



Schools Forum

Date 22nd June 2021

School Ready Budget Update

1. Purpose of report

1.1 School's Forum request an annual update on their £250,000 investment into the School Ready budget (from 2015), designed to improve children's outcomes by the age of 5 years. The last time the report went to Schools Forum was March 2020. The plans and activity delivered through this investment reflect Walsall's corporate vision of reducing inequalities for children and maximising their potential by targeting money where it is needed most. Delivery of the plans always reflect the values of improving professionalism, leadership and accountability to ensure all provision is good or outstanding.

1.2 There is a particular focus on three priorities in 2021/22. The first priority is that all schools and settings will be aware of and ready to implement the Early Years Reforms. They will carry out deep reflection, develop their understanding of what the research into young children's learning states and develop an ambitious, sequential curriculum across the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) They will go on to implement change, evaluating and making further changes as necessary to ensure more children reach a good level of development. The second priority is to ensure gaps in educational achievement between the least and most deprived children will be narrowed for all under achieving groups: pupil premium, boys and SEN/D. The third priority is ensuring strong leadership and a highly skilled workforce across all sector types (schools, PVI groups and childminders).

2. Recommendations

2.2 Schools Forum are asked to confirm if they approve with the plans for 2021/22. Schools Forum are also invited to add any further ideas or suggestions for ongoing improvement.

3. Background

3.1 This report gives clear evidence to members that the £250,000 fund continues to be utilised well to deliver improved School Ready outcomes, aiming for 100% schools and settings to be judged as good or outstanding and for as many children to reach or stay at age related milestones as early in their development as possible.

3.2 In terms of the schools EYFS Ofsted grade, this remains nearly 4% above the national average. 93.1% of inspected Early Years school provision, in schools, is judged good or outstanding, compared to 88.6% National Average. Similarly, 96.9 % of Private, Voluntary or Independent (PVI) settings are good or outstanding settings compared to 96% National.

3.3 There has been no new data since the 2019 Profile Scores, where there was a slight rise in the numbers of children achieving their good levels of development in reading and writing but a decrease in all other areas.

Table 1 Profile scores

2018 - 2019 Early Years Foundation Stage Walsall LA

	Early Learning Goals																				
	Listening and attention %	Understanding %	Speaking %	Moving and handling %	Health and self-care %	Self-confidence and self-awareness %	Managing feelings and behaviour %	Making relationships %	Reading %	Writing %	Numbers %	Shape, space and measures %	People and communities %		The world %	Technology %	Exploring media and materials %	Listening and Being imaginative %	GLD	National GLD	Gap between Walsall and
2018	83.2	82.2	82.3	88.6	86.6	85.1	84.4	87	72.8	69.5	74.6	75.6	79.8		79.8	89.9	84.7	84.2	68.1	71.5%	3
2019	81.4	81.0	81.2	87.9	86.1	84.2	83.4	85.6	72.9	69.6	74.5	75.3	79.1		79.0	89.2	83.9	82.1	67.5	71.8%	4

3.4 Schools reported that this was due to the high numbers of SEN children compared to the 2018 cohort. Table 2 confirms the rise in the numbers of SEN children from 2018 to 2019 by nearly 1% (0.84%)

Table 2 – Comparison between 2018 and 2019 SEN data and GLD scores

2018					2019				SEN Increase 18-19	% GLD 2018	% GLD 2019	% GLD GAP 18 - 19
	E (EHCP)	K (SEN Support)	Total EYFSP	% SEN	E (EHCP)	K (SEN Support)	Total EYFSP	% SEN				
Total EYFSP	46	301	3889	8.92%	65	313	3873	9.76%	0.84%	68.1	67.5	-0.6

3.5 In terms of vulnerable group data, Table 3 demonstrates that Walsall is in line with national for children eligible free school meals (FSM) and is slightly above for deprived children achieving GLD. However, there is still a large percentage gap within Walsall between children eligible and not eligible for FSM by 14% and the deprived/ non-deprived gap is 13%. This clearly indicates that the continued focus for the LA is to close this gap. The gap between boys and girls attainment and autumn/ spring and summer born children continues to be a priority. The biggest concern is the gap between Walsall and National for children with SEN support needs.

3.6 In order to address the gaps above the training planned is rich in building children's cultural capital and focusses on improvement and strategies for all disadvantaged groups to include deprivation, SEND and boys. The Early Years Team also support and challenge schools and settings to have good outcomes for these groups of children. The team encourage schools and settings to apply for all additional funding to support each child. They also encourage strong partnership working.

Table 3 – Outcomes for Walsall Vulnerable Groups compared to National

2019 Group		Walsall	National	Gap
All	Walsall	68%	72%	4%
Gender	Female	76%	78%	2%
	Male	59%	66%	7%
FSM	Eligible	57%	57%	0%
	Non Eligible	71%	74%	3%
EAL	First Language English	69%	74%	5%
	First Language Other	64%	67%	3%
Term of Birth	Autumn	78%	81%	3%
	Spring	68%	73%	5%
	Summer	57%	62%	5%
SEN Status	No SEN	74%	77%	3%
	SEN Support	14%	29%	15%
	Statement or EHCP	3%	5%	2%
Deprivation	Deprived	58%	57%	1% +
	Non Deprived	71%	73%	2%

3.7 School Forum fund continues to fund the training and projects for all provider types including academies, independent schools, private day care providers and childminders. Since the last report presented to Schools Forum in March 2020, School Ready funding has been used to deliver the following:

- £6,400 - Closing the Gap Conference, introducing national speaker Jean Gross through Language First to 8 more schools.
- £1,250 – Purchase of early talk packs.

The total spend for 2020/21 totals £7,650 which is shown in table 4 within section 5.0.

3.8 Some of the planned activity has not been delivered such as the maths training, outdoor learning and boys outcomes. The training providers for maths and boys learning were not able to deliver virtually at the time. The outdoor learning was due to be delivered on a school site but they were not allowing visitors in line with government Covid 19 protocol. They will all in the process of being re-commissioned.

3.17 The Early Implementer Innovator Grant is an additional non ring-fenced section 31 grant of £125k that was received in 2015/16 and rolled forward each subsequent year. Of the original amount, £75,618 was still available for 2020/21, and the following has already been spent this year:

- £48,075 to fund a project with NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs).
- £6,075 has been used to purchase 15 'Welcome' packs to gift to new settings.

The project with NASEN has been adapted to a virtual model over the pandemic and early feedback shows that the PVI group settings involved are more skilled and confident at identifying children's SEN, planning intervention, delivering on programmes and partnership working. Although this is not from the School Forum budget, it is important to note that the budgets runs alongside each other, maximising outcomes for children.

- 3.18 The Early Years Team have planned a programme of training and support for all provider types, up until the end of July 2022. It can either be delivered virtually or moved to face-to-face if necessary, and when safe to do so.

4. Financial implications/Value for Money

- 4.1 Schools Forum Investment continues to be used in conjunction with the Early Innovator Grant and the central staff budget for Early Years Quality Assurance. Spreading the available funding over the last five years has ensured money is only invested following continued evaluation, analysis of data and revised training and projects based on current research and best practice.
- 4.2 The table below details year on year spend. The reduced spend in 2018/19 was due to more central funding being available which allowed for the teaching schools and SLE's delivering the programme to be funded centrally.
- 4.3 The decrease in spend for 2022/21 was due to the national pandemic.

Table 4: Expenditure to date

Allocation of £250k - School Ready Fund	£
Expenditure - 2015/16	8,521
Expenditure - 2016/17	78,611
Expenditure - 2017/18	62,063
Expenditure - 2018/19	15,354
Expenditure - 2019/20	34,214
Expenditure - 2020/21	7,650
Total Spend	£206,413
Balance remaining to be carried forward into 2021/22	£43,587

5. Proposal

- 5.1 The remaining School Ready Fund will be used to deliver the following training:

- Early Talk Boost.
- SMILE training
- The Power of Parent Play training
- Phonics.
- Leading Outstanding Early Year's Practice.

- f) Using Wellcomm with children 0-3 & 3-5.
- g) Enhancing your Creative Curriculum
- h) Songs/ Rhymes and Riddles
- i) Music, Children Telling their own Stories.
- j) Art.
- k) Using Non Fiction Books.
- l) Maths Graphics.
- m) Role Play.
- n) Forest School.
- o) Curious Conversations.
- p) Outdoor Learning.
- q) Celebrating the impact and outcomes of the Creative Curriculum.

