

# Early Years Network Meeting

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024

11.00 – 12.00

or

19:00 – 20.00

# Agenda

- Welcome (AR)
- Introducing the Early Years Team and contacts (AR)
- Safeguarding update (CP)
- EIG payments (SJ)
- Relaunch of EY inclusion advice and funding panel (HW)
- Accessing EY support (BJ)
- Future dates for Network Meetings & accessing slides from meetings (AR)

- **Alison Rae** (EYFS Adviser)  
[Alison.rae@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.rae@shropshire.gov.uk)
- **Beverley Jones** (EY Consultant)  
[Beverley.jones@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Beverley.jones@shropshire.gov.uk)
- **Charlotte Percival** (Safeguarding Officer)  
[Charlotte.Percival@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Percival@shropshire.gov.uk)
- **Heidi White** (Education Quality Adviser SEND & AP)  
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- **Andy Nicholls** (Education & Childcare Sufficiency Manager)  
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- **Dan Steele** (EY & Childcare Sufficiency Development Officer)  
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# Contacts (cont.)

- **Sarah Jones** (Senior System Co-ordinator – Early Years Funding)  
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- **Brydie Porter** (System Co-ordinator – Nursery Education Funding)  
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- **Beth Parry-Jones** (System Co-ordinator – Nursery Education Funding)  
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**Funding queries** please email [NEF@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:NEF@shropshire.gov.uk)

**All other queries** please email [earlyyears@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@shropshire.gov.uk)

# Confidentiality and Safeguarding

- group and school-based providers

3.72 Providers **must** ensure:

- There is an area where staff may talk to parents and/or carers confidentially.
- There is an area for staff to take breaks away from areas being used by children.
- Children are only released into the care of individuals of whom the parent has explicitly notified the provider.
- Children do not leave the premises unsupervised.
- They take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors.

# Confidentiality and Safeguarding

## - Childminders

3.71 Childminders **must** ensure that:

- On request, they can make available an area where they may talk to parents and/or carers confidentially.
- Children are only released into the care of individuals of whom the parent has explicitly notified the childminder.
- Children do not leave the premises unsupervised.
- They take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises, and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors.

# EIG Funding Process/Payments

- Providers submit a 'Support Request Form' [Support Request Form \(office.com\)](#), along with the relevant supporting documentation to [NEF@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:NEF@shropshire.gov.uk) .
- The EIG panel review meetings take place once a month and any support requests received from providers will be considered at the next scheduled panel review meeting.
- For support requests that have been approved at panel, confirmation will be sent via email to the relevant provider, which will include the number of hours that have been agreed along with the funding total and duration.
- EIG funding payments will be paid directly into the same account as your nursery funding payments. There is no longer the requirement for you to submit an invoice to claim this funding. Please note, where funding has been agreed across multiple terms, the funding will be released on a termly basis.



# Relaunch of Early Years Inclusion Advice and Funding Panel



- Evaluation of current processes and procedures with EY team, budget holder and EQA.
- Inform settings of plans to relaunch from April 2025

- Test and Learn panels with selected number of settings using new paperwork and attending panel meetings, providing feedback

- Early Years Inclusion Advice and Funding Panel launched

September  
/ October  
2024

December  
2024

January/  
February  
2025

March  
2025

April  
2025

- EIG request paperwork refreshed in line with GSP paperwork, to include supporting documents that show clear A-P-D-R response and graduated response
- Invite professionals to panel to ensure panel able to provide good advice to settings

- Review paperwork, procedures and processes reflecting on feedback
- Finalised processes, procedures and paperwork, share in EY Network and SENCo meetings

# Education Quality Advisors – SEND and AP

Heidi White

Emma Simkins

Sarah Court



## What we do

- Ensuring the quality of education for children and young people with SEND is ambitious and consistently high quality across all age ranges (0-25) so that Shropshire children and young people with SEND are healthy, happy and safe, and able to achieve their potential to lead a fulfilling life.
- Implementing a consistent approach to review and quality assure SEND and AP provision including within SEND hubs and mainstream settings.
- Reviewing the quality and effectiveness of leadership and management in SEND and AP provision including within SEND hubs and mainstream settings.

**Our role doesn't include** work with individual children such as observations, BSAT, LSAT and EP assessment work, although we may support with signposting.

## **Priorities for the 2024/25 academic year**

- Implementation of systems to challenge and support with respect to SEND Hubs and mainstream settings.
- Provision of support to all settings with respect to the SOAP.
- Ensure effective communication and support is available to SENCOs and other wider school professionals with respect to SEND and Inclusion.
- Implementation of systems to support deployment of EY SEND funding.

# Updates from the EHCP Team

## Starting school in September 2025

Please encourage your families to explore different local schools when deciding on where they would like their child to go.

**Remember to remain impartial.** When they have decided, encourage parent carers to share their choice with you so that a plan for the phased transfers can be made.

