



## Stay Connected with Early Years!

Issue 8 – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### Read me now – Urgent and important information

#### Childcare Sufficiency Provider Survey: Spring Term 2025

As the Government expansion of early years entitlements and wraparound provision progresses, it is important the LA has access to reliable supply data to ensure the city maintains a sufficient, sustainable and accessible early years and childcare market. To support this essential work, we have launched our Spring Term 2025 Childcare Sufficiency Provider Survey. Your contribution, through completing this survey, will ensure our data is current and accurate to inform place expansion. The survey can be accessed by clicking [this link](#) or by scanning the QR code.

Childcare Sufficiency - Early Years  
Provider Survey March 2025



**Please complete and submit your survey by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

#### With Boys in Mind – A Unique Opportunity with Greg Bottrill!

In collaboration with Greg Bottrill, we are thrilled to be able to offer this fully funded project to 50 early years settings or schools in Nottingham City between May and September 2025! This initiative is a collaboration of high quality, evidence-informed approaches and expertise which has been designed to address the growing gender gap in Nottingham City EYFSP data.

**Find out more on [our website](#), where you will also need to **register your interest before Wednesday 2nd April 2025** if you would like to be considered!**



#### Early Maths Programme available for Nurseries!

Through the DfE's Accelerator Fund, early years settings are being invited to sign up to deliver Maths Champions. Developed by the NDNA, [Maths Champions](#) delivers high-quality professional development to early years educators to support improvements to early maths provision in PVI, maintained and school-based settings. The programme trains a Maths Champion and Deputy Champion in key mathematical concepts. Practitioners receive online training and one to one support with reviewing current maths provision, and planning and implementing steps to improve maths practice over the one-year programme duration. Recent independent evaluation found children taught by practitioners who received the programme made, on average, 3 months' additional progress in maths and language development. There are places for early years settings to start the 12-month programme in April, May and June 2025. Find out more and register your interest here: [Maths Champions - scale-up evaluation](#) | [EEF](#).

At a local level, we are also offering **Developing Early Number Sense 3 – 4 Year Olds** as part of our local CPD offer, with the next running on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025** at Castle Cavendish. Targeted specifically for practitioners working with 3 - 4-year-olds in Pre-Schools in the PVI Sector or F1 in Schools, this session develops understanding of early number sense and considers how your learning environment engages children and practitioners in mathematical conversations. Find out more and [book here!](#)

### Read what's coming up next - Important but not urgent information

#### SEND Funding Key Dates

Summer 1 Panel is fast approaching, please remember to book in moderation discussions as early as possible by contacting [eyfssend@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:eyfssend@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) For applications going to Panel on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025 please note that Moderation Week is 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> March (12 noon), with final submissions to be made by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (12 noon).

### **SENCO Network**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 we will be welcoming guests from the Council for Disabled Children to our online SENCO Network. During the session we will be discussing SENCO duties and responsibilities under the Equality Act and SEND Code of Practice and providing some practical ideas and strategies to support with meeting these duties. To sign up to our SENCO Network, please request a Membership Form by emailing [eytraining@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:eytraining@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

### **Easter Jobs Fair Opportunity – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Nottingham City Employer Adviser Team would like to support your recruitment by inviting you to attend an **Easter Jobs Fair on Wednesday 19th March 2025**, 10am to 1pm at Nottingham Central Jobcentre, 57-59 Upper Parliament Street, Nottingham NG1 6AX.

If you are interested in being an Exhibitor at the Jobs Fair, you can apply and find out more [here!](#)



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

### **Read when you get a moment – Information you might find interesting**

#### **DfE's Apprenticeship Announcement**

The government have announced changes to apprenticeship requirements that will grow the skills we need in our high demand sector. These changes include introducing greater flexibility over when standalone English and maths qualifications are required for apprentices; from 11 February 2025, apprentices aged 19 years or older are no longer required to hold level 2 English and maths qualifications to complete their apprenticeship. This will allow many thousands more apprentices to complete their apprenticeships and enter employment, supporting vital sectors such as early years to meet skills and workforce demands. It will also open opportunity for many more potential apprentices currently excluded from apprenticeships due to not already holding English and maths qualifications.

#### **Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs Extended Until March 2026**

The Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs programme has been extended until March 2026. This means Hubs will continue to provide funded support and advice to improve quality in early years settings, by sharing evidence-informed practice through their local networks. Found out more about our local Stronger Practice Hub [here!](#)

#### **Please do not reply to this email.**

You have received this email because you are an Early Years Provider in Nottingham City or you have specifically requested receipt of this bulletin.

For the latest, and previous, copies of this bulletin, please go to '[Stay Connected with Early Years](#)' on our [Early Years Website](#). You can also follow us on X [@Earlynottingham](#)