

Welcome to the Winter term newsletter - we hope you're looking forward to Christmas!
Thank you to settings that have sent in their 'Good News' stories and celebrations!

Wirral Cohort Tracker

The Wirral Cohort Tracker will be made available to all settings to input tracking data this autumn term. This will allow all providers to report on their key cohorts, as well as the local authority being able to provide settings with data from a Wirral wide perspective.

The WCT is a free tracking device which is easy to use,

fulfils Ofsted criteria in terms of reporting on progress, as well as creating reports and data which will feed into settings on-going action plans.

Training will be made available to ensure all settings are able to effectively use the tracker, and a simple user guide will be provided to make this process easy to follow.

Cluster Meetings

All childcare providers are invited to attend termly cluster meetings, organised by the Business Support and Quality Improvement Team. These will be used to share information and good practice within the sector. Dates for the Spring term will be circulated in Jan/Feb 2018

Team Updates



Joanne Gelling has been recruited as a new member of the Quality Improvement Team, she will job share with Ellie McMillan to cover South Wirral.

Safeguarding

Allegations against adults working with children

The Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations (LADO) must be told of allegations against adults working with children and young people within 24 hours. You are also required to inform Ofsted of any allegation, as soon as is reasonably practicable, but at the latest within 14 days of the allegation being made. This includes all cases where a person is alleged to have:

- behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a child
- possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to, a child
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that



indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children

The Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations (LADO) in Wirral is Suzanne Cottrell: Tel 0151 666 4582, email: suzannecottrell@wirral.gov.uk A full description of procedures, referral forms and leaflets can be found at www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/professionals/ladoallegations Training related to managing allegations that can be found at www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/courses/managing-allegations

Funding

Families who would like 30hrs funding for their children who are 3 years old prior to January 2018 need to apply now by visiting www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or call 0300 123 4097. All eligibility codes need to be checked before the child begins their 30hrs place.

Eligibility code checks for private, voluntary and independent settings will be processed through the headcount portal. For support or information please contact Budget Support on 0151 666 5533/0151 666 4649.

Eligibility code checks for maintained settings will be completed by the Early Years Team via Anycomms Plus. For support or information please contact Early Years on 0151 666 3980.

Penny Bishop is the Early Years SEND team leader. She oversees the work of the Early Years SEND Team (previously early intervention officers) and the portage team.



Ros Foster and Cath Jones are portage workers also based with the Early Years SEND Officers at Bromborough Childrens Centre. They work with SEND children within the child's home and provide transitional support when the child moves to a childcare provider.

SEND - Early Years Intervention Team

The Early Years SEND Team is due to welcome a new Portage Home Teacher which will take us up to 2.7 workers. Sue and Joanne continue to support the settings/childminders and 2 year olds in schools with outcomes, planning and reviews.

There is information on the Local Offer site about the Inclusive Practice Funding and the Disability Access Fund localofferwirral.org

There is now free bronze level access to the NASEN website and they are just in the process of devising a series of early years booklets on SEND. Please let us know if you come across good sites and we will collate the information and then share it.

4Children and the Council for Disabled Children (CDC) have produced a toolkit for SEN and disability in the early years. Each section of the toolkit provides a briefing on a particular aspect of the SEN and disability reforms as they apply to early year's providers – this can be accessed at localofferwirral.org/the-early-years-send-toolkit

Local offer updates

Feedback from parents and our young people tell us that sometimes the information on the Local Offer isn't always written in a way that everyone can easily understand.

'Easy Read' is an accessible way of presenting information in a clear and easy to read format.

It is written specifically to be used by people with learning disabilities. Training on 'Easy Read' is to be arranged and so the website content should soon be more user-friendly.

