

## Royal Greenwich – a great place to grow up!



Childcare  
Options  
Royal Greenwich

Dear Providers

This e bulletin is jam packed with new training dates and World Book Day ideas.

# WORLD BOOK DAY

Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading.

Everything you need for Thursday 4 march can be found here.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/schoolsandnurseries/> or <https://www.worldbookday.com/resources/nursery/>

**If you forgot to order your book tokens, you can order digital book tokens!**

**Digital £1/€1.50 book token** – For World Book Day 2021, WBD are helping schools and nurseries/pre-schools distribute the £1/€1.50 book tokens to children and young people who aren't able to be at school/nursery by offering a digital version of the book token.

Registration for the digital token is open to ALL schools and nurseries/pre-schools regardless of whether they have previously registered to take part in World Book Day. [Register for the digital token.](#)

Childminders, please contact your local library for activities and check whether they have any tokens available. It is all a bit different this year. It is also worth contacting WBD directly for tokens, just in case!

Happy World Book day

Kallie – Team Leader, Kerry, Rachel, Elaine, & Rebecca – Advisors, Danielle & Janet – Funding



Main telephone lines are not fully available but if you provide a phone number we will call you right back and speak to you in person – we are open 9am – 5pm Mon - Fri.

Parents [FIS@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:FIS@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

Providers [Childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:Childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

### **Miss a copy of the e-bulletin?**

Catch up here and check out links to important information sources

[https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/info/200283/nurseries\\_and\\_early\\_learning/2183/early\\_years\\_team\\_information\\_for\\_providers/2](https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/info/200283/nurseries_and_early_learning/2183/early_years_team_information_for_providers/2)

## Early Years & Childcare NEW Training Events

Area of EYFS	Training Courses and Workshops	Dates	Start Times	End Times
Safeguarding & Welfare	Intermediate Safeguarding Training	27/02/2021	09.30	13:00
	Domestic Abuse Awareness Training	04/03/2021	19:00	20:30
	Keeping Babies Safe	10/03/2021	10:00	15:00
	Child Bereavement Training	11/03/2021	19:00	20:30
	Designated Safeguarding Person Training	13/03/2021	09:30	13:00
	Safer Recruitment, Supervision & Appraisals	18/03/2021	14:00	16:00
	Safer Recruitment, Supervision & Appraisals	15/04/2021	19:00	21:00
	Equality, inclusion & representation - recognising unconscious bias	09/03/2021	14:00	16:00
	Equality, inclusion and representation - recognising unconscious bias	08/04/2021	19:00	21:00
EYFS & Education Inspection Framework (EIF)	Working with the new EYFS framework briefing	22/04/2021	19:00	21:00
	Working with the new EYFS framework briefing	26/04/2021	14:00	16:00
	Revisiting the EIF briefing	29/04/2021	14:00	16:00
	Revisiting the EIF briefing	06/05/2021	19:00	21:00
Paediatric First Aid	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	03/03/2021	08:45	16:00
	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	27/03/2021	08:45	16:00
	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	14/04/2021	08:45	16:00
	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	17/04/2021	08:45	16:00
	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	08/05/2021	08:45	16:00
	Paediatric First Aid – blended course	19/05/2021	08:45	16:00

### Trainings & Briefings.

Please download free Zoom app on device of your choice <https://zoom.us/download>

📄 Book via usual Direct Services to Schools training link below. For info email [eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

📄 NEW LINK TO TRAINING HERE [Courses \(royalgreenwich.gov.uk\)](https://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/pvi)

<https://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/pvi>

New look Direct Services – for subsidised and free training visit for groupcare and childminders click on link

