

July 2014

The Early Years Network News

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the Summer 2014 edition of Network News. We had a very impressive attendance at the Summer term network meetings. Thank you to all those who came along.

We also welcomed colleagues from the following teams who attended some meetings across the city:

- Family Information Service
- University of Brighton
- Pre-school Special Educational Needs Service
- Ethnic Minority Achievement Service
- Children's Centre team talking about Triple P
- the Local Authority Designated Officer, Darrel Clews
- Early Childhood Project

Along with updates and information sharing, we still managed to have time at most meetings for people to talk informally, exchange contact details and top tips. The key matters discussed are included in this newsletter.

Next meeting

The Autumn 2014 network meeting will be a city-wide morning at Hove Town Hall on Wednesday 22nd October, where the main focus will be the new Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, or 'MASH'. Please book your place after 10th July via <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/working-childcare/ceyc-training-early-years-and-childcare-providers>

Wishing you a happy, sunny summer!

Helen Beaumont

Early Years Consultant, Team Leader



Early Years Team

Don't miss out! Free Support and challenge options for Autumn 2014 from the Early Years Team

We are delighted to still be able to offer a range of options to all settings, to support high quality practice in the EYFS.

Quality marks remain very popular, and remain a tried and trusted way to ensure that your continuous reflection is purposeful, effective and shared by the whole team. Please choose the option that best suits your needs, and contact any member of the team if you would like to know more.

- QuILT – choose any of the following, which can be done in any order: Aims, Value and Principles, Equal Opportunities, Learning and Teaching Strategies, Observation, Assessment and Planning, Parental Partnership, Home and Community Liaison, Relationships and Interaction, Staffing, The Learning Experiences, The Physical Environment
- QuILT Tailored for Twos
- QuILT Gold – action research for experienced QuILT-ers
- Healthy Early Years – Healthy Eating module. See course brochure for Autumn 2014. A small charge applies for course attendance.
- NEW Brighton and Hove Equalities quality mark, See course brochure for Autumn 2014 or contact Meeta Johnson.
- I-CAN speech, language and communication quality mark. Please contact Lorna Cadwallader at PRESENS if you are interested in this.

We can also offer a range of other 'stand-alone' support and challenge options to suit your requirements, including

- support for new managers,
- the EYFS welfare requirements
- safeguarding audit and support
- best practice in the EYFS areas of learning (communication and language, physical development, personal, social and emotional development, literacy, mathematics, understanding the world, expressive arts and design)
- promoting positive behavior
- preparation for Ofsted
- developing the outdoor environment.



If you haven't already done so, please contact myself or any member of the Early Years Team to let us know how we can support you. Our diaries are filling up, so please let us know as soon as you can. Please see the back of this newsletter for our contact details.

Share your good news!

Please let us know your successes, large or small. If you have introduced some exciting resources, held events or done some activities that you'd like to share, for instance following the maths conference or when celebrating International Mud Day, please let us know. We still have some small maths-related gifts available for your setting if your success follows the conference. Clayre Morris is the contact for this.

Ofsted

We have had a number of recent Ofsted inspections locally, which are all available via a search on the website <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report>

A summary sheet of recent key points from published reports is available on request from any member of the Early Years team.

National Ofsted news

The inspection system for early years remains a hot topic of conversation! For details of some of the issues being raised with senior Ofsted personnel see the following links. info@thebigofstedconversation.co.uk #Ofstedbigconversation

Nursery World is also a great source of up to date information
<http://www.nurseryworld.co.uk/>

'School readiness' leaflets

The equally hot topic of 'school readiness' continues to be a debatable issue. Some useful leaflets are available here www.naht.org.uk or www.family-action.org.uk. See the training guide for information on a new course coming up on the subject.

Early Years Foundation Stage Forum

Don't forget that all practitioners in Brighton and Hove settings have free access to the Early Years Foundation Stage Forum. Contact the forum on sue@eyfs.info if you need information on how to access the full forum pages. The forum also hosts the Tapestry online learning journal system, as well as the EYPS forum.



The Revised Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

This document becomes effective from September 2014, available here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework>

Attendees at the network meetings agreed that they would, in fact, maintain, and possibly strengthen, Behaviour and Equal Opportunity policies, which is in line with several contributors to discussion at Nursery World. As the Statutory Guidance becomes ever more slimmed down, it's worth remembering the other legislation underpinning EYFS. Please ask a member of the team if you would like a summary of other legislation.

Workforce Development

We have a few places left on the following course:

Practitioners on film 17 July.

Please see www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/childcaretraining for further details and bookings.

The new training guide for the autumn term is now online and was sent out to settings week commencing 30 June.