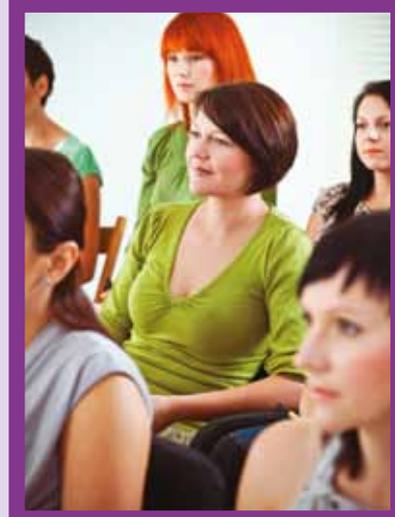
Here's a reminder to parents to register your children on the Children's Disability Register if they have any kind of additional needs. localofferwirral.org/childrens-disability-register

If you have any suggestions/comments regarding the Local Offer or you would like the Local offer to come and support at any events your setting is planning please contact Sally Tittle by phone on 0151 666 4488 or by email sallytittle@wirral.gov.uk



Early Help Team

The Early Help team provides support and early intervention strategies that prevent families going into crisis. The service is made up of a number of partner agencies who work together to respond quickly to a families requirements. Support and advice can be accessed by contacting 0151 666 512.



Training

EYQ offer a tailored made service for a large number of our courses, meaning courses can be delivered at a time and date to suit your setting.

Examples of Training opportunities in 2017/18:

- **Team building ideas for managers:**
Thursday 9th November 1 - 4pm
@ Ganneys Meadow
- **Child-Led Displays - How to value and evidence Childrens Creativity:**
Thursday 30th November 9.30am - 12.30pm @ Ganneys Meadow Nursery School And family Centre
- **Early Phonics - the Next Stage:**
Wednesday 17th January 2018 1 - 4pm
@ Ganneys Meadow Nursery school and Family Centre.

Further details of these and a wide variety of other courses can be found at www.eyqtraining.co.uk

Children's Centres

Copies of the Children's Centre 'what's on' timetables of activities can be accessed through the Wirral Council website: www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres

Celebrations!



Little Cherubs Day Nurseries have won the National Day Nursery Association award for SEND, this is fantastic achievement - congratulations to all involved!

Pictured above: Angela and Wayne (Nursery Owners; Left: Staff team

Outstanding inspections!!

Congratulations to childminder Lisa Baker and to Ganneys Meadow Nursery and Family Centre for both achieving an outstanding Ofsted judgement in recent Inspections



Oakdale Nursery and playgroup took part in Macmillan's biggest coffee morning. the total amount raised was a brilliant £350!!



St. Bridget's Pre-School celebrated their 25th anniversary with a gathering of current and ex pupils attending an open day.

The pre-school has come from small beginnings, 2 staff and 6 pupils in 1992, to now have 38 children on role, 9 staff and a very supportive committee!



The children from St Agnes Pre School Group, Darmonds Green West Kirby enjoy walking down to Ashton Park every Friday morning to play Tennis, Football, Cricket. If it rains they shelter in a special den and even have their own portable toilet tent!

Lucy's Pineapple Fund triumph!

Deb Pink, a local childminder, has been involved with raising money for Lucy Moroney (Lucy's Pineapple Fund).

She has taken part in John Hammond's night run and His Marathon run, the Mersey Tunnel 10K and is leading a cash4clothes fundraiser. So far £1,379 has been raised with cash 4 clothes. If you have any unwanted sheets, clothes, curtains, shoes, coats and bags contact Deb by text if you have any donations on 07970 320 418.



New Brighton Day Nursery held a fund raising event in the summer, for a child attending the setting who has multiple complex needs. Parents, staff and children did a sponsored walk on the coastal path raising a grand sum of £825.00!!



This year is a very special year for Bluebells as it marks 20 years since Helen first opened the nursery in Bebington.

Helen set up the nursery in memory of her late husband Rob Blewett who she sadly lost to cancer. For this reason, to celebrate the 20th year Helen has set the challenge to raise £20000 for Clatterbridge Cancer charity. Helen and her husband Mike have already done the ride of the roses, cycling 50+ miles to start the ball rolling. To read more about Helen's story or if you wish to donate you can visit the just giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bluebells-day-nursery

For the last ten years Daisy & Jake have been sponsoring a nursery in India via a charity called The Tender Heart Foundation.



Some members of staff are to visit in November and have been fund raising to enable them to take resources with them. The first event was a 'Pyjama Day' on Wednesday 13 September where children and staff donated £2 and come to nursery dressed in their PJ's for the day! Another event was held in October with a week long 'Around the World Danceathon' with all the children learning and joining in different dances from countries around the world!

Useful links

- **Wirral Safeguarding Children's Board (WSCB)** - www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk
- **Wirral Families Information Service** 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 www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare