

# Bristol Early Years

Bulletin for EYFS Leaders in Schools

14<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## 1. AREA CHANGES

We would like to let you know about some changes that have been made to the geographical boundaries used for early years quality improvement activities. As you are probably aware, the city of Bristol is divided into three city areas; North, East/Central and South. In the past these areas were based on children's centre reach areas but these reach areas no longer exist in the same way. We have therefore, made the strategic decision to align our work with Social Care boundaries with the aim of further streamlining and improving partnership working of city-wide services.

The boundary changes will mean that some schools will now fall within a different city area and also that their lead teacher may therefore be different. We acknowledge that this may be difficult for some schools and that there may be a sense of disappointment and loss linked to the existing relationship that you have built with your current lead teacher. We would like to reassure you that our team of lead teachers are all knowledgeable and experienced and are fully committed to supporting each of the settings that are allocated to them. Where changes are happening, lead teachers will be linking with each other to ensure that there is a professional handover.

All Bristol schools are offered the following support for their EYs provision:

- Linked EYs Lead Teacher who is available by email and phone to support, advise and signpost
- Early Years Leaders meetings 3 times a year (online)
- EYFS Headteacher briefings twice a year (online)
- Locality based School cluster meetings (networking with other local schools and EY settings)
- Locality based Moderation Clusters (with other local schools and EYs settings)
- Access to free Network CPD linked to local and national priorities in the EYFS
- Access to Locally based Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub CPD [www.beytc.co.uk](http://www.beytc.co.uk)
- Local Specialist Leader bespoke support from Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub CPD on request/as appropriate.



## 2. LEAD TEACHER VISITS TO SCHOOLS WITH NURSERY PROVISION

The offer of a lead teacher visit is now **only available to EYFS provision in schools where there is a Nursery class and/or 2-year-old provision**. We encourage all eligible schools to take up the offer of a lead teacher visit alongside other private, voluntary and independent early years provision across the city. These visits provide the opportunity for reflection and discussion with an Early Years Lead Teacher with each visit having a specific focus depending on national and local early years priorities at the time. These visits can also provide a great opportunity for settings to identify actions for development and to share any further support needs they may have which can feed into planning

the support that we offer. Please note we will no longer be referring to visits as 'QIF' visits but instead as 'lead teacher visits' as this better reflects the supportive purpose of the visit

The focus for the next Lead Teacher visit will be on Transition for children from early years settings and nursery classes into reception classes in schools. The visit will provide the opportunity for settings to reflect on their transition processes and strategies and to think about what went well this year as well as any possible challenges. There will also be an opportunity to explore [The Positive Transitions in the Early Years](#) Guidance with your lead teacher and to consider any actions that may strengthen your transition practices as well as time to discuss the new [Universal Transfer Record](#). Lead teachers will be contacting eligible schools over the coming weeks to arrange a convenient date for the visit. Schools which will not be receiving a lead teacher visit will still have full access to the full range of support detailed in section 1. (above).

### 3. PORTAGE & INCLUSION VISITS TO RECEPTION CLASSES



In order to better support children and families with SEND with the transition to school the Portage and Inclusion team are offering support to reception classes this year. The team made contact with many school SENCOs last term, and have had a number of successful meetings to make the transitions for these children and their families more positive.

The team has also booked in a number of follow up visits into reception classes this term and/or arranged to deliver staff training. They will continue to follow-up the transition of these children, but are also aware that some children with SEND may have joined your schools who are not known to our team. If you have any concerns that you would like our support with, please do speak with your school SENCO and you can also email [sarah.swann@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.swann@bristol.gov.uk) to find out more.

### 4. HEADTEACHER EARLY YEARS BRIEFING 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

An online briefing for all primary heads and early years leaders in schools is being held on **4<sup>th</sup> October 10am to 11.30am**. The session will include: EYFSP 2022 provisional data and implications for practice and provision; supporting children living in poverty in early years Lead Teacher and Network support for schools; and designing an effective early years curriculum.

The meeting will be held on zoom:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81553610611?pwd=eWJSM3dZTGtUSHU5bnorU2g0YjRkQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 5361 0611

Passcode: yyCC2k

For further information, please contact Ali Carrington, [ali.carrington@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:ali.carrington@bristol-schools.uk)

### 5. WORKING WITH REFUGEE FAMILIES

Many schools in Bristol are supporting refugee children and families. Some of these children will have experienced conflict and other very traumatic experiences. [The Bell Foundation](#) is an excellent resource for teachers and provides evidence-informed guidance to school staff about meeting the needs of refugee and asylum seeking children, as well as working with children with little or no understanding of English. A guidance document and useful resources can be found on their [website](#).





Teachers and all staff will also find the [Wellbeing and SEMH pages of the Bristol EY website](#) helpful when working with children who have experienced violence, separation and trauma. The site has links to range of resources, including an [introduction to Trauma Informed Practice](#) information about [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\)](#) and [Five to Thrive](#).



If you feel that you or your team need further support with working with refugee children (or other children who have experienced trauma) please do contact your lead teacher.