5.2 Still to commission is external national training on literacy, maths and boys learning.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 School Forum School Ready Fund supports the LA duty to ensure quality provision and improve outcomes for children particularly those who are vulnerable.

7. School Improvement

7.1 Early Years leaders in schools and settings have adapted well to all change relating to the pandemic and have systems in place to assess Covid 19 risks and take appropriate actions to address/ minimise all concerns. All PVI group settings submitted a risk assessment after the first lockdown in order for the Early Years Team to identify and cascade ideas for best practice, rather than to sanction their effectiveness, as that responsibility lay with the management of the setting.

7.2 Although schools and settings have not been inspected this year the evidence from telephone, online and some face-to-face monitoring, by the Early Years Team, shows that they have continued to be able to deliver quality learning and care regardless of aspects of the EYFS being dis-applied at times. Many schools and settings delivered home learning in the first lockdown using ideas developed by the Early Years Team. By the second and third lockdowns many school settings had improved systems for online and virtual learning especially for reception aged children and in many case for children in nursery or twos provision.

7.3 The LA Early Years Team have continued to support schools and settings virtually through Microsoft team meetings and over the phone. Although there has been much demand for advice about government policy relating to the pandemic there has also been a continued focus on quality and outcomes for children.

7.4 New leaders training for school leaders and also for new PVI setting managers has been delivered by the EY's Team, with presentations from those completing their training arranged for this term. At the presentation events, new leaders will evidence the impact of their leadership and demonstrate how they have ensured good or outstanding outcomes for children.

7.5 Clear information about the new reforms have been shared with all headteachers via email and there are plans to deliver a short briefing in the summer term. EYFS leaders have already had a number of briefing sessions, emails, network meetings and training for all provider focussing on

the new Early Years Foundation Stage, Development Matters Framework, profile arrangements and closing the gap for all vulnerable groups.

7.6 Walsall has 42 schools who are Early Adopters of the reforms and they have had two extra training sessions where government training was shared along with 3 Walsall schools sharing their experiences, curriculums and ideas for assessment. This will be cascaded to all non –adopter schools and the PVI sector in the Summer Term.

7.7 Evidence from the inspections carried out before lockdown showed that where schools and setting were delivering 1000 stories in Early Years project, Ofsted were reporting favourably regarding young children's early reading experiences.

7.8 Two new focussed projects to promote communication and language and children's personal, emotional and social development have been developed in partnership between the LA and some school leaders. This has been delivered to all schools and settings. (SMILE/ The Power of Parent Play)

8. Risk Management/ Risks

8.1 A key risk to achieving the objectives of this investment would be if the money was spent on activity that what not leading to impact. To minimise the risk all planned training, projects and courses are based on evidence-based practice and are evaluated to ensure their impact is worth the time and financial investment.

Nicola Hart

Senior Quality Assurance Manager – Early Years

April 2021

Walsall MBC

Training plan April 21 to July 22

All planned training will be virtual through Microsoft Teams unless stated otherwise. Most will be free to participants, funded through Schools Forum. Most training is recorded and can be accessed after the event for those who missed it. More importantly, it can be shared with other staff members in your team, as part of your Early Years improvement and staff development.

Audience	Course	Date	Time	Outcomes for participants	Course leader	Links to access course/ recordings
APRIL 2021						
Early Adopter Schools	Completing your new profile discussion	Tuesday 20 th April 2021	16:00 – 17:30	During this session, we will discuss the new early learning goals and share our understanding of what a child who has achieved each goal will be able to do. (Year 1 teacher are welcome to attend)	Nicola Hart	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Early Talk Boost Session 1	Wednesday 21 st April 2021	15:30 – 17:00	See information below.	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
PVI SENCos	Early Years SENCO Forum	Thursday 22 nd April 2021	13:00 – 16:00	Today's session will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Educational Psychology Intro: - Principles surrounding behaviour. ➤ EHC Hub Awareness - Elaine Bond/Deborah Beasley ➤ EYSEN: Transition – Follow up from Kim Stokes/Alison Dowding training from 20.04.21. ➤ Educational Psychology/EYSEN Drop-in – Senco Support and Share - Challenging Behaviour cases 	Jess Darlington	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