Our next bursary window will open in the week commencing 14 July so look out for details nearer the time.

New Courses at the University of Brighton

The School of Education at the University of Brighton is offering a range of courses, from undergraduate level through to postgraduate study, within the field of early childhood education and care.

1. BA (hons) Early Childhood Practice

This new course builds on the success of our previous Foundation Degree Early Years Care and Education. It provides you with the opportunity to study while you work, bringing together practice, theory, current research and policy, supporting you in building your career in Early Childhood, as you work towards a professionally recognised qualification.

The BA (Hons) Early Childhood Practice comprises a four year part-time work-based programme. However, you may choose to conclude your studies earlier than the normal full four years and be awarded a Diploma in Higher Education or a non-honours degree. The course content builds on the NCTL's Early Years



Educator Criteria and provides a foundation for further professional and academic development towards the Teachers Standards (both Early Years and QTS). This content will include subjects such as children's development, pedagogical practices and the adult role, play as a developmental learning process, and communication, language and literacy development. The programme continues, exploring such themes as safeguarding and wellbeing, assessment, families in communities, and equalities and inclusion.

For more information please contact us:

Phone: 01273 643313

Email: soeccpd@brighton.ac.uk

2. Early Years Initial Teacher Training (EY ITT)

Early Years Initial Teacher Training leads to the award of Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS). Early Years Teacher Status is a professional status for practitioners working with children aged 0-5. Early Years Teachers are graduate-level practitioners who recognise their role in improving the experiences and life-chances of children. Early years teachers are specialists in early childhood development, trained to work with babies and young children from birth to 5. From September 2014 the University of Brighton will be offering the Graduate Entry Employment Based route to EYTS. This is a 12 month, part-time programme for graduates employed in early years settings who require training and further experience to demonstrate the Teachers' Standards (Early Years). EY ITT is fully funded and includes an employer incentive of £7000 to support the trainee to complete the pathway.

For more information please contact us:

Phone: 01273-641931

Email: h.l.mclaren@brighton.ac.uk

3. MA Education (Early Childhood)

The Education (Early Childhood) MA is designed for early years professionals who wish to further develop their knowledge in the field and formalise this learning with a postgraduate qualification. The course includes a blend of contact with tutors through taught sessions as well as online learning and face to face tutorials. It has a flexible framework that combines academic study with work-based learning and action research that enables you to combine day-to-day professional activity with masters' level thinking and research.

For more information please contact:

Denise Kingston, Route Leader, MA Education (Early Childhood)

Email: d.j.kingston@brighton.ac.uk



PRESENS

The new SEND Code of Practice has been agreed and will come into force in Sept 2014. It is online and downloadable at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations.

PRESENS will be running some SENCO network events to support settings with implementing it. The first of these will be on the 2nd July at Hove cricket ground. Phone PRESENS 01273 294944 to book a place.

PRESENS are also starting a support group for parents who have children with SEN.

There will be a taster session with goody bags and cream tea on the 14th July 12.30-2.30pm at the Jeanne Saunders Centre. Places are bookable and fliers are going out.

Please mention to parents – this is a time for parents to make friends with each other and support will be available from Face to Face parent supporters. The group will officially be launched on the Monday 29th Sept 14 at JSC.

EMAS

Everyone is busy passing on transition information at the moment. Please make sure you include information about a child with EAL's development in all languages spoken. There will be lots of information in the bilingual assistant record books about a child's language development in their mother tongue. Give EMAS a call if you have any questions.

EMAS are running 2 courses in the Autumn term. There is our general course: 'Supporting Children with EAL' and 'SEN or EAL?', a new course this year where we looked at observing children and planning their next steps.

EMAS will also be starting our persona dolls network where practitioners who have had the training can come and receive updates, network and continue to borrow our dolls.

EMAS have been advising settings on good apps for the iPads and you may have had a bilingual assistant using an iPad with their children to develop their language and self-esteem. At the network meeting we talked about our stringent iPad policy that all BLAs and EMAS staff have signed.



Do let EMAS know of any children you know who will be starting with you in September who you would like to refer for bilingual assistant. As a reminder, the languages supported are:

Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Mandarin, Polish, Hungarian, Czech, Slovakian, Amharic, Oromiffa, Thai, Turkish, Russian, Pashto, Urdu, Portuguese, Romanian and Farsi

There is home liaison in Arabic, Polish, Pashto, Chinese and Oromiffa/Amharic.

A Triple P course is running in Arabic.