## 6. RECEPTION BASELINE ASSESSMENT (RBA)

A reminder that the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) must be conducted during first 6 weeks of pupils starting school. All queries with RBA should be directed to the STA helpline on 0330 088 4171 or email [receptionbaseline@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:receptionbaseline@nfer.ac.uk)

## 7. RECEPTION ASSESSMENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Maxime Perrot, a PhD student at Bristol University is looking for reception teachers to take part in a research project looking at the impact of Reception Baseline Assessment and EYFSP on summer born children.

If you are interested in finding out more about this important research and how to take part, please contact Maxime at [tj20461@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:tj20461@bristol.ac.uk)



## 8. NPQEYL



# NEW NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION IN EARLY YEARS LEADERSHIP

**NEW AND  
IMPROVED NPQs!**

The National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL) is the first NPQ designed specifically for early years practitioners.

It will develop expertise that can be applied to identifying and addressing persistent and common challenges in early years leadership and gives

practitioners the knowledge to excel as a leader in your early years setting.

The programme follows the Department for Education's new NPQ in Early Years Leadership framework. The content is delivered through blended learning and includes a mix of real-time interactive online sessions, face-to-face training, peer-led sessions and self-guided modules which you complete in your own time.

The programme is delivered by the Ambition Institute in association with The Five Counties Teaching School Hub Alliance. This programme is funded for early years practitioners working in state schools in England and funded scholarships have been extended to include private, voluntary or independent nurseries and childminders. Contact Five Counties Teaching School Hubs Alliance to find out more.

## 9. CERTIFICATE IN OUTDOOR PRACTICE

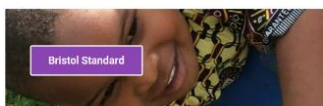


Bristol Early Years are pleased to announce a second opportunity to enrol in the Level 3 Certificate in Outdoor Practice devised by Jan White. There are 12 days to attend hands on practice and reflection. Module 1 starts on Friday 30th September. For all dates and cost please contact Outdoor Thinking [here](#)

## 10. NETWORK CPD & TEACHING HUB



Keep up to date with all the latest free CPD offer from the Bristol Early Years Network and the specialist CPD from Bristol Teaching Hub on the new [Calendar](#) – the one stop shop for all EYFS CPD needs!



Don't forget to start alert to the Bristol EY [Events Calendar](#) for all CPD updates, including the free training offer from the networks, Portage & Inclusion and the offer from Bristol Early Years Teaching Hub (BEYTH).



BEYTH will be launching their 2022-23 CPD programme next week but if you want to be an Early Bird you can view their scheduled courses online and book early!



<https://beytc.co.uk/our-courses/>

BEYTH are expanding their training BUNDLES to include: New to EYFS Bundle (starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November), Conquering the 3 I's - Intent, Implementation and Impact - Bundle (starting on 24<sup>th</sup> November), Leadership Bundle (Term 3 & 4), PSED Bundle (Term 3)

BEYTH will be offering a mixture of Online training and is returning to some Face to face training too. The first of which is: An In-depth Look at a Trauma Informed Approach in the EYs, on 7<sup>th</sup> November (all day)

New and carefully selected Guest Trainers including Suzanne Zeedyk and Kerry Murphy will feature later in the year, but the Hub is kicking off with renowned bestselling author of 'A Guide to Mental Health for Early Years Educators', Kate Moxley. Don't miss Kate's session on: 'Well Being at the Heart of EYs Leadership' on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 4-6pm.

New this year, BEYTH's CPD Portfolio! If you can't find a scheduled course on your chosen topic, then have a look at their portfolio and Register your interest! <https://beytc.co.uk/cpd/portfolio/>

## 11. PROGRESS CHECK AT 2 SURVEY FOR SCHOOLS WITH TWO YEAR OLDS

To support practitioners with making the Progress Check at Age Two, and following consultation with partners in education, health and social care, Bristol Early Years has developed a set of materials for good practice in making the assessment that providers may wish to use. The Bristol Progress Check at Two materials have been in a pilot phase and are now due for review.

If you have used the materials with 2-year olds we would very much appreciate you completing a short [survey](#) about the resources. Thank you very much for your time and taking part in this development in Bristol. Please complete the survey by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

## 12. PARENT SURVEY OF CHILDCARE NEEDS



Bristol City Council are conducting a survey of parents about whether childcare in our city is meeting their needs. It is a quick survey and completely anonymous and there is still time for parents to submit their views.

Please display and share the poster attached to this email and the QR code attached to the Bulletin email with your families. If you have a smart phone, open your camera and focus on the QR code to go straight to the survey, or you can use the link here. <https://forms.office.com/r/zPxNV7ewex> The deadline for responses is 30<sup>th</sup> September.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

All settings are able to contact their link EY Lead Teacher for further support and advice. If you are unsure of who your lead teacher is, please contact your area consultant.

North Bristol – [Kate.irvine@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:Kate.irvine@bristol-schools.uk)

East & Central – [Ali.carrington@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:Ali.carrington@bristol-schools.uk)

South – [cate.peel@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:cate.peel@bristol-schools.uk)