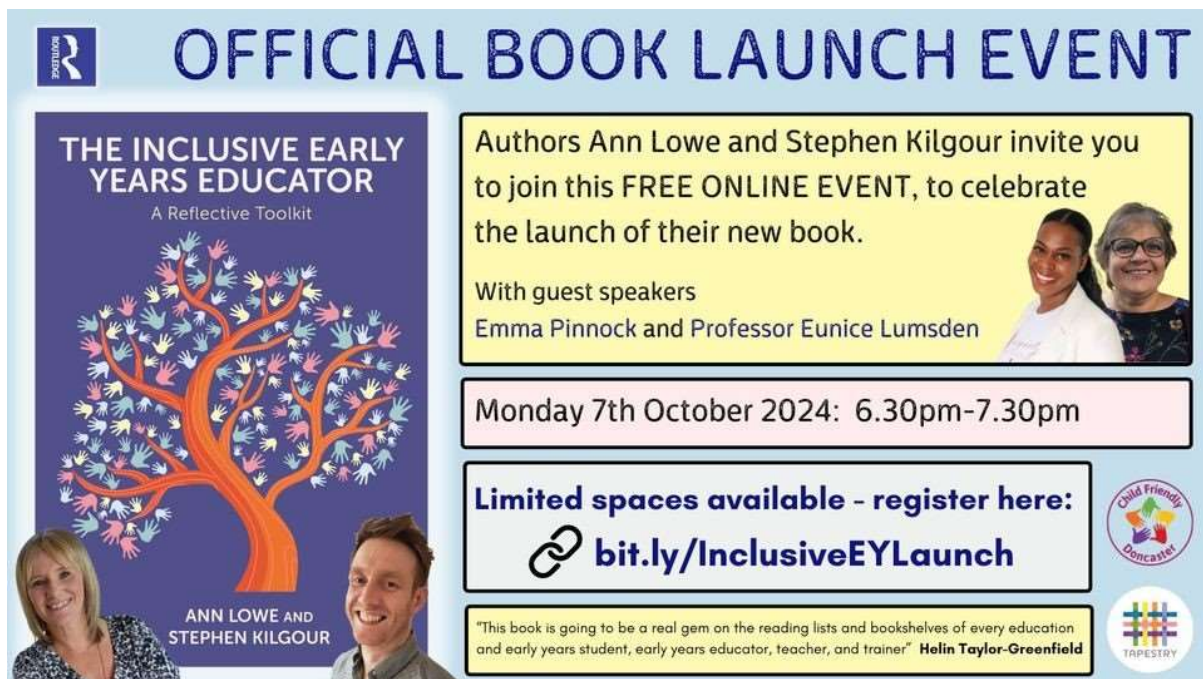
(Mini-Conference) - [Early Years: Self-Regulation, Co-Regulation and Trauma Informed Approaches \(Mini-Conference\) | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-self-regulation-co-regulation-and-trauma-informed-approaches-mini-conference)

Early Years: SENCO Cluster

Tuesday 22nd October 13:00 - 15:00 Online - [Early Years: SENCO Cluster - Afternoon Session | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-senco-cluster-afternoon-session)

Tuesday 22nd October 18:30 – 20:30 Online - [Early Years: SENCO Cluster - Evening Session | Buy Doncaster](https://www.buydoncaster.co.uk/early-years-senco-cluster-evening-session)

The Inclusive Early Years Educator - Official Book Launch Event



The poster features the Routledge logo at the top left. The main title 'OFFICIAL BOOK LAUNCH EVENT' is in large blue letters. Below it is the book cover for 'THE INCLUSIVE EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR: A Reflective Toolkit' by Ann Lowe and Stephen Kilgour. The cover art shows a tree with many colorful hands as leaves. Photos of the authors and guest speakers are included. Text boxes provide event details: 'Authors Ann Lowe and Stephen Kilgour invite you to join this FREE ONLINE EVENT, to celebrate the launch of their new book.' 'With guest speakers Emma Pinnock and Professor Eunice Lumsden'. 'Monday 7th October 2024: 6.30pm-7.30pm'. 'Limited spaces available - register here: bit.ly/InclusiveEYLaunch'. A quote from Holin Taylor-Greenfield is also present. Logos for 'Child Friendly Doncaster' and 'TAPESTRY' are at the bottom right.

OFFICIAL BOOK LAUNCH EVENT

THE INCLUSIVE EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR
A Reflective Toolkit

ANN LOWE AND
STEPHEN KILGOUR

Authors Ann Lowe and Stephen Kilgour invite you to join this **FREE ONLINE EVENT**, to celebrate the launch of their new book.

With guest speakers
Emma Pinnock and Professor Eunice Lumsden

Monday 7th October 2024: 6.30pm-7.30pm

Limited spaces available - register here:
bit.ly/InclusiveEYLaunch

"This book is going to be a real gem on the reading lists and bookshelves of every education and early years student, early years educator, teacher, and trainer" **Holin Taylor-Greenfield**

Child Friendly Doncaster
TAPESTRY

Join Ann Lowe and Stephen Kilgour for the online launch of "The Inclusive Early Years Educator" book! Learn from the authors expertise and hear from fellow educators - Professor Eunice Lumsden and Emma Pinnock. Don't miss out on this opportunity to create a more inclusive learning environment for all children.

With accessible guidance and strategies to advocate a change in practice based on lived experience research, *The Inclusive Early Years Educator* will enable the reader to become an ally for championing neurodiversity-affirming practice and true inclusion in early years education.

7th October 2024, 6:30 - 7:30pm via Microsoft Teams

Click here to book: [The Inclusive Early Years Educator - Official Book Launch Event Tickets, Mon 7 Oct 2024 at 06:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Exploring Neurodiverse Sibling Relationships

Helping your child understand their neurodivergent sibling can be challenging. It is important that you take the time to explain what neurodivergence means in simple, age-appropriate terms.

Follow the link to download various sibling support packs: [Sibling Support Pack - Witherslack Group](#)

Cast Early Years Questionnaire

Cast Doncaster are looking at the potential of developing a new piece of theatre for EYFS that could be played at the Cast, and potentially have a schools/ EYFS settings tour. They are in VERY early stages and wanted to do a little bit of research around what stories are used with EYFS and what works well and why.

Please help them by completing this short form and sharing it with people in your team? It would be great to get your insights.

Form here: <https://forms.office.com/e/Ye2BVXrCG0>

Handling Flour and Flour Products Safely

This guidance applies to all types of flour including wheat, gluten free, corn, gram, and rice flour. It may also be helpful when considering the risks associated with sensory play and craft activities using flour where this is not intended to be eaten.

View [Handling flour and flour products safely via Food Standards Agency](#)