Family Information Service **Free childcare for two year olds update**

From September this year, the number of two year olds who are eligible for a free place will double to over 1,000. This is because parents who are working, earning less than £16,190 a year and who are in receipt of Working Tax Credits will become eligible. Currently, around 90% of eligible two year olds in Brighton & Hove have taken up their childcare place.

Research shows that 40% of children who are eligible under the Working Tax Credit criteria are already in childcare. If you have any children in your setting who you think might be eligible, please encourage their parents to apply. Full information about the scheme and an online application form can be found at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/twos

If you would like copies of the free childcare for two year olds leaflet email familyinfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk to request copies.

Would you like to offer free childcare for two year olds?

If you would like to find out more about the scheme and submit an expression of interest, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk and type *information for childcare providers* in the search box. Alternatively, email vicky.jenkins@brighton-hove.gov.uk or call her on 01273 296110.

Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board

Our latest Newsletter is now online. This month features learning from national SCRs, details of our latest SCR Seminar & a roundup of the LSCB Training Programme, a feature on Prebirth Assessments and a focus on fathers.



In honour of Carers Week in June we got together with the Young Carers Project in Brighton & Hove LSCB to produce a special Young Carers Bulletin to raise awareness of the challenges they face and provide professionals with information to how they can support them.

This May we held our first Interagency Forum with the Violence against Women & Girls Programme Board, focusing on Female Genital Mutilation. Our Multi Agency FGM Resource Pack is now available to guide for anyone working with women girls and families in Brighton & Hove.

Please share these publications widely with your team & colleagues. If you have any feedback, or would like to suggest content for future issues please email LSCB@Brighton-Hove.gov.uk

The following settings sent representatives to the network meetings:

Amigos	Orchard Day Nursery
Boomerang Kids	Playtime under 5s
Bright Start	Puffin
BUCFP Playroom	Robins
Butterfly	Roundabout
Cherry Tree	See Saw
Early Explorers	Southern Cross
Footsteps	St Andrews Pre-school
Footsteps – Portslade	St Anthony’s Pre-school
Funland	St Lukes Pre-school
Gingerbread	Stepping Stones
Honeycroft	Strawberry Hill
Joyland	Sun Valley
Kipling Lions	Tarnerland
Little Angels	Teddy Bears
New Road Montessori	Toybox

Apologies if your setting has been missed off the list.

OFSTED Inspections – congratulations

The following settings have been awarded ‘outstanding’ at their Ofsted inspection

- Joyland (March 14)
- Cbabiesafe (May 14)



Useful numbers and contact details:

Early Years Team For advice and support on the Early Years Foundation Stage including teaching, assessment, welfare, safeguarding and Ofsted requirements.	01273 293645
Helen Beaumont (Early Years Consultant, Team Leader) helen.beaumont@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 293655
Alison Featherbe (Early Years Development Officer) alison.featherbe@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 290526
Angie Casey (Early Years Development Officer) angie.casey@brighton-hove.gov.uk (from Sept 2014)	01273 292732
Clayre Morris (Early Years Consultant) clayre.morris@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294215
Gill Nicholls (Early Years Consultant) gill.nicholls@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294258
Jane Campbell (Early Years Consultant) jane.campbell@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294350
Julie Sarker (Early Years Consultant) julie.sarker@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294257
Meeta Johnson (Early Years Consultant) meeta.johnson@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	01273 294257
Nicola Lacey (Early Years Development Officer) nicola.lacey@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294926
Stella Skinner (Early Years Consultant) stella.skinner@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294350
Vicki Smith (Early Years Development Officer) vicki.l.smith@brighton-hove.gov.uk	01273 294160



Safeguarding

Darrel Clews (Local Authority Designated Officer- LADO)
Advice, Contact and Assessment Service (ACAS)

01273 295643

01273 295920

Presens

For advice and support to settings with children who have special needs

01273 294944

presens@brighton-hove.gov.uk

EMAS

For advice and support to settings with bilingual children

01273 294437

emasadmin@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Finance

For information and advice on the administration of the Early Years Entitlement

01273 293690

Childcare Recruitment and Childcare Workforce Development Team (CEYC training)

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/childcare-providers

Family Information Service

Information about finding childcare, promoting your setting,

01273 293545

FamilyInfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk

OFSTED

0300 123 1231

www.ofsted.gov.uk

Early Childhood Project (www.ecpuk.org)

01273 294105

Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA)

07717 367792

Library Service (Bookstart)

01273 296981

bookstart@brighton-hove.gov.uk



**The Autumn 2014 network meeting will
be a city-wide morning
at
Hove Town Hall on
Wednesday 22nd October**

(details of how to book can be found on Page 1 of this newsletter)

Please come along and take part in the discussions.

We look forward to seeing you there!