Non Adopter Schools	Completing your Early Years Profile using the current Early Learning Goals	Tuesday 27th April 2021	16:00 – 17:30	This session is for all new reception teachers who are completing their EYFSP for the first time. We will look at exemplification materials and discuss judgements. We will not be moderating individual profiles.	Nicola Hart	Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
Childminders & Out of School Clubs	Early Years Reforms Session 1	Monday 27 th April 2021	18:30 – 20:00	Presenting the Early Years reforms and Development Matters Guidance.	Kim Stokes Kali Lewis Terri Nicholls	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Early Talk Boost Session 2	Wednesday 28 th April 2021	15:30 – 17:00	See information below	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
New PVI Group Leaders	Course Presentations	28 th April 30 th April 4 th May 2021	09.00 – 17:00	To evaluate course outcomes and impact on quality improvement and outcomes for children	Terri Nicholls & Kali Lewis	Links to event sent to those in the group

MAY 2021

Childminders & Out of School Clubs	Early Years Reforms Session 2	Tuesday 4 th May 2021	18:30 – 20:00	Presenting Birth to 5 guidance and exploring the following key questions: What is a curriculum? How do children learn? How do childminders implement the new reforms to impact children's learning?	Kim Stokes Kali Lewis Terri Nicholls	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
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Non Adopter Schools	Early Years Reforms Session 1	Wednesday 5 th May 2021	16:00 – 17:30	Introducing Julian Greniers latest video and Early Adopter School presentation 1 – County Bridge Primary School – Lucy Smith	Nicola Hart	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
PVI Groups	Early Years Reforms Roll Out Session 1	Thursday 6 th May 2021	16:30 – 18:00	Introducing Early Years Reforms - Julian Grenier (video) and exploring changes needed to impact children's learning and progress in settings	Kim Stokes Kali Lewis Terri Nicholls	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
PVI Groups	Early Years Reforms Roll Out Session 2	Thursday 13 th May 2021	16:30 – 18:00	Presentations by Hayley Mcleish (Early Adopter School) sharing the changes they made as an adopter school in response to the EY's reforms.	Kim Stokes Kali Lewis Terri Nicholls	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	SMILE Session 1	Tuesday 18 th May 2021	16:30 – 17:30	<i>Self-talk</i> and positivity including Resilience and Stress/anxiety	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
Non Adopter Schools	Early Years Reforms Session 2	Wednesday 19 th May 2021	16:00 – 17:30	Presentations by Hayley Mcleish and Natasha Garrad sharing the changes they made as an adopter school in response to the EY's reforms.	Nicola Hart	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

Childminders as Leaders (those working with assistants)	Understanding Ofsted's Early Years' Inspection Handbook	Thursday 20 th May 10 th June 24 th June 8 th July 2021	18.30 – 20.30	1 – Leadership & Management 2 – Personal development 3 – Behaviour & Attitudes 4 – Quality of Education	Terri Nicholls & Kali Lewis	Personal Invitation
Nursery Schools Nursery Classes PVI Groups	Phonics	Monday 24 th May 2021	13:00 – 16:00	<p>The course will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Explain Phase 1 of the Letters and Sounds programme, exploring multi-sensory games and activities to support the teaching of the phase. ➤ Explain the theory of Phase 1 and knowledge about phonological awareness and its importance in EY settings. ➤ Explain the seven Aspects that form Phase 1 phonics teaching. ➤ Provide details of practical strategies to introduce to young children. ➤ Explore ideas for the application of phonological awareness across the EY curriculum. ➤ Provide guidance on tracking and assessing pupil progress in phonics. 	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	SMILE Session 2	Tuesday 25 th May 2021	16:30 – 17:30	<i>Individual Assertiveness</i> including supporting behaviour and the impact of trauma and attachment	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

