

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Project fund to support disadvantaged children in the early years

The Department for Education (DfE) is funding a £6.5 million scheme to support projects that help disadvantaged families and children with additional needs, building on the free childcare offer already available to the most deprived two-year-olds.

Voluntary and community groups will get a share of the multi-million pound fund to run these projects. Winning projects will be announced shortly and go live in October, running until 2020. Possible bid areas for the funding include home visits from trained early years professionals, to help parents support their children in learning new words through simple steps like reading and singing nursery rhymes. More information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-fund-to-support-disadvantaged-children-in-the-early-years>.

Source: Early Childhood Unit (ECU) Bulletin, July 2018.

### Road Safety Week 2018

Educators are being encouraged to register for UK Road Safety Week 2018 (19-25 November) at [www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/educators](http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/educators). Coordinated by charity Brake, the week is a great opportunity to engage children of all ages with road safety by using free resources (available from September) on this year's theme *Bike Safe*.

### Extended Entitlement – DfE evaluation and Parent Survey follow-up

Two reports have been published in the last few weeks:

- Evaluation of the first year of national rollout of 30 hours free childcare:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/30-hours-free-childcare-final-evaluation-of-the-national-rollout>
- Follow-up survey to the 2017 Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents (CEYSP):  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childcare-and-early-years-survey-of-parents-2017-follow-up-survey>

The Department for Education (DfE) has also published experimental statistics on the use of 30 hours free childcare from April to August 2018. Main points:

- Around 339,974 children were in a 30 hours place during the summer term;
- The total number of children in a 30 hours place is equal to 90% of the eligibility codes issued to parents for the summer term.

Source: Early Childhood Unit (ECU) Bulletin, July 2018. More information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/take-up-of-free-early-education-entitlements>.

## DfE Research – Early education and outcomes to age 4

A further research report has been published on the impact of early education at ages 2 to 4 on child outcomes at age 4, and the importance of the early years home environment. This research is part of the longitudinal study of early education and development (SEED). The report addresses 3 main objectives:

- to study the associations between the amount of differing types of early childhood education and care (ECEC) that children receive aged 2 to 4 years and child development at age 4
- to investigate the relevance of the home environment and the quality of the parent to child relationship on child development at age 4
- to study the associations between the quality of the ECEC settings that children have attended and child development at age 4

### Source:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/738725/SEED\\_Impact\\_Age\\_4\\_Report\\_September\\_2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/738725/SEED_Impact_Age_4_Report_September_2018.pdf).

## LOCAL NEWS

### Extended hours for foster carers

From September 2018, children in foster care (aged 3 & 4) are entitled to apply for 30 hours funded childcare, giving foster families the same support as other families.

#### Eligibility criteria:

- Extended hours are integral to the child's care plan
- AND Where there is a single foster parent family, the foster parent is engaged in paid work outside their role as a foster parent
- OR Where there are two foster parents in the same fostering household, both are engaging in paid work outside their role as a foster parent.

To apply for extended entitlement, the family must first contact their social worker. If it is agreed that the additional childcare is in the best interest of the child and is consistent with the child's plan, the social worker will provide the application form. The social care team will then check and sign off the application and send it to the Education Welfare Benefits team who will issue the code for the foster carer to take to the childcare provider.

### Fees and wages survey for all Cambridgeshire providers

We are updating the 2014 fees and wages survey in order to provide a more up to date comparison.

We can only do this with your input and ask that you complete the survey. **You can access the survey via this link:** <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TPFA4/>.

It will only take a couple of minutes and will provide valuable information which can then be shared county wide and uploaded onto the Cambridgeshire Learn Together page.

The survey deadline is 1 November 2018 to be published in January 2019.

## **SENCo Refresher Network & Briefing sessions – positive feedback!**

The network & briefing sessions are designed to provide setting SENCos with up to date news and information regarding SEND in the early years. Setting SENCOs have told us that they value the opportunity to attend these sessions annually and they like the new format. If you have any further feedback about these sessions or topics that you would like us to cover in the future please feel free to get in touch.

## **SEND Surgeries – Telephone Consultations coming soon!**

### **Look out for the SEND Surgery Flyers!**

The Quality Assurance Team continues to offer regular SEND Surgery sessions for Setting SENCOs. These are **FREE** for all settings (both members and non-members). The aim of the surgery sessions is to support the early identification of children who may have **emerging needs** and how best to meet the child's individual needs within the setting.