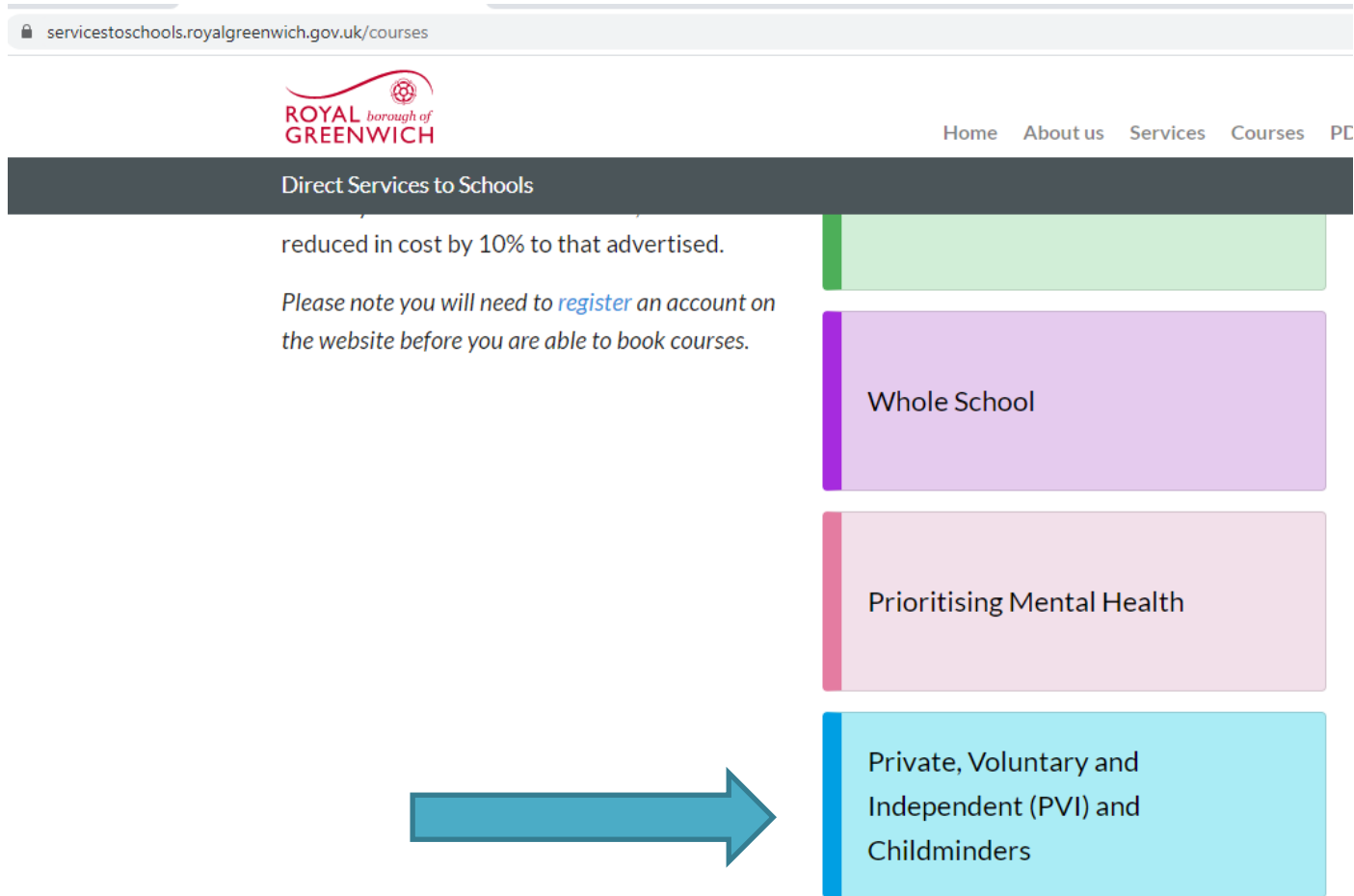
 [Courses \(royalgreenwich.gov.uk\)](https://royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses)

<https://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/pvi>



Direct Services to Schools  
Home | Courses  
**Courses**

## Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) and Childminders



servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Home About us Services Courses PC

Direct Services to Schools

reduced in cost by 10% to that advertised.

Please note you will need to [register](#) an account on the website before you are able to book courses.

- Whole School
- Prioritising Mental Health
- Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) and Childminders



# Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage

Setting the standards for learning,  
development and care for children from  
birth to five

**Published: xx**

**Effective: 1 September 2021**

## **DRAFT VERSION**

As part of the legislative process needed to enact the reforms to the EYFS, DfE recently sought views from local authority representatives, sector bodies and a number of early years providers on proposed minor changes to the safeguarding and welfare section of the revised EYFS statutory framework.

These changes are intended to ensure the EYFS requirements are clear and to help keep children safe. The changes were not included as part of the public consultation in **October 2019** as they are updates to clarify common questions on existing policy or to reflect updates in the law since the last revision of the EYFS framework was published in 2017. A number of responses were received and considered individually before finalising the draft.

The [draft framework](#) has now been published and will be available for one month from the date of publication for comment (as required by the Childcare Act 2006).

Changes to the current EYFS statutory framework are in red to highlight where DfE are seeking views. The new educational programmes and early learning goals (ELGs) are not in red as these are final government policy as confirmed following the full 12 week public consultation conducted in 2019.