Reception Teachers	Phonics	Wednesday 26 th May 2021	13:00 – 16:00	This practical and fun Phonics programme will increase practitioners understanding of and confidence to teach systematic, synthetic phonics using the Letters and Sounds programme	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
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JUNE 2021						
All Early Years Providers	SMILE Session 3	Tuesday 8 th June 2021	16:30 – 17:30	<i>Language of Co-operation and kindness</i> - reflecting on lockdown behaviour and the importance of getting outdoors.	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	SMILE Session 4	Tuesday 15 th June 2021	16:30 – 17:30	<i>Expressing emotions of self and others</i> , including Trauma and attachment/Loss and bereavement	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
School EY Leaders/ Senco's & PVI Group Senco's	Progression Framework	Monday 21 st June OR Tuesday 22 nd June 2021		<p>The training will support participants in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Exploring the principal cognitive theories of autism and their implications for teaching and learning ➤ Extending knowledge, skills and strategies in supporting effective teaching and learning ➤ Reflecting on their practice and sharing good practice across their setting <p>With optional certificate</p>	Autism Education Trust	<p>Please book via www.bookwhen.com/walsall</p> <p>Enquiries: Contact Emma Underwood at North Star Inclusion Advisory Team on 01922 682300 or email emma.underwood@northstarfederation.org.uk</p>

JULY 2021						
Childminders	Early Help Session 1	Monday 5 th July 2021	18:30 – 20:00	All participants will have an understanding of: Walsall Right Help Right Time continuum of need Threshold levels Your responsibilities to support children in particular, identifying and supporting neglect	Julie Jones	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Schools and PVI groups	Ready to implement Early Years Reforms	Tuesday 6 th July 2021	16:00 – 17:30	Auditing your progress to date and presentations by 4 more adopter schools.	Nicola Hart	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
PVI Groups	Early Help Session 1	Wednesday 7 th July 2021	16:00 – 18:00	All participants will have an understanding of: Walsall Right Help Right Time continuum of need Threshold levels Your responsibilities to support children in particular, identifying and supporting neglect	Julie Jones	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
Childminders	Early Help Session 2	Monday 12 th July 2021	18:30 – 20:00	All participants will have an understanding of: What is Early Help and where are the locality teams Understanding Walsall's partnership offer and what services are available for children and families What are your lead professional duties	Julie Jones	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

PVI Groups	Early Help Session 2	Wednesday 14 th July 2021	16:00 – 18:00	All participants will have an understanding of: Walsall Right Help Right Time continuum of need Threshold levels Your responsibilities to support children in particular, identifying and supporting neglect	Julie Jones	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
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SEPTEMBER 2021						
Childminders leading and managing their setting (without assistants)	Understanding Ofsted's Early Years' Inspection Handbook	Thursday 23 rd Sept 07 th Oct 21 st Oct 04 th Nov 2021	18.30 – 20.30	1 – Leadership & Management 2 – Personal development 3 – Behaviour & Attitudes 4 – Quality of Education	Terri Nicholls & Kali Lewis	
All School EY Leaders	Leading Outstanding EY Practice (curriculum intent) includes national and local updates 1/4	Wednesday 29 th September 2021	16:00 – 17:15	By the end of the session you will: ➤ Have a clear understanding of outstanding, evidence informed EYFS practice. ➤ Establish and explain your intent and core EYFS offer for children and parents.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

OCTOBER 2021						
PVI Group SENCOs & Managers	Early Years SENCO Forum	Wednesday 20 th October 2021	13:00 – 16:00	Agenda to be confirmed	Jessica Darlington	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All School EY Leaders	Leading Outstanding EY Practice (learning implementation) includes national and local updates 2/4	Wednesday 20 th October 2021	16:00 – 17:15	At this session you will: ➤ Explore what motivates and excites children's learning ➤ Identify irresistible contexts for learning across all aspects of the EYFS	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

NOVEMBER 2021						
All Early Years Providers	Using Wellcomm with Children 0-3	Monday 1 st November 2021	16:00 – 18:00	Wellcomm as a planning and interaction tool	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
New PVI Group Leaders	Understanding Ofsted's Early Years' Inspection Handbook	Saturday 6 th Nov 20 th Nov 8 th Jan 22 nd Jan 2021/22	9.30 – 11.30	1 – Leadership & Management 2 – Personal development 3 – Behaviour & Attitudes 4 – Quality of Education	Terri Nicholls & Kali Lewis	