## Phased Transfers

Please be aware that all **annual reviews** for pupils who are transitioning to another setting from September 2025 need to be completed by no later than **Friday 20th December 2024**.

# Shropshire Ordinarily Available Provision (S.O.A.P) Early Years

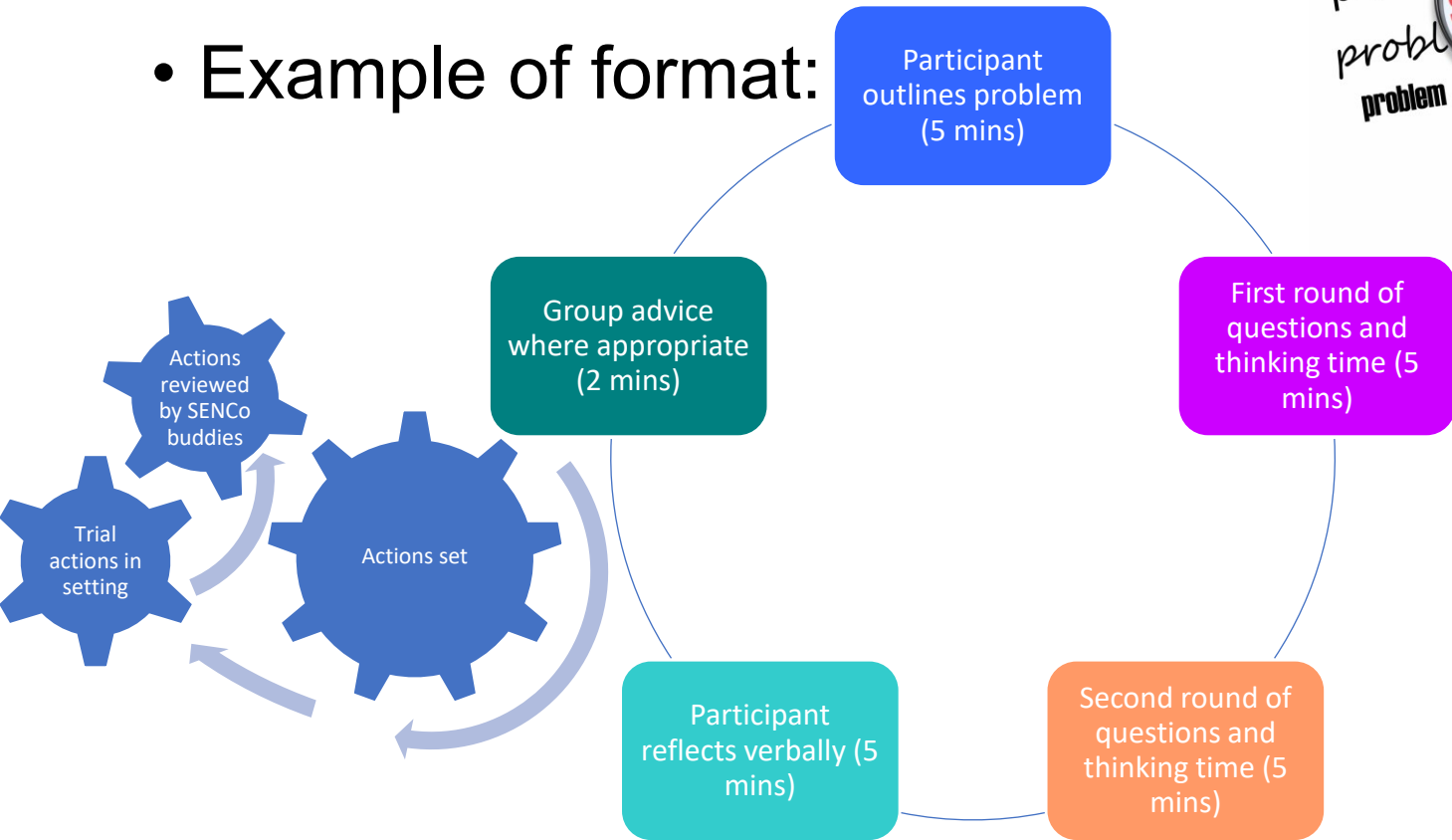
- Plans to launch in the Spring term, 2025
- Looking for 4 Early Years providers to be part of a focus group

# Our offer of SEND Support for Early Years providers



# Solution Circles

- Example of format:







# SEND Reviews



## Why might you wish to undertake a SEND Review at your setting?

A setting might undertake a SEND review for several reasons:

- Improving the quality of provision for children with SEND in the setting
- Gaining a better understanding of the wellbeing and needs of children with SEND
- Identifying SEND as an area of development for the setting
- Significant change in the numbers or needs of children with SEND in the setting
- A change in leadership or management of the setting
- Wanting a fresh perspective on provision from an experienced EY leader
- External validation of a setting's evaluation of its SEND provision.