**Please note that DfE are not seeking further views on the changes to the EYFS framework** that were confirmed in the [government's official response](#) to the 2019 EYFS reforms consultation. The response confirmed:

- Final educational programmes;
- Final early learning goals (ELGs);
- Removal of the statutory duty for local authorities to externally moderate EYFS profile judgements;
- Removal of the 'exceeding' judgement criteria from the EYFS profile;
- Change to the safeguarding and welfare requirements to promote good oral health.

You will see that the changes are in red to highlight where the DfE are seeking views - you will note that the new educational programmes and early learning goals (ELGs) are not in red as these are final government policy following the 2019 consultation.

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/DRAFT-EYFS-Framework-for-comment-February-2021.pdf>

## EYFS changes

### Revised framework consultation

**The attached is available for comment until  
18 March 2021**

Please send comments

[EYFSP.REFORMS@education.gov.uk](mailto:EYFSP.REFORMS@education.gov.uk)

**Look out for free LA training in EYFS !**

Press release

# Prime Minister sets out roadmap to cautiously ease lockdown restrictions

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-sets-out-roadmap-to-cautiously-ease-lockdown-restrictions>

The Prime Minister has set out the next phase of the government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), including where some restrictions can be lifted. The decision to ease restrictions is made on the balance of risk to public health and educational considerations.

Guidance

## COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021

Published 22 February 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021>

**Contents – click on blue hyperlinks for more information**

[Executive summary](#)

[1. Introduction](#)

[2. The Health Care Response: The NHS, vaccines and therapeutics](#)

[3. Roadmap](#)

[4. Keeping people safe and responding to threats](#)

[5. Economic and social support](#)

[6. Long term](#)

Or easy read here

## How we will slowly move out of lockdown

Easy Read version of:  
ROADMAP OUT OF LOCKDOWN  
COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021: a summary



**Easy read link to share**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/965011/COVID-19\\_Response\\_-\\_Spring\\_2021\\_Summary\\_-\\_Easy\\_Read\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965011/COVID-19_Response_-_Spring_2021_Summary_-_Easy_Read_.pdf)

## Lockdown easing: Key dates

### ● Step one: 8 March

Schools open. Outdoor after-school sports allowed

Two people allowed to sit together outdoors

Care home residents allowed one regular visitor

### ● Step one: 29 March

Six people or two households allowed to meet outdoors

Outdoor sports facilities open, organised sport allowed

Travel outside local area allowed

### ● Step two: 12 April\*

Non-essential retail and personal care open

Hospitality outdoors open

Indoor leisure eg gyms, swimming pools open

Self-contained holiday accommodation open

### ● Step three: 17 May\*

Outdoors most social contact rules lifted

Six people or two households can meet indoors

Indoor hospitality and hotels open

### ● Step four: 21 June\*

All legal limits on social contact removed

Hope to reopen final closed sectors of the economy

\*Earliest possible date

Source: GOV.UK

**BBC**

## DFE NEWS

The DFGE have published 13<sup>th</sup> version of 'actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak' guidance which can be accessed via gov.uk

Guidance

### Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

What childcare services early years settings, childminders and local authorities need to provide during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

### Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

February 2021

[DfE master statutory guidance template \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

#### Main changes to the guidance for early years:

- **Face coverings** - clarified the guidance on wearing of face coverings where social distancing between staff in communal areas is not possible
- **Childminders for school-aged children** - childminders can continue to look after all early years children.

UNTIL 8 MARCH	FROM 8 MARCH
Until 8 March, childminders should continue to only look after those school-age children (from reception onwards) who are <a href="#">vulnerable</a> or children of <a href="#">critical workers</a>	From 8 March, childminders will be able to look after vulnerable children as normal, and all other children where parents are using the provision to support them to work, seek work, undertake education or training, or attend a medical appointment or address a medical need.

- **Testing** - section on asymptomatic testing has been added confirming that DFE are now expanding home testing kits to staff in all private, voluntary and independent nurseries, who should start to receive deliveries of Lateral Flow Device (LFD) home testing kits to offer to all their staff for twice weekly testing from next month.

This will help to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmissions. [Childminders as essential workers can continue to access community testing](#) at one of the local sites listed overleaf) and the DFE continues to work with colleagues across government to review the testing approach available for childminders.

DFE statement on mass testing is available here

[Mass testing for secondary pupils as all schools and colleges fully reopen from 8 March - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



## Sector Guidance & Updates

For information, links to the published guidance are provided below:

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\) www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and other out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): financial support for education, early years and children's social care - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Please see also attached a letter of thanks from the Secretary of State, Gavin Williamson.