All Early Years Providers	Using Wellcomm With Children 3-5 (nursery & reception)	Monday 8 th November 2021	16:00 – 18:00	Wellcomm as a planning and interaction tool	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All School EY's Leaders	Leading Outstanding EY Practice includes national and local updates 3/4	Thursday 10 th November 2021	16:00 – 17:15	At this session you will: Explore responsibilities, policies and procedures for leading an outstanding staff team. Identify how you will develop practitioners to deliver consistently good and outstanding practice	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

DECEMBER 2021						
All School EY's Leaders	Leading Outstanding EY Practice includes national and local updates 4/4	Wednesday 1 st December 2021	16:00 – 17:15	At this session leaders will: Evaluate the impact of their own leadership on creating and ambitious curriculum and daily offer, implementing evidence based best practice leading a successful team Evaluate the impact on children's outcomes and parent's confidence to support their own children	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

JANUARY 2022						
All Early Years Providers	Enhancing Your Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 12 th January 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Introduction to a series of short training sessions that promote children's creativity, curiosity and skill development through multi-sensory/communicative and expressive activities. These sessions are full of practical ideas that children will love...	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Early Talk Boost Session 1	Tuesday 18 th January 2022	15:30 – 17:00	See information below	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Songs, Rhymes and Riddles in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 19 th January 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Creating a culture of children learning songs, rhymes and riddles throughout your EYFS to develop wellbeing, key skills and language.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Early Talk Boost Session 2	Tuesday 25 th January 2022	15:30 – 17:00	See information below	Andrina Flinders	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

FEBRUARY 2022						
All Early Years Providers	Music in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 2 nd February 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Giving children opportunities to express themselves through a rich Early Years music curriculum that builds their skills and confidence.	Roberta Clifton and Carla Gibbs	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Children telling their own stories	Wednesday 16 th February 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Helping children to articulate their own stories - building their use of sentences, grammar, vocabulary and expression and demonstrating their understanding of how stories are structured and told.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

MARCH 2022						
PVI Group SENCO's & Managers	Early Years SENCO Forum	Wednesday 2 nd March 2022	13:00 – 16:00	Agenda to be confirmed	Jessica Darlington	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Art in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 2 nd March 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Giving children opportunities to express themselves through a rich Early Years Art curriculum that builds their skills and confidence.		Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Non-Fiction Books in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 16 th March 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Building children's knowledge of the world around them including past, present and future, the natural world and people, culture and communities		Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app

				through observation and discussion of non-fiction texts.		Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Maths Graphics	Wednesday 30 th March 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Children representing their knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts through marks and drawings. This also enables them to spot connections and patterns to develop a secure mathematical knowledge.		Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

APRIL 2022						
All Early Years Providers	Role Play in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 6 th April 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Providing rich contexts for language learning and imaginative responses by providing children with stimulating scenarios that build on their concrete experiences. Children will have opportunities to try out the voices of others, to participate in back and forth conversations and retell or create new stories.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Forest School in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 27 th April 2022	16:00 – 17:15	To provide sessions, ideally but not necessarily, in a natural outdoor space with opportunities for physical, emotional and social development including resilience, perseverance and empathy through interaction with the natural world in a positive and often magical way.		Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

MAY 2022						
All Early Years Providers	Curious Conversations	Wednesday 11 th May 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Exciting language development and learning opportunities provided by introducing stimulating curious resources that invite the children to want to explore, investigate and talk about them	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
All Early Years Providers	Outdoor Learning in the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 25 th May 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Developing a progressive and stimulating outdoor learning curriculum that enables children to develop physically (gross and fine motor) and to ‘Wonder, Investigate, Learn and Discover’.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

JUNE 2022						
All Early Years Providers	Celebrating the impact and outcomes of the Creative Curriculum	Wednesday 29 th June 2022	16:00 – 17:15	Presenting the wonderful opportunities for a creative curriculum offered to children across Walsall.	Victoria Day	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

JULY 2022						
PVI Group SENCO's & Managers	Early Years SENCO Forum	Wednesday 13 th July 2022	13:00 – 16:00	Agenda to be confirmed	Jessica Darlington	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

All staff need to complete level 1 and level 2

All safeguarding training can be accessed through:- [eLearning & Virtual Training \(walsall.gov.uk\)](https://elearning.walsall.gov.uk)

Lead safeguarding staff **need** to access level 3 – advanced child protection/core working together but this is not yet live so early years providers will need to source this for the current time.

