

### **Early Years Charter celebrate a successful 2023.**

As the year draws to a close we want to celebrate the success of our Early Years charter group. This year we hit our first milestone of 100 members and have continue to grow with membership reaching 130 members at the last count. We want to acknowledge the positive impart this group has had on supporting Essex to deliver its EY strategy, contributing to the creating of the Early year climate pack and the recruitment campaign.

They have also been working individually to delivering targets that align to our four key principles of –

- Having high aspirations for every unique child
- Respecting families as equal partners
- Contributing to the wider Early Years system
- Working collaboratively with Early Years partners and providers

Their efforts and dedication in achieving their targets and driving the strategy forward is commendable, and is contributing to the overall improvement of the Early years sector.

We look forward to continued success and progress in the coming year

### **Having high aspirations for every unique child.**

"At Little Learners we are separating our food and plastic waste at the lunch table every day. The children are learning the difference and we discuss what things go in each bin and why every day. The children are starting to think how to reduce, recycle and reuse. They put the food waste into a compost bin in our garden at the end of each day and next year they'll will be part of the next steps to the composting process".

**The Wilson Marriage Nursery-Little Learners**



Containers for waste on table to separate out the food waste and promote recycling.

### **Having high aspirations for every unique child.**

#### **Harwich Centre preschool – promoting books and language skills.**



**Calm and relaxing space to share stories.**

We recently re-vamp our book areas making them cosier and inviting for the children and a place they can often seen sitting together on the sofa sharing a book with another child or adult. The children have learnt very quickly that the book areas are a place where they can sit quietly, relax, and begin to tell their own stories. Children are developing their language and communication skills when chatting and narrating together.

By placing books in different areas of the setting like the small world area, block and discovery play, outside in the mud kitchen and builders' yard we are providing more opportunities for children to bump into books.

## Having high aspirations for every unique child

### Promoting a healthy relationship with food

"Incorporating exotic fruits into reading sessions can help children develop a positive association with healthy foods. As they learn about the nutritional value and diverse flavours of these fruits, they may become more inclined to try them and incorporate them into their diets. Using exotic fruits in reading sessions also provides a fun and effective way to support children's speech and language development. By expanding their vocabulary, encouraging descriptive language, and stimulating curiosity, we can nurture their communication skills and foster a lifelong love of learning".

- **Connie Robinson Childcare**

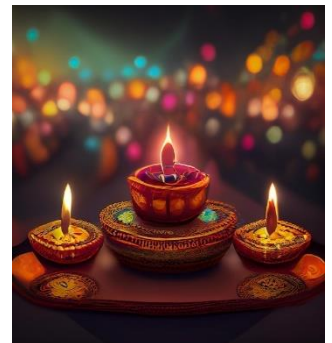


Connecting new foods with positive experiences.  
"Hannah's surprise" by Eileen Browne.

## Working collaboratively with Early Years partners and providers.

### Collaborative working for an extra special Diwali celebration

At Frinton Montessori school we always celebrate Diwali in the setting with a special meal, activities, topic work, decorations etc. However, this year we wanted to give the children a richer picture of Diwali. So we found a specific workshops aimed at schools and pre-school settings. However, it was quite expensive so we approached Frinton primary school to see if they would be interested in hosting the workshop and splitting the cost with us. The school agreed and by working together we were able to give all the children a fantastic experience. - **Frinton Montessori**



## Contributing to the wide

### Enabling children through enabling environments



At Buzzee Beez we have been working towards the target of having 'an environment where children are supported with care and kindness'. So we decided to have a look at the layout of our room and have subsequently had a move around of the room. we added baskets and took away all the multi-coloured boxes. This has enabled the children to self-select the toys and resources they would like to play with. The children can access them with ease and mix and match to their choices and imagination. The Adults have been on hand to support and scaffold the play if needed. - **Buzzee Beez Preschool.**



### Working collaboratively with Early Years partners and providers

Little Lions Family Hub have been connecting children and families to their local library service.



We are currently working in a Levelling-up area. we organised a visit from the Mobile Library with the school site in which we are situated on to visit us during one of our Stay, Play and Learn session. Working in partnership we were able to sign 11 families up to the library and families were able to borrow books all free of charge. The families are now aware of the local library services and what it has to offer. Parents are informed of the importance of early reading with their children. The children and the adults thoroughly enjoyed the experience. -**Little Lion Family Hub.**



**Friday morning reading sessions.**

### Respecting families as equal partners

Engaging with parents and valuing their positive contribution to their child's education.

"Every Friday morning, we welcome our parents and carers into our reception classrooms for our Family Friday reading sessions. Children bring their parents and siblings into their classroom and share books, stories and literacy games together. This has provided an opportunity for parents to enter the classroom and the children to share their classroom with family members and enjoy some special time together in school". - **Thomas Willingale School and Nursery**

### Commit to having high aspirations for each unique child.

"At Akhter ELC, every child matters to us and we want our children to feel safe, happy, and special. When a child joins us, they will add their hand-print to our family wall extending all the way down our corridor. The children feel proud showing parents and friends their hand-print and feel valued for who they are and what they represent".

- **Akhter Early Learning Centre.**