Home | Coronavirus  
**Test and Trace**

## Community Passes : Pilot Scheme

***Drop in testing for specific providers offering funded early years entitlements***

### Community testing programme (for those who don't have symptoms)

#### Rapid tests for those people without symptoms

Don't forget to **collect** community passes for staff where you have already been emailed.

Select providers (offering funded places to 2, 3 and 4 year olds) can then drop into any local testing site without appointment for a test.

All other providers and staff can continue to book regular test via the appointment system below.

[https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/forms/form/597/en/community\\_testing\\_programme](https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/forms/form/597/en/community_testing_programme)

Test sites for everyone are:

Daniel Defoe Hall, University of Greenwich, Greenwich - [map](#) Open Wednesday to Sunday, 8am to 8pm

David Fussey Building, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill - [map](#) Open 7 days per week, 8am to 5pm

Charlton Athletic Football Club, Charlton - [map](#) Open Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm

Waterfront Leisure Centre, Woolwich - [map](#) Open Tuesday to Saturday, 8am to 8pm

New! Princess Alice pub, Thamesmead - [map](#) Seven days a week, 8am to 8pm

**Covid 19 Responding  
to a Suspected  
/Confirmed Case**

DfE coronavirus helpline  
Telephone  
0800 046 8687

Child / staff member develops Covid-19 symptoms:

- High temperature
- New continuous cough
- Loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

Send child / staff member home immediately to isolate for at least **10 days** and notify household members to isolate for 14 days

If child is waiting to be collected, separate from group (room or 2m if no room) and isolate with **one** member of staff

Staff member to wear PPE until child has left and then safely discard PPE

clean all areas affected

all in contact with child/staff to wash hands

(Follow **Cleaning of non-health care settings** guidance)

Child / staff member should arrange to have a test within 8 days <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or call NHS 119

**NEGATIVE**

Child / staff member can **return** to setting and household members can end **10 day** isolation

**POSITIVE**

Rest of children and staff in **close contact** sent home to isolate for **10 days** (whole of childminder household)

**POSITIVE**

Other household members of those in close contact sent home **do not** need to isolate unless the child / staff member sent home develops symptoms

**You must IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY**

1. Telephone new PHE / DfE helpline **0800 046 8687** select Option 1 – positive cases only
2. Local Authority Early Years and Childcare and Public Health team via notification form [childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk) and [healthprotection@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:healthprotection@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)
3. Ofsted **Online notification form**

Outbreak - if two or more confirmed cases within 14 days or overall rise in sickness absence where COVID-19 suspected – PHE local health protection to advise on additional actions [phe.slhpt@nhs.net](mailto:phe.slhpt@nhs.net); [slhpt.oncall@phe.gov.uk](mailto:slhpt.oncall@phe.gov.uk)

Guidance

# Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19

Updated 25 February 2021

## NEW UPDATE

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

**Don't forget to send us details of who is clinically extremely vulnerable so we can advocate for earlier vaccinations.**

Email [childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

## Contents

1. [Who this guidance is for](#)
2. [What has changed](#)
3. [Socialising](#)
4. [Work](#)
5. [Education settings](#)
6. [Travel](#)
7. [Shopping](#)
8. [Medicines](#)
9. [Accessing care and support](#)
10. [Registering for additional support](#)
11. [Definition of clinically extremely vulnerable groups](#)

## Vaccine News

Independent report

# Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation: advice on priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination, 30 December 2020

Updated 6 January 2021

[Joint](#)

[Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation: advice on priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination, 30 December 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



Public Health  
England

Promotional material

# COVID-19 vaccination first phase priority groups

Updated 23 February 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups>

**Priority Risk group**

1	Residents in a care home for older adults and staff working in care homes for older adults
2	All those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
3	All those 75 years of age and over
4	All those 70 years of age and over and <a href="#">clinically extremely vulnerable</a> individuals (not including pregnant women and those under 16 years of age)
5	All those 65 years of age and over
6	Adults aged 16 to 65 years in an at-risk group (see clinical conditions below) <a href="#">[footnote 1]</a>
7	All those 60 years of age and over
8	All those 55 years of age and over
9	All those 50 years of age and over
10	Rest of the population (to be determined)

Clinical conditions list:

- a blood cancer (such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma)
- diabetes
- dementia
- a heart problem
- a chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis, emphysema or severe asthma
- a kidney disease
- a liver disease
- lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (such as HIV infection, steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy)
- rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or psoriasis (who may require long term immunosuppressive treatments)
- have had an organ transplant
- had a stroke or a transient ischaemic attack (TIA)
- a neurological or muscle wasting condition
- a severe or profound learning disability
- a problem with your spleen, example sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed

- are seriously overweight (BMI of 40 and above)
- are severely mentally ill

Further detailed information on priority groups is available in the [COVID-19 Green Book, chapter 14a](#).