It is also essential that **all** lead safeguarding staff complete the Right Help, Right Time

The new children's [MARF](#) (**multi agency referral form**) has been launched. The MARF should be completed in line with the “Right Help, Right Time” guidance, which can be accessed via a link on the MARF document and in consultation with the referrer's Designated Safeguarding Lead.

For any queries please contact:- Seona.Baker@walsall.gov.uk



Early Talk Boost is a targeted intervention aimed at 3-4 year old children with delayed language development helping to boost their language skills to help narrow the gap between them and their peers.

Our Evaluation Report shows that after *Early Talk Boost*, children make statistically significant progress in their early language. On average they make 6 months progress after a nine week intervention helping them to catch up with other children their age. This is twice the amount of progress of children not having the intervention.

Who is the *Early Talk Boost* intervention aimed at?

The *Early Talk Boost* intervention is designed for children aged 3-4 with delayed language development, typically those who have:

- Difficulty listening/paying attention
- Poor vocabulary
- Difficulty understanding language
- Difficulty organising and using language
- Immature sentences
- Difficulty explaining or describing
- Difficulty taking turns

This means children who have intact language learning ability in themselves but for some reason haven't had the opportunity to develop age-appropriate language skills.

Can it be used as an intervention for children with English as an additional language?

At Fullbrook Nursery we have also used it as intervention for EAL learners, to enable them to have the confidence to begin learning and using English. The intervention had the biggest impact on those children who were age appropriate in their home language and less related to how much English they already spoke.

How is the group intervention delivered?

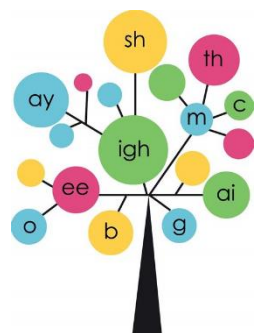
The intervention is delivered 3 times per week during circle/story time by a trained early years practitioner to a group of up to 8 children over a 9 week period. The intervention is supported by an initial training package and includes an *Early Talk Boost* Tracker to help identify appropriate children for the intervention and to measure their progress. The intervention also includes a workshop for parents/carers to enable them to develop children's communication and language skills at home.

How do parents get involved?

In order to increase the impact of the intervention and support sustainable future progress, the training will provide practitioners with everything they need to engage parents, including workshop materials and story books to share at home. Parents are supported to understand key Top Tips for sharing books (not necessarily reading them) in order to make a difference to their child's language development.

Who is *Early Talk Boost* training for?

Early Talk Boost training is for early years practitioners working with groups of 3-4 year olds in early years settings.



WALSALL EARLY YEARS PHONICS PROGRAMMES

Teaching phonics using Letters and Sounds

This practical and fun Phonics programme will increase practitioners understanding of and confidence to teach systematic, synthetic phonics using the Letters and Sounds programme.

Letters and Sounds Phase 1-5 for EY Reception Teachers, Y1 Teachers, Reception TAs and Y1 TAs

The course will:

- Explain the 5 phases of the Letters and Sounds programme, exploring multi-sensory games and activities to support the teaching of each phase.
- Explain the 4-part teaching sequence for teaching the discrete phonics session.
- Demonstrate the key skills of blending for reading and segmenting for spelling, exploring activities to support the teaching of each.
- Explore ideas for the application of phonic skills in reading and writing across the curriculum.
- Provide guidance on tracking and assessing pupil progress in phonics.
- give practical tips and advice on how to support pupils who are not making expected progress



Letters and Sounds Phase 1 for School Nursery Teachers and EY TAs

The course will:

- Explain Phase 1 of the Letters and Sounds programme, exploring multi-sensory games and activities to support the teaching of the phase.
- Explain the theory of Phase 1 and knowledge about phonological awareness and its importance in EY settings.
- Explain the seven Aspects that form Phase 1 phonics teaching.
- Provide details of practical strategies to introduce to young children.
- Explore ideas for the application of phonological awareness across the EY curriculum.
- Provide guidance on tracking and assessing pupil progress in phonics.

