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## December Newsletter 2025



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### Welcome

It is that time of year when we look forward to the end of term, taking time to relax with family and friends, and reflecting on what an eventful year 2025 has been.

This year has been both incredibly busy and deeply rewarding. In March, Northfleet Nursery School proudly stepped into the hub lead role, and since then we have delivered more than 55 webinars, networks, and events. Alongside this, we have promoted our work at national conferences, sharing our vision and learning with a wider audience.

We have had the privilege of visiting inspiring early years settings and schools, where we witnessed innovative practice and passionate professionals at work. Equally, we were delighted to welcome visitors to our hub from across the UK and even as far afield as Turkey—an experience that reminded us of the global reach and importance of collaboration in early years education.

Our social media presence continues to grow, and we are grateful to all of you who have helped spread the word about our hub. Every share, like, and comment helps us connect with more practitioners and families, strengthening our community and amplifying our impact.

Most importantly, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the practitioners who have supported us throughout the year. Your dedication, creativity, and commitment to children and families have been the driving force behind our success. Whether through attending events, sharing expertise, or opening your doors to us, your contributions have made a real difference. We are proud to work alongside such passionate professionals and deeply appreciative of the energy and expertise you bring to our community.

As we look ahead, we are excited about the future—new opportunities to learn, share, and grow together await us in 2026. With your continued support, we know we can achieve even more.

## New for 2025

We now have ongoing support from an Educational Psychologist and Makaton Trainer and are looking at securing the services of a speech and language therapist.

We have introduced an online Padlet where you can access mini film clips to support your SEND children with ideas as well as Makaton signs as refreshers.

To be a part of this, please scan the QR code, or click the link below. Don't forget to subscribe so that you are notified with future videos that will be uploaded regularly.

### [Songs, Stories and Topical Makaton Signs](#)



We are continuing to celebrate early years settings for the wonderful work that they do.

[For example, Kiddiwinks Preschool based in Medway has recently been awarded two awards for their work. To find out more, please read this blog.](#)

### [Kiddiwinks Preschool Blog](#)

For those people who have joined our Enhancing Outdoor Learning series will love that Gem and her children have decorated a tree outside.

Happy Holidays to everyone who works in early years and makes a difference to the children in their care.

*Best wishes from everyone at Kent & Beyond early years Stronger Practice Hub.*

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## Upcoming Events

### Powerful Playful Pedagogy

6th January 2026



**Powerful Playful Pedagogy**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

[Click Here to Book](#)  
Or  
[Scan QR Code](#)

Use Discount Code: BFF  
To Get Tickets For £60

What happens early matters for a lifetime:  
Promoting relational, intentional, and playful pedagogy to make a meaningful difference to children's development and learning.

**UEL STRATFORD**  
University Square Stratford  
1 Salway Rd  
London E15 1W

**Speakers:**  
Professor Iram Siraj  
Liz Pemberton  
Dr Julian Grenier  
Professor Jenny Gibson  
Sally Hogg

**Refreshments** **Exhibitors** **Free Book**

**TICKET PRICE £80**

**PUTTING THE EYFSP CURRICULUM INTO PRACTICE**  
Early Years Curriculum in Action

**Sponsors:**  
The East London Partnership  
Newham Learning Schools  
University of East London

**Contact:**  
Call: 0208 553 3479  
Email: nazreen.patel@sheringham-nur.newham.sch.uk

**Makaton Training Session (Virtual)**

**13th January 2026 at 7pm [Sign up here](#)**



**Childminder virtual Network**

**15th January 2026 at 7pm [Sign up here](#)**



**Makaton Training Session (Virtual)**

**22nd January 2026 at 4:15pm [Sign up here](#)**




**[Neurodiversity network discussion](#)**

**22nd January at 7:00pm [Sign up here](#)**



## Mythbusting Early Childhood Development: Writing

**28th January 2026**



**MYTHBUSTING  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
DEVELOPMENT:  
WRITING**

**Unpacking the DfE Writing Framework through  
movement, meaning and development.**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**9:30am - 3:30pm**

**The Voco Southampton, SO15 1AG**

Join leading early years specialists Jan Dubiel and Helen Battelley for a dynamic, evidence-informed day exploring what it really means for children to be “ready to write.”

**Book Now**

Grounded in the DfE Writing Framework, this interactive event will challenge assumptions, clarify developmental expectations, and equip you with practical strategies to translate policy into purposeful, movement-based writing experiences.

*Lunch and refreshments will be provided.*

**FREE**

Funded by  
UK Government

Thames Valley and South Central  
Early Years  
Network (TVCSEYN)

### **Maths Network Discussion**

**28th January 2026 at 3:30pm** [Sign up here](#)



### **Maths Network discussion**

**28th January 2026 at 7pm** [Sign up here](#)



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To join our mailing list please click on the link below

[K&BEYSPH Mailing List](#)

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Meet the team

Updates

Hub Events

We are busy extending our networks so if you would like to become involved in some way

[KBEYSPH@northfleet-nur.kent.sch.uk](mailto:KBEYSPH@northfleet-nur.kent.sch.uk)

**01474 533950**

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