

## Email from Carolyn Terry to Essex early years and childcare and childcare providers

**From:** Free Entitlement Funding Queries <[FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 23 August 2020 19:07

**Cc:** Free Entitlement Funding Queries <[FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Urgent - Please Read - Covid-19 Update 23 August 2020

Dear Provider

Please find below information on the following topics: -

- **DfE updated guidance**
- **Responses to sufficiency requests for support**
- **Reminder on the cut-off date for eligibility for Extended Entitlement funding (30 hours)**
- **EYCC sector advertising advice**
- **Talk, Listen, Cuddle (TLC) – Website Re-Launch**

**Updated guidance** - the DfE issued the following two updated guidance documents on the 20 August 2020

- Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and other out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak issues

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

- Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

### **Main changes across both sets of guidance**

- Guidance amended to extend its applicability into the autumn school term, and reflect that state schools have now closed for the summer holidays
- Set out a change to the protective measures which will be effective from the point at which all pupils return to school in the autumn, making clear the position on group sizes and how providers can minimise the risk of children mixing outside their school bubbles
- Added additional content on shared resources

**Reminder on the cut-off date for eligibility for Extended Entitlement funding (30 hours) –** as you know codes for the Autumn 2020 term must be dated eligible before the 31 August 2020 and any from the 1 September 202 onwards won't be able to be used until the Spring

2021 term so please make sure you remind any parents that have not yet completed this that they only have a week left. There is a more detailed reminder on the funding portal pages

**Responses to sufficiency requests for support** - thank you to everyone who completed our childcare sufficiency survey. We are currently working through the requests for support you have raised through this and have already provided some of these and will continue to be offering more in the coming weeks.

**EYCC sector advertising advice** – this is an area that we have received a lot of requests for support in and as a result the attached advice has been put together. As a reminder further support can be access from the EYCC Business Management Consultants and they can be contacted as follows: -

- Alan Haylock – [alan.haylock@essex.gov.uk](mailto:alan.haylock@essex.gov.uk) for any settings in North (Colchester and Tendring) and Mid Essex (Chelmsford, Maldon and Braintree)
- Gemma Eva – [gemma.eva@essex.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.eva@essex.gov.uk) for any settings in South Essex (Basildon, Brentwood, Castlepoint and Rochford)
- Rosemary Newell – [rosemary.newell@essex.gov.uk](mailto:rosemary.newell@essex.gov.uk) for any settings in West Essex (Harlow, Epping Forest and Uttlesford)

### **Talk, Listen, Cuddle (TLC) – Website Re-Launch**

As I am sure you will already be aware, TLC is an ECC campaign that helps families of young children support their children’s communication development through playful learning at home from birth to 5. Talk, Listen and Cuddle are the three ingredients needed to ensure young children get the best start in life. The TLC website <https://www.tlc-essex.info/> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/talklistencuddle/> have been running for many years and have an excellent following from Essex parents, early years settings and schools.

The campaign has naturally evolved over this time to meet the needs of families and settings in Essex. The site will regularly post a range of ideas, top tips and games to support children’s language, physical and emotional development. Its aim is to ensure children start school ready to explore, learn and make friends. The aim is that the updated site is easier to navigate and will continue to support families who have young children to give them the best start in life. Sharing play-based activities and information to inspire parents and carers to understand the significant role they play in developing their child’s speech, language and communication skills from birth.

The recognition that early language development is key to the best start in life is now of high importance nationally and TLC compliments the Government’s Hungry Little Minds campaign and the Tiny Happy People initiative that has been recently launched by the BBC and backed by The Duchess of Cambridge.

Please do share with your parent communities, and/or publish on your websites if possible.

Best wishes

Carolyn

**Carolyn Terry**

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