

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

From: Carolyn Terry - EYCC Sufficiency and Sustainability Manager <Carolyn.Terry@essex.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 April 2021 19:07
Cc: Free Entitlement Funding Queries <FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk>
Subject: Urgent - Please Read - Covid-19 Update 18 April 2021

Dear All

I hope you have been able to enjoy the lovely weather we have had over the weekend.

This email covers updates on the following

- School Deferrals
- Transition from early years to primary school
- EYFS Reforms Briefing
- Business Management Update session
- Lateral Flow Tests
- DfE Updates
 - Making a childcare bubble with another house
 - Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

School Deferrals

Many children would have received the offer of their school place now. Some parents may be considering deferring their child's school place until they reach statutory school age. In order to support this decision please discuss with parents the 'points to consider' document which is attached. If a parent still would like to defer their child, please can you complete the online form on the following link so that we are able to confirm whether the Free Entitlement Funding will be paid.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TzK0qFwVFUKg8X7YzJqZLx-c2me0YPJOijWXRA_17VJUMVFGTTRSOE1QMjIwSVkwRUdYMTI2M0E5Ry4u

Transition from early years to primary school

The Early Years Education Partners have produced a suite of documents to support with transition this term for children going to school in September, please see attached.

EYFS Reforms Briefing

We would like to invite you to a briefing on the Early Years Foundation Stage reforms due to come into effect in September 2021. Information will include updates on the Statutory Framework, Early Learning Goals, Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and non-statutory guidance (Development Matters). Available dates are taking place between 11 May and 12 June 2021. For more information and to book your place, please open the [booking form](#)

Business Management Update session

The next Business Management Update session is on Thursday 22nd April 10.30 – 12:00

Led by the Essex Early Years Business Management Consultants, this session will provide an update on current issues specifically relating to running a childcare business, including working in the context of post COVID sustainability, managing occupancy, funding streams, business and finance. Questions and answers will provide discussion points and identify other key topics.

Attendees can submit questions during the information session, with as many of these as possible answered during the Q&A session at the end. If there is a high volume of questions, and they cannot all be answered in the session, a full written questions and answers document will be circulated after the event.

This session is a free event and is suitable for anyone who owns, governs or manage an early years or childcare setting including Childminders and management committees. To book your place, please follow this link <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/workforce-development-1/eb055006/>

Please note – bookings for this session close on the 20th April 2021

Lateral Flow Tests

The DfE helpline have advised that settings should have received a delivery of Lateral Flow tests between 24th-26th March, which should last them until early May.

If they have not received that delivery, or need more, settings currently need to use this form: [Asymptomatic testing for coronavirus in nurseries delivery and supply - Section 1 - DfE Online Forms \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/forms/asymptomatic-testing-for-coronavirus-in-nurseries-delivery-and-supply-section-1)

DfE Updates

[Making a childcare bubble with another household](#) Updated to reflect that indoor and outdoor supervised activities are now open to all children, as previously announced in the government's 'COVID-19 Response – Spring 2021' roadmap. 15th April 2021

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) Guidance updated to reflect step 2 of the roadmap out of lockdown, on singing in parent and child groups, educational trips, and for staff and children who are clinically extremely vulnerable. Updated the face coverings section on visual communication, visors and exemptions 13th April 2021

Best wishes.

Carolyn

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