**IT MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT SEND SURGERY.** If it is felt that the child may be at risk of further delay if action is not taken quickly then the Setting SENCo should continue to liaise with the child's parents/carers, implement the Assess, Plan, Do, Review Cycle and seek involvement from other agencies where appropriate (Early Years Advisers can provide guidance and signpost to other services)

## ***Reflecting Cambridgeshire's priority to Accelerate Achievement in Speech, Language and Communication...***

## **Speech and Language Services coming to you**

Our colleagues in the Speech and Language Services within Health have developed a brand new offer for early years group settings. This includes a range of universal and targeted services to support you to in working with individual children to improve their speech and language and identify needs effectively.

A series of 14 information sessions will be offered across the county over this term, at the following venues:

- Oak Tree Centre Huntingdon (Huntingdonshire settings)
- Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely and the New Horsefair Clinic Wisbech (East Cambridgeshire and Fenland settings)
- The Peacock Centre and Chesterton Medical Centre, Cambridge (Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire settings)

They start soon, so look out for your local flyer with dates and a booking link.

## **Talking Together in Cambridgeshire**

We are delighted to announce that the following projects have received grant funding awards from Talking Together in Cambridgeshire.

## **Helping Adults Learn to Read - Read Easy Cambridge**

Read Easy will recruit & train 24 volunteer coaches from across NE Cambridge City to support adults from our project reach area who want to learn to read on a one to one basis. The Read Easy team will also visit each new Reading Pair once a month & hold a get together for volunteer coaches four times a year.

## **Talking Together - The Kings Hedges Family Support Project (KHFSP), Playlanders Playgroup & The Meadows Children & Family Wing**

KHFSP will be collaborating with Playlanders Playgroup & The Meadows Children & Family Wing to develop a series of borrowing boxes containing story sacks, puppets, story cards & books. The boxes will be managed by parent volunteers and shared with families attending groups run by the project team in NE Cambridge City. Storytelling workshops for staff & parents will also be provided so that methods of reading & talking about stories with children can be modelled, embedding knowledge about how to support children's early communication & language skills.

## **The Travelling Book Nook - Huntingdon Community Action Projects**

Huntingdon Community Action Projects will visit five established voluntary community groups based in Huntingdon on a weekly basis to provide relaxed & fun picture book-based activities for parents & young children. The project aims to develop parents' knowledge of, & enthusiasm for picture books; developing a deeper understanding of how these can be shared with children using the principles of serve & return. Once established, the team intends to work in partnership with Hinchingsbrooke Park to run two story sessions from the park.

## **Early Years Treasure Chest - Ramsey Rural Museum**

Ramsey Rural Museum will create a Treasure Chest loan box specifically aimed at children aged 0-5. The box will contain artefacts from across the museum & a set of tools for children to investigate the novel objects at close quarters. The objects will be specifically chosen for children to handle & examine with a magnifying glass, shine a torch on it, etc. The box will be taken into early years settings & childminders across March, Chatteris & Huntingdon. Museum staff will also provide each setting visited with a photo storybook to keep, share & talk about together.

## **Literacy Treasures from Parson Drove Pre-school**

Parson Drove Pre-school will collaborate with a number of other pre-schools (Murrow, Stepping Stones, Gorefield & Wisbech St Mary) and Ladybird Day Nursery to raise awareness of the importance of good quality interactions with children. This work will involve staff training in the delivery of Helicopter Stories and the ICAN Early Talk Boost course. Settings will encourage local communities to get involved with communication & literacy development through projects & workshops for families that attend the settings.

## **Team Talk from Cambridge United Community Trust**

Team Talk is based on a series of six interactive sessions designed to provide parents with opportunities to share books with their children. While guidance on how to maximise the benefits of shared reading will be available from staff, parents will also be given the opportunity to share their tips for shared reading. The sessions will be incorporated into the framework of the existing Baby & Toddler groups run from the Abbey Stadium on a fortnightly basis. A small-scale library will run alongside which will be available to those accessing the group.

We are very excited about these projects and look forward to working with each of them in communities across our reach area. If you'd like to get involved with any of the projects mentioned above, please let us know.

If you have any questions about our project, or you'd like to know more, please do contact us via [community.literacy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:community.literacy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or 01223 699671.

## *Reflecting Cambridgeshire's priority to promote School Readiness and partnership working...*

### **Peer review praises energy and commitment of the sector**

During July 2018, a wide range of teams and providers from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough council areas supported a major external review of how early years provision supports “social mobility”.

The review was led by the Local Government Association, and was part of a national pilot scheme to explore how early years provision supports children to fulfil their potential. Review team members, drawn from senior early years leaders in other parts of the country, were impressed with the passion and energy of all partners to work together to improve outcomes for children.

Further details about the review can be found [here](#).  
More work is scheduled to take forward the actions from the review.

### **Just Play Conference 2018**

**Do you work with school-aged children (5 – 11 years) and struggle with ways to meet their play needs or ideas how to spark play?**

Our Just Play Conference is perfect to motivate yourself and your assistants to empower children to engage in fun play, utilising their environment whilst engaging in risk and challenge.

We are pleased to announce the keynote speaker, Meynell Walter. He will explore the different professions across the childcare sector and how they link with playwork practice. Meynell runs the National Playwork Conference and is an internationally respected speaker.

This year we have a new look to the conference

- Registration
- Playtime
- Refreshments
- Keynote – Meynell Walter
- Lunch
- Workshops

To book your place and for more information, visit: <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years/conferences-and-events/just-play/>.

### **Wanted: your good news stories**

We are keen to promote good news from the sector, both in our news publications and more widely through the County Council website and social media channels.

If you have a big celebration or a special event, do get in touch via [eycinfo@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:eycinfo@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) and we will do our best to share your good news with the wider world!

## Forest School Events

### - *Autumn Network*

Termly Forest School Network evenings are held at various locations across Cambridgeshire, giving all those who have an interest in Forest School the opportunity to share good practice. The next Forest School Network is on **Tuesday 25 September 2018**. For more information and to book, click here: <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years/forest-school/forest-school-network/>.

### - *Enhancing Your Skills day*

Following the success of our Summer term event, the next Forest School Skills day will be held on **Wednesday 17 October 2018**, in Forest Owls Woodland, Ellington. This is an opportunity to link with like-minded people and build upon Forest School skills and ethos. Book your place here: <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years/forest-school/>.

## Forest School Conference 2019

Our Forest School Conference on 27 April 2019 is now open for bookings! To secure your place, visit our Conference page at <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years/conferences-and-events/forest-school-conference/>.

We are pleased to announce our keynote speaker Lily Horseman, who will focus on '**How does the ethos of Forest School impact on the day to day delivery**'.

Our range of workshops are:

- Play in nature and the nature of play – Lily Horseman (Kindling and Chair of FSA)
- A sharp knife is a safe knife – Carol Middleton (huathe)
- Muddy Music: bringing songs and rhythms to Forest School – Elizabeth Swift (huathe)
- Building nature connection with sensory games – Ian Henderson (Forest School Adventures)

# What about me?

## Making playwork work for the under 6s

### East Cambs & Fenland Playwork Network

The network is for playleaders, playworkers, committee members and owners and will focus on the unique support needs of out of school clubs and holiday schemes.



Please join us at The Shade School  
The Shade,  
Soham,  
Ely  
Cambridgeshire,  
CB7 5DE



**On Tuesday 9 October 2018, 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm**

- Come, have a cuppa and talk to like-minded people who understand what it is like to be involved in out of school provision
- Early Years and Childcare Inclusion Advisers will share local and national updates to ensure that you are informed of any changes
- Be ready to share your queries and concerns, e.g. if you're concerned about your reflective practice or policies bring them with you so we can support
- Share ideas about resources and low cost activities

### **This term's focus is 'What about me?'**

We will be focusing on how we can ensure that children still in the Early Years Foundation Stage are having their needs fully met within our Out of School Club Provision.

### **Cost**

OSC and Holiday Club Members – No charge  
SC and Holiday Club Non Members - £20

**Places are limited - book your place now online at:**

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years-workforce-development-and-training-1/>



## Forest School Qualifications Training 2018-2019



Cambridgeshire County Council are pleased to be working in partnership with *huathe* to offer both Level 2 Forest School Assistant and Level 3 Forest School Leader Qualifications.

The delivery of qualifications is a mix of theory and practical activity. All qualifications are accredited by the Open College Network.

Course	Dates	Venue	Cost
<b>Level 3 - Autumn Term</b>	25 – 28 October 2018 8 – 10 November 2018 10 and 11 May 2019	Somersham PE28 3HE Local Nature Reserve and Victory Hall	£920
<b>First Aid</b>	1 and 2 December 2019		£110
<b>Level 2 - Spring Term</b>	14 – 16 March 2019 29 and 30 March 2019 5 July 2019	TBC	£450
<b>Level 3 - Summer Term</b>	16 – 19 May 2019 6 – 8 June 2019 15 and 16 November 2019	TBC	£920
<b>First Aid</b>	15 and 16 June 2019		£110
<b>Level 2 - Summer Term</b>	12 – 16 June 2019 16 October 2019	TBC	£450

Further information available at <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/early-years/forest-school/forest-school-qualifications-training/>

*Huathe* works in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council

## Designated Person for LAC (Early Years)

An opportunity for Designated Persons in Early Years settings to examine the role; to look at the legal framework, statutory guidance and Ofsted expectations. There will be an opportunity to look at the ePEP and consider best practice in pupil premium plus spending. An overview of attachment difficulties will be shared.

15 October 2018 9:30am-2:30pm  
Hemingford Golf and Conference Centre, PE28 9HQ

**OR**

13 March 2019 9:30am-2:30pm  
CPDC, CB2 9NL

**OR**

6 June 2019 9:30am-2:30pm  
Boathouse Business Centre, Wisbech, PE13 3BH

**Please bring your own lunch**

**This training is FREE OF CHARGE**

**Book your place now**

To book please visit **the Virtual School page Learn Together website:**  
<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/school-improvement/virtual-school/>

# Supporting the Education of Children with FASD in schools

- To develop awareness of FASD
- To explain the impact of FASD on learning and development
- To offer practical strategies to support children with FASD in schools

10 January 2019 10:00am-12:30pm  
Hemingford Golf and Conference Centre, Huntingdon, PE28 9HQ

*This course is aimed at SENCOs, teachers and teaching assistants. It is particularly relevant for looked after children, children with an FASD diagnosis and children with suspected FASD.*

**This training is FREE OF CHARGE**

## Book your place now

To book your place please visit **Virtual School page on Learn Together**  
<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/school-improvement/virtual-school/>

Scroll down the page to access the Online Booking System.

## Designated Person for post-LAC Training

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 requires maintained schools to designate a member of staff as having responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of post-LAC.

This course is an opportunity for designated persons to examine the role, to consider issues and difficulties which may impact on learning and behaviour and to become familiar with strategies and pathways of support.

*This course is a repeat of the training which took place in the 2017-2018 following a high level of demand. Attendees from these sessions commented:*

*'Huge amounts of useful information. My knowledge went from zero to feeling confident and well aware of the role.'*

*'Really clear explanation of background to difficulties, challenges faced and suggestions for how to meet them.'*

*'Exceptionally clear and helpful.' 'Great signposts to resources.'*

*'A comprehensive overview of Post-LAC issues and the importance of raising awareness and developing skills in all staff. Raising Post-LAC issues as whole school ones – very important.'*

20 November 2018 9:30am - 12:30pm

CPDC, CB2 9NL

**OR**

20 March 2019 9:30am - 12:30pm

Hemingford Golf and Conference Centre, PE28 9HQ

**OR**

18 June 2019 9:30am - 12:30pm

Boathouse Business Centre, Wisbech, PE13 3BH

**This training is FREE OF CHARGE**

### Book your place now

To book your place please visit [Virtual School page on Learn Together](https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/school-improvement/virtual-school/)  
<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/school-improvement/virtual-school/>

Scroll down the page to access the Online Booking System.

## **Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Information Session**

Cambridge & Peterborough Speech and Language Therapy would like to invite you to attend a free 2 hour training session.

The training will cover:

- Early speech and language development stages
- When to be concerned & how to refer to speech and language therapy
- What to do!

