

Welcome to the Early Childhood Service Newsletter for the Spring Term - We hope you are all enjoying the lighter nights! Thank you to all those settings who have provided stories for our "good news/celebrations" section please keep them coming!!

Team updates

Early Childhood Business Support and Quality Improvement

JUST TO REMIND YOU that all childcare provision on the Wirral has the support of a Childcare Quality Improvement and Training officer.

The role primarily is to work with settings judged less than Good and those awaiting first inspection - with the introduction recently of short visits to settings already judged Good or Outstanding. The focus being on those due to be inspected within the current cycle, which ends August 2020. The role will also now have a greater emphasis on training.

QIO's work within allocated localities:

- **Joanne Fahy**
West Wirral
- **Karen Norbury**
Birkenhead District
- **Val Aspinall/Daniel Franklin**
Wallasey District
- **Joanne Gelling/Ellie McMillan**
South Wirral



Pip Lander is now the team leader for the Quality Improvement and Training team, taking over from Sarah Harper, who will continue to oversee the Early Years Business support team.

Peer Review

WIRRAL EARLY YEARS' SERVICE has undergone a Peer review which took place over four days starting on the 25th February.

A peer review is a robust and effective improvement tool managed and delivered by the sector, for the sector. It is not an inspection. Local government leaders and experts, together with key partners – as 'peers' – are at the heart of the process. Peer challenges help councils with their improvement and learning by providing a practitioner perspective and 'critical friend' challenge. The make-up of the peer team will reflect the requirements of the council

receiving the peer challenge.

The peer team explored the effectiveness of local services in improving early outcomes for disadvantaged children at age five, including a particular focus on early language, and identifying opportunities for improvement.

Thank you to those childcare providers who were able to meet with members of our Peer review team. A summary report has been released identifying strengths and areas for consideration, look out for the full report which will be published when it is received.

SEND

Toilet Training: There are some really useful fact sheets and guides to support settings and families when children are having difficulty with potty/toilet training. These can be accessed on the ERIC website: www.eric.org.uk

NASEN: This is the National Association for Special Educational Needs and they provide a wealth of information for Early Years SEND, see www.nasen.org.uk. As a member you can access webcasts, miniguides, CPD materials and their Focus on SEND training package.

Early Years Senco Award: The Early Years SEND Team will be delivering a 12-day training course for Level 3 Senco's from September 2019. Participants will undertake research, reflect on their own practice, network with other Senco's, hear from guest speakers and visit specialist provision. The participants will be expected to undertake assignments to achieve a Level 3 Early Years Senco qualification at the end of the course. Senco's interested in attending the course are required to submit an expression of interest form which has been sent out in the Friday email update.

Transitions to Primary School: If you are supporting a child with SEND who is moving to primary school in September 2019, prepare to support the child's transition by liaising with their allocated school once parents receive their confirmation on 16th April 2019. Ensure you have parental permission to share information with school. A transition meeting with school may be valuable.

If you have a child with physical/medical needs going to primary school who may need continuing support in school, then please liaise with Jayne Catton, specialist teacher for children with physical/medical needs, Tel: 0151 666 4577.

Ofsted and DfE Updates

The consultation relating to the revised Inspection framework has now closed. The results will be published in Summer 2019 for implementation in September 2019.

Training

EYQ training has now closed as of the 31st March. The Wirral Early Years team is currently putting together a training offer for providers. Paediatric first aid training can be accessed through the Red Cross, St John Ambulance or through other companies such as Little Lambs.

National Day Nurseries Association

New online courses for 2019/20 can be accessed at: www.ndna.org.uk/childcare-training?hkey=2ce8b6c0-ca7a-48bd-a6fb-b5a8a7b4a148

Childcare training - New Ofsted Inspection Framework - Are you ready?
Attend NDNA's workshop to understand what the new framework means for your practice.

What will I learn?: NDNA members have raised their concerns about the new Ofsted Inspection framework at recent member events ([read our summary](#)). Our workshop will give you the reassurance and confidence you need for any changes to your practice.

Date: 18 June 2019

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm / 1.30pm-4.30pm

Location: Merseyside Youth Association, 5-67 Hanover St, Liverpool, Merseyside L1 3DY

Cost: £48 for NDNA Members, £64 for Non-members.

Book now - Call 01484 40 70 70 ext 260 or book online: [Morning](#) or [Afternoon](#) workshop.

NDNA Training - training@ndna.org.uk - 01484 407070 ext 260

Local Offer Update



THE LOCAL OFFER website has recently benefited from a fab new look and a much-improved search facility.

We now have enhanced accessibility with the addition of the facility to change font size and background colours. Why not look for yourself? - <https://localofferwirral.org>

There is also new content on the 'Parenting Journey' in the Early Years section well worth a read. <https://localofferwirral.org/before-school/information-for-parents-and-early-years-settings/information-for-parents/>

The numbers of children and young people signed up to the Wirral Children's and Young People's Disability Register

continues to grow. Please make friends and family aware of this voluntary sign up - it's proving to be a very effective tool to report gaps in services and enable us to better meet needs. Here's the link you'll need to find out more <https://localofferwirral.org/childrens-disability-register/>

More good news! The Local Offer lead recently presented to SENCOs from Wirral Nurseries and is working in partnership with over 25 settings who have asked for help getting information and advice out to Parents/Carers. Please feel free to contact Sally Tittle, Local Offer Communications Officer on 666 4488 or by e-mail: sallytittle@wirral.gov.uk

Wirral launches new Early Help partnership model with community organisations

THE COUNCIL'S Early Help and Prevention Service is working with community organisations to deliver early help to families across Wirral who need it most - forming the 'Community Matters Partnership'.

Community Matters will see a new and innovative way of working, with the main goal of helping families and children get the services they need, when they need them.

This new way of working will make it easier for families to access the services if needed, and get straight forward and effective support from one place. The partnership will create a stronger link between council teams and voluntary community groups to deliver effective support.

Seven providers will now work together alongside existing council teams, using a joined-up approach to give families the help they need to improve their daily lives.

Organisations that make up Community Matters include: HomeStart, Wired, North Birkenhead Development Trust, WEB Merseyside, Caritas, Fender Community School and Capacity: The Public Services Lab, who look at developing Wirral's Early Help offer

further to make it more sustainable. With one other provider due to start April 2019, who will focus on supporting the mental health of children or families needing support.

For more information about Community Matters please email: earlyhelpteam@wirral.gcsx.gov.uk or call: 0151 608 6510.

Good News & Celebrations

Outstanding Ofsted Judgements this term

Childminder Rachel Smith has achieved outstanding at her first inspection!!



Celebrations

Jack and Jill nurseries

AFTER WINNING 'Best Staff Development' at the National Nursery Recognition Awards in January the nursery then went on to be named 'Employer of the Month' by GP Strategies in March. They have worked alongside GP Strategies to train many of staff, helping them to progress in their careers.

They have also trained many apprentices, some who have progressed as far as supervisor and manager within the company. Staff are also highly supported in continuous professional development and many have completed leadership qualifications. They believe in investing in staff to provide the best care for our children.



Health Updates 0-19 Team

Lindsey Costello, (Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust)

HELLO ALL, so glad for us to be a part of your regular newsletter. It will be a great opportunity for us to share any key messages and updates and also an opportunity for you to feedback with any items you would like to see featured.

On this first welcome we would like to inform you that there are some discussions being held around the two-year integrated review and some updates should be available for the next newsletter. Within 0-19 we have been offering some Saturday sessions for the 9-12 month development review and the uptake and feedback around these have been really successful. Please let your parents / carers know that they can contact our service if they would like to benefit from a 9-12 month review on a Saturday session.

Public Health England have released updated resources around weaning which are excellent and really visual for use in your settings. This follows information compiled from the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN). There is also a campaign to increase awareness and attendance for Cervical Screening. This allows cervical cancers to be identified and treated and attendance is at a national low at 80% with lowest figures in an important age range of 25-35. if you would like access to these resources for parents and carers please get in touch lindseycostello@nhs.net

Finally we are really keen for all of our local settings to have a link representative from health so that key messages can be circulated and children can be supported in a timely way when required, if you are not aware of your link representative from 0-19 please contact the team for your area team e-mails are wcnt.hwwallasey@nhs.net, wcnt.hvbirkenhead@nhs.net, wcnt.hvsouth@nhs.net and wcnt.hvwest@nhs.net



Lindylou's Childcare

LINDYLOU'S CHILDCARE in Prenton celebrated World book day by reading the Gruffalo book and the Paper Dolls book.

They made a Gruffalo cake, played Gruffalo Dominoes and sorted out smarties into colour order whilst counting them.

We also sliced banana and spread icing on our sponges, while having fun we covered all areas of the EYFS. We read the Paper Dolls book, then coloured in Paper Dolls and guided them in the wind.



Useful links

- **Gov.uk infectious diseases and more:** bit.ly/2qZ8ivS
- **If you have families that may require further support, there are various groups that can be accessed within various Children's Centres throughout Wirral. Copies of the Children's Centre 'What's On' timetables of activities can be accessed through the Wirral Borough Council website:** www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres
- **Wirral Safeguarding Board:** www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk - This website has been designed to support all those who live and work in Wirral to safeguard and protect all our residents.