

Improving School Readiness for EAL Learners in EYFS Project



The Multicultural Development Team (**MDT**) and The Early Years Team are offering **FREE, funded support** for staff working in the Early Years Foundation Stage (**EYFS**). This project is funded by the **Telford & Wrekin Early Years Team**. The support is available to staff in EYFS settings, including school nurseries and childminding services in Telford & Wrekin.

The early years are a crucial period in a child's life, during which they start to explore and understand the world around them. Recognising the importance of this developmental stage, the MDT is working in collaboration with the Early Years Team to provide **FREE** support to Early Years settings and EYFS in primary schools. The primary goal of this initiative is to improve school readiness for children who are English as an Additional Language (**EAL**) learners.

MDT already offers training, support, and guidance for schools and Early Years settings in relation to EAL and ethnic minority pupils, as well as on issues of equality and diversity. We also provide specialist EAL assessment and teaching. Many settings have bespoke requests or require additional support, and MDT invites **FREE** direct contact to discuss any concerns and requests.

The aim of the Improving School Readiness (ISR) for EAL Learners in EYFS Project is to work in partnership with Early Years settings and provision in Telford & Wrekin to build the capacity of these settings to support the educational improvement of EAL learners. There is a wide range of **FREE** focused support available through consultancy visits, the CPD program, workshops, and EAL Network meetings.

MDT will provide four CPD training sessions (1.5 hours each) via TEAMS. These sessions will be **FREE** for all settings and staff, with no limit on the number of participants. Each session will be held in the evening and will be open to childminders, nurseries, and EYFS staff in schools. This includes specialist provision and EYFS specialist units within schools.

Course Title	6.00pm – 7.30pm
Supporting children with English as an additional language in Early Years	Monday, 20 th January 2025
Promoting equality of opportunity	Wednesday, 12 th March 2025
Embedding cultural diversity	Tuesday, 20 th May 2025
Identifying and Dealing with Racist Incidents	Thursday, 26 th June 2025

MDT will also provide **FREE** bespoke termly network meetings for EYFS via TEAMS. Each meeting will last one hour and will focus on topics highlighted by network members. These meetings will offer opportunities for delegates to raise issues, share good practices, and exchange resources.

Theme	6.00pm – 7.00pm
EYFS, and minority ethnic achievement (New framework and updated DfE guidance)	Wednesday, 5 th March 2025
Supporting refugee families and vulnerable families in EYFS	Tuesday, 6 th May 2025

In addition, MDT will provide **FREE** in-person practical workshops for EYFS staff.

Theme	Date/ Time
Using the EAL assessment framework to baseline children's English language proficiency and to identify next steps in their language development.	Monday, 10 th February 2025 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Making early reading fun for children with English as an additional language in Early Years	Thursday, 3 rd April 2025 10.00am – 12.00pm
Use of Persona Dolls to tackle discrimination and inequalities	Monday, 12 th May 2025 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Use of multicultural resources to create diversity within the curriculum and EYFS settings	Wednesday, 2 nd July 2025 10.00am – 12.00pm

SENCOs and Headteachers may wish to ensure, if their school has EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) provision, they are taking advantage of the **FREE** support available to promote equality, diversity, and cultural understanding.

For further information, contact [Multicultural Development Team](#).

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