Half term 1

Half term 2

Half term 3

Half term 4

Half term 5

Half term 6

Training for  
EQAs as  
Coaches

**ISR training**  
for setting,  
utilising the EY  
SEND Review  
framework

**Action  
Planning**

Action Plans  
QA'd by EQAs

Identification  
of training  
needs

**Sharing  
objectives**

Identify joint  
working  
opportunities

**Exploring  
progress**

Review and  
adjustment of  
action plans

**Identifying  
success**

Sharing of best  
practice within  
the networks;  
opportunities  
to visit each  
other and see  
in practice

**Celebrating  
success**

Sharing across  
the networks

Ongoing training and support utilising Shropshire CPD offer or other identified training (paid for by the setting)  
Ongoing Expert Coaching from EQA  
Regular QA Calls from EQA

## SEND & Inclusion Newsletter

A newly launch newsletter aimed at professionals will be published half termly.

This will be available on the SEND Local Offer, here:

[SEND and Inclusion Newsletter | Shropshire Council](#)

A link also sent out in the closest Early Years newsletter.

**Please provide  
some feedback on  
these ideas and  
suggestions**

Early Years Network Meeting  
(15.10.24) SEND Ideas and  
Suggestions



<https://forms.office.com/e/fMY8t6c7tZ>

# Welcome to the Shropshire Learning Gateway

What are you looking for?

## Early Years information and CPD

Resources, CPD information and booking forms for providers.

## Teaching & Learning

Information for teaching assistants, teachers and subject leaders.

## Leadership, management and administration

Information for headteachers, governors and school administrators

# Early Years information and CPD

Resources, CPD information and booking forms for providers.

## Safeguarding

Policies and guidance relating to Early Years settings.

[Go to item](#)

## Early Years Funding

Information about 24U, Early Years Pupil Premium and Early Years Free Entitlement Funding.

[Go to item](#)

## Early Years Newsletter

Weekly newsletter updates from the Early Years team.

[Go to item](#)

## Effective practice in EYFS

Information, documents and websites on effective practice and recent Ofsted recommendations.

[Go to item](#)

## CPD Early Years and Schools

Information on CPD 2024-25 (including booking forms) and Early Years Bite-size CPD.

[Go to item](#)

## Early Years Support

Information on support available to Early Years settings.

[Go to item](#)

# Early Years Support

As an Early Years team, we are able to offer you support, advice and guidance on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework through:

## Weekly virtual support sessions

From the Autumn Term, Beverley Jones will be able to offer weekly virtual support sessions every **Thursday morning from 09:30 - 12:00**. As Judith Pilkington is no longer able to offer these sessions, you will be able to discuss any concerns or questions you may have regarding your children's learning and development and behaviour with Beverley, on 01743 254454.

## Face-to-face support in your setting (Consultancy visit)

If you would like to book a consultancy visit to your setting, please contact Beverley Jones (Learning and Development) or Charlotte Percival (Safeguarding). A morning or afternoon session is chargeable at £125.

## Setting Based Development (SBD)

If you would like any of the Learning and Development training courses advertised in the CPD Schedule to be delivered via Teams to the staff in your setting, please contact Beverley Jones. These sessions are chargeable at £125 (up to 10 delegates); £150 (11 -20 delegates); £175 (21 - 30 delegates)

If you would like to book a 'whole setting' Raising Awareness in Safeguarding and Child Protection training session, please contact Charlotte Percival. These sessions are chargeable at £250 and can be delivered face-to-face or via Teams.

[Early Years Support | Shropshire Learning Gateway \(shropshirelg.net\)](https://www.shropshirelg.net)

## Area contacts



Alison Rae

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Beverley Jones

**EYFS Consultant**

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Charlotte Percival

**Safeguarding Officer (Early Years)**

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# Future Early Years Network Meetings

## **Autumn: online**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (19:00 – 20:00) **or**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (11:00 – 12:00)

## **Spring: face-to-face (Clayton Hall, London Road, SY2 6PR)**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (19:00 – 20:30)

## **Summer: online**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (11:00 – 12:00) **or** (19:00 – 20:00)

# Slides from Network Meetings

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- These will be shared with you through the weekly newsletter.

## Early Years Newsletter



Our weekly **Early Years Newsletter** will focus on information/updates that are relevant to childcare providers and practitioners. This will include content in relation to the day to day responsibilities in meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and providing high quality care and learning.

A link to the most recent newsletter can be found in the 'links to further resources' section below, along with links to previous newsletters that have been issued.

If you are not already in receipt of our newsletter and would like to subscribe, please do so via the 'Sign-Up' link below.

[Sign-Up Here](#)

[Early Years Newsletter | Shropshire Learning Gateway \(shropshirelg.net\)](http://shropshirelg.net)