1. At the same time as adults under 65 years with long term conditions, the vaccine will also be offered to unpaid adult carers – those who are in receipt of a carer’s allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.

### How many within category?

Priority Group	JCVI Category	England (m)	UK (m)
1	Residents in a care home for older adults	0.3	0.3
	Residential Care Workers	0.4	0.5
2	All those 80 years of age and over	2.8	3.3
	Frontline health and social care workers	3.2	3.8
3	All those 75-79 years of age	1.9	2.3
4	All those 70-74 years of age	2.7	3.2
	Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (under 70)	1.0	1.2
Total priority cohorts 1-4		~12m	~15m
5	All those 65-69 years of age	2.4	2.9
6	All individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions	6.1	7.3
7	All those 60-64 years of age	1.5	1.8
8	All those 55-59 years of age	2.0	2.4
9	All those 50-54 years of age	2.3	2.8
Total priority cohorts 5-9		~14m	~17m
Total priority groups		~27m	~32m
Rest of adult population		~18m	~21m
Total		~44m	~53m

## Vaccination News

The NHS programme continues to be delivered as set out by government.

Royal Greenwich continue to raise the issue of vaccination within the sector at every opportunity.

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/coronavirus/faqs-coronavirus/#Vaccinations>

### As an early years or childcare practitioner, am I eligible to receive the vaccine under the JCVI's social care worker category? ^

This applies to all early years or childcare practitioners including childminders and nannies.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the NHS have confirmed that early years and childcare practitioners are not included in the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) current priorities for the vaccine unless they provide care for clinically extremely vulnerable children. The NHS are using the categorisation of social care that has been **published by the JCVI**.

The NHS has recently updated its definition of clinically extremely vulnerable (see FAQ section 'Being open, staff and parents' for further information) so you should check this even if you have previously done so.

### I have an appointment booked – should I cancel? ^

If you booked an appointment and you don't fit the criteria detailed in the previous question you have been asked to cancel your appointment as you are likely be turned away at the vaccination service. This will help to ensure that someone in the eligible cohort doesn't miss out on an appointment.

### But when I phoned 119 the operator told me I was eligible? ^

Last week (w/c 8 February 2021), when people in the JCVI's social care cohort were allowed to self-refer for an appointment, the NHS vaccination system did include childcare and early years practitioners in error and make appointments for them. This system has now been amended to reflect the fact that childcare and early years practitioners are not eligible for vaccination as part of the social care workforce (unless they are caring for clinically extremely vulnerable children).

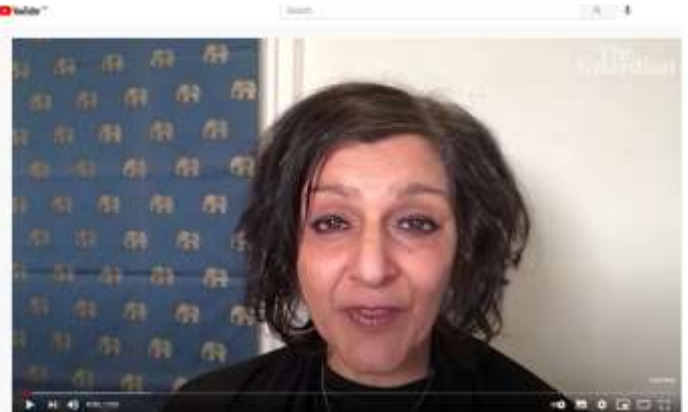
### Will I get fined for booking my vaccine if I am not eligible? ^

DHSC has confirmed that childcare or early years practitioners who do not fit the criteria detailed in the first question of this section but have already received their vaccine will not be fined.

Take up of vaccine by BAME communities is lower so please support families and staff to encourage their elders to have find out accurate information from reliable sources such as the NHS, BBC or their GP

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-56101990>

## Commercial TV channels unite to screen Covid vaccine myth-busting video



[https://youtu.be/b2Ald\\_\\_Ahbl](https://youtu.be/b2Ald__Ahbl)

## Covid: Vaccine fears