Letters and Sounds Phase 1 for PVI groups and EY TAs

The course will:

- Explain Phase 1 of the Letters and Sounds programme, exploring multi-sensory games and activities to support the teaching of the phase.
- Explain the theory of Phase 1 and knowledge about phonological awareness and its importance in EY settings.
- Explain the seven Aspects that form Phase 1 phonics teaching.
- Provide details of practical strategies to introduce to young children.
- Explore ideas for the application of phonological awareness across the EY curriculum.
- Provide guidance on tracking and assessing pupil progress in phonics.



First Response First Aid Courses

2-day Paediatric in Walsall

To book your place:

Tel: 01543 372888 or visit
www.firstresponsefirstaid.co.uk

Course ID	Dates/Time	Venue	Price Per Person
27075	Saturday 10th April 2021 Saturday 17th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT
27922	Thursday 22nd April 2021 Friday 23rd April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£90.00 + VAT
27100	Tuesday 4th May 2021 Wednesday 5th May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT
27076	Saturday 5th June 2021 Saturday 12th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT
27923	Monday 21st June 2021 Tuesday 22nd June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£90.00 + VAT

29034	Saturday 3rd July 2021 Saturday 10th July 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£90.00 + VAT
29037	Saturday 7th August 2021 Saturday 14th August 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT
29035	Saturday 4th September 2021 Saturday 11th September 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£90.00 + VAT
29038	Saturday 2nd October 2021 Saturday 9th October 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT
29036	Saturday 6th November 2021 Saturday 13th November 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£90.00 + VAT
29039	Saturday 4th December 2021 Saturday 11th December 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£90.00 + VAT

Blended Paediatric Walsall (eLearning and 1-day face-to-face)

Course ID	Dates/Time	Venue	Price Per Person
27106	Friday 19th March 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27084	Saturday 20th March 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27107	Thursday 8th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27918	Saturday 17th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
27108	Monday 26th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27926	Thursday 13th May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
27919	Saturday 15th May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
27085	Saturday 22nd May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27109	Thursday 3rd June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
27920	Saturday 12th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT

27086	Saturday 19th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
29022	Saturday 10th July 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
29028	Saturday 17th July 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29029	Saturday 14th August 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29023	Saturday 21st August 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
29024	Saturday 11th September 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
29030	Saturday 18th September 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29031	Saturday 9th October 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29025	Saturday 16th October 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT
29026	Saturday 13th November 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT

29032	Saturday 20th November 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29033	Saturday 11th December 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Brownhills Community Association, WS8 7JW	£75.00 + VAT
29027	Saturday 18th December 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EG	£75.00 + VAT

2-day Paediatric First Aid Wolverhampton

Course ID	Dates/Time	Venue	Price Per Person
27079	Saturday 20th March 2021 Saturday 27th March 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
27102	Monday 12th April 2021 Tuesday 13th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
27080	Saturday 8th May 2021 Saturday 15th May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
27103	Tuesday 8th June 2021 Wednesday 9th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT

27081	Saturday 19th June 2021 Saturday 26th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29015	Saturday 17th July 2021 Saturday 24th July 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29016	Saturday 21st August 2021 Saturday 28th August 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29017	Saturday 18th September 2021 Saturday 25th September 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29018	Saturday 16th October 2021 Saturday 23rd October 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29019	Saturday 20th November 2021 Saturday 27th November 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT
29020	Saturday 11th December 2021 Saturday 18th December 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£90.00 + VAT

Blended Paediatric First Aid Wolverhampton

Course ID	Dates/Time	Venue	Price Per Person
27090	Saturday 10th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
27115	Thursday 22nd April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
27091	Saturday 24th April 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
27116	Thursday 13th May 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
27092	Saturday 5th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
27117	Friday 18th June 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
29009	Saturday 3rd July 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
29010	Saturday 7th August 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
29011	Saturday 4th September 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT

29012	Saturday 2nd October 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
29013	Saturday 6th November 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT
29014	Saturday 4th December 2021 Time: 09:30 16:30	The Workspace, WV2 1EL	£75.00 + VAT