

Early Years' SENDCo Newsletter

Termly Bulletin

Autumn 2019

What's New?

- **Education Inspection Framework**
- The new Ofsted framework is underway. What does it say regarding SEND? Within the Early Years Inspection Handbook, it states that the Inspectors will consider:

The extent to which the curriculum and care practices that the setting provides meet the needs of the range of children who attend, particularly children with SEND (p29)

Outstanding judgement –
Children with SEND achieve the best possible outcomes (p32)

Good judgement - INTENT –The provider has the same ambitions for almost all children. For children with particular needs, such as those with high levels of SEND, their curriculum is still ambitious and meets their needs. P33

- **Inclusion Funding Requests –**
Most of you have completed and submitted the new funding request forms. Feedback from the funding panel is that overall the information provided is very comprehensive and helpful. However, please remember to complete all the relevant sections including:
 - The term you want to start funding
 - Manager's signature
 - Child's current level of learning
 - Agencies involved

Welcome to our second newsletter aimed at providing information for all of our SENDCos working within the Early Years Foundation Stage!

Top Tips for supporting parents of children with SEND – choosing a school:

This is the time when parents are considering which schools they may apply to for a place for their child. When the child has SEND, do parents feel confident to know which questions to ask? Here are a few questions that you might want to share with parents to support them at this time:

- What is the likely class size? Are the classes mixed age?
- What will the staffing ratios be? Will there be a full time teaching assistant in the class?
- Will my child have additional support? (Dependent on need)
- What are your plans for transition? Will you meet with the Pre-school staff to discuss my child's needs and to find out about strategies they use to support them?
- Look and ask about the security of the indoor and outdoor areas. A parent may want to see the Health and Safety Policy.
- Where are the toilets situated in relation to the classroom? Will an adult be able to support my child with toileting? Could I see your Intimate Care Policy?
- My child takes medication - who would support this?
- How would you support my child to make friends?
- Do you use Makaton?

When making the appointment it would be useful for parents to ask to meet with the SENDCo as part of the visit.

Find out more about... The Early Years Complex Needs Service (EYCN)

The Early Years Complex Needs Service (EYCN) service (formerly the Portage Service) will on behalf of Devon County Council, provide equitable services to ensure that preschool children with significant and complex needs and disabilities have their educational needs met at home, within the Early Years settings and in their transition to statutory schooling, where appropriate.

The service will provide qualified teachers, specialising in early years special educational needs to be responsible for the quality of educational provision through the management and leadership of the EYCN Service. The service is registered with the National Portage Association (NPA), which is recognised as an early intervention home visiting service for children with significant and complex needs aged 0-5 and their families. For further details follow the link below.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/special-educational-needs-and-disability-send-local-offer/early-years/early-years-specialist-support>

Useful Websites

For ideas to support communication and language development

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/>

<http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk/>

<http://www.ican.org.uk/>



The Communication Trust
Every child understood

Find us on Facebook:

Babcock LDP Early Years

Follow us on Twitter...

@LDPEarlyYears

Conferences and Training

Pedreactic Bladder and Bowel Care Service Training and Education.

A "Train the Trainer" Programme.

Coming January 2020

Here are some of the courses you may want to consider attending:

Positive Behaviour Management

AET Tier 2 and Tier 3 Training

Closing the Word Gap in Early Years

Developing Practice to Support Communication and Language

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

Nursery Plus referrals – The next deadline date for referrals is 29th November 2019. Please note that if you are unsure whether the child meets the criteria (from either group) you should ask your early consultant for advice.

Remember to state whether the child you are referring is group A or group B. Here is the essential criteria. You can see additional criteria on the referral form.

Group A

<u>Group A</u> The child should meet ALL criteria:
The child is less than 12 months delayed in more than one aspect of the Prime Areas of the EYFS.
There is evidence that the child is making progress, but this is currently not sufficient to catch up with their peers.
The child does not need a multi-disciplinary assessment

Group B

<u>Group B</u> The child MUST meet the Essential Criteria <u>and</u> at least one other criteria – see referral form
ESSENTIAL CRITERIA
The child should be no more than 2 years delayed in any of the Prime areas; the child will be LESS than 2 years delayed in more than one aspect of the prime areas of the EYFS. (Children who are 2 years or more delayed may be supported through specialist services – please contact your EYC if you feel a child is more than 2 years delayed and no other services are involved)
The child is likely to attend a mainstream school

Remember to take care of yourself:

Being a SENDCo is a fulfilling role, but it can be a challenging. This *could* have a detrimental effect on your wellbeing. Here are some tips which may help with this:

- Make sure you talk to others about the challenges of your role and gain support from your manager (if this is not you as well!), your colleagues and/or your EYC. If you are finding things difficult, just talking about it and getting this off your chest can make a huge impact on how you feel.
 - Find a way that works for you to switch off and unwind regularly. It is really important to get your mind off work. It is better to do this regularly for a short time (even 5 or 10 minutes), which is also more manageable too! E.g. walking, deep breathing, a bath, listening to music, reading a book for pleasure (not work related), stretching, etc. If you take a break you will probably find you are more productive afterwards as well.
-