The training sessions will be running at different locations and dates across the county and your local sessions are listed below:

- Monday 29 October 9.30 – 11.30am, The Peacock Centre, Brookfields Hospital
- Tuesday 6 November 9.30 – 11.30am, Chesterton Medical Centre
- Wednesday 7 November 1pm – 3pm, The Peacock Centre, Brookfields Hospital
- Friday 9 November 9.30 – 11.30am, Chesterton Medical Centre
- Monday 3 December 9.30 – 11.30am, Chesterton Medical Centre

The training session will be open to all SENCo's as the session contains vital information about significant changes in the way you make referrals to us. We also feel that some of the information shared would be beneficial for other early years practitioners and we therefore welcome you to bring another member of staff with you.

**To book your free place, please follow the links below:**

**For The Peacock Centre:**

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-information-session-peacock-centre-cambridge-tickets-50275501378](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-information-session-peacock-centre-cambridge-tickets-50275501378)

**For Chesterton Medical Centre:**

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-chesterton-tickets-50527867211](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-chesterton-tickets-50527867211)

**The places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment**

Relevant to early years group settings



**Speech and Language Therapy Service**  
The Peacock Centre  
Brookfields Hospital  
351 Mill Road  
Cambridge  
CB1 3DF

Reception Tel: 01223 218060  
Direct Tel: 01223 218063

Website: [www.slc.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](http://www.slc.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk)

## **Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Information Session**

Cambridge & Peterborough Speech and Language Therapy would like to invite you to attend a free 2 hour training session.

The training will cover:

- Early speech and language development stages
- When to be concerned & how to refer to speech and language therapy
- What to do!

The training sessions will be running at different locations and dates across the county and your local sessions are listed below:

- Tuesday 9 October 10am - 12.00pm, Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely.
- Monday 15 October 3pm - 5pm, Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely.

The training session will be open to all SENCo's as the session contains vital information about significant changes in the way you make referrals to us. We also feel that some of the information shared would be beneficial for other early years practitioners and we therefore welcome you to bring another member of staff with you.

**To book your free place, please follow the link below:**

**[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-information-session-ely-tickets-50273859467](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-information-session-ely-tickets-50273859467)**

**The places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment**

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust: delivering excellence in children and young people's health services

## **Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Information Session**

Cambridge & Peterborough Speech and Language Therapy would like to invite you to attend a free 2 hour training session

The training will cover:

- Early speech and language development stages
- When to be concerned & how to refer to speech and language therapy
- What to do!

The training sessions will be running at different locations and dates across the county and your local sessions are listed below:

- Wednesday 10 October 9.30 - 11.30am - Oak Tree Centre, Huntingdon
- Monday 29 October 1-3pm – Oak Tree Centre, Huntingdon
- Friday 16 November 9.30 – 11.30am – Oak Tree Centre, Huntingdon
- Friday 23 November 9.30 – 11.30am – Oak Tree Centre, Huntingdon

The training session will be open to all SENCo's as the session contains vital information about significant changes in the way you make referrals to us. We also feel that some of the information shared would be beneficial for other early years practitioners and we therefore welcome you to bring another member of staff with you.

**To book your free place, please follow the link below:**

**[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-huntingdon-tickets-49991509952](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-huntingdon-tickets-49991509952)**

**The places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment**

Relevant to early years group settings



**Speech and Language Therapy Service**  
The Peacock Centre  
Brookfields Hospital  
351 Mill Road  
Cambridge  
CB1 3DF

Reception Tel: 01223 218060  
Direct Tel: 01223 218063

Website: [www.slc.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](http://www.slc.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk)

## **Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Information Session**

Cambridge & Peterborough Speech and Language Therapy would like to invite you to attend a free 2 hour training session.

The training will cover:

- Early speech and language development stages
- When to be concerned & how to refer to speech and language therapy
- What to do!

The training sessions will be running at different locations and dates across the county and your local sessions are listed below:

- Friday 2 November 9.30-11.30am, New Horsefair Clinic, Wisbech
- Thursday 29 November 12.30-2.30pm, New Horsefair Clinic, Wisbech
- Friday 14 December 9.30 – 11.30am, New Horsefair Clinic, Wisbech

The training session will be open to all SENCo's as the session contains vital information about significant changes in the way you make referrals to us. We also feel that some of the information shared would be beneficial for other early years practitioners and we therefore welcome you to bring another member of staff with you.

**To book your free place, please follow the link below:**

**[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-wisbech-tickets-50272284757](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-speech-and-language-therapy-information-session-wisbech-tickets-50272284757)**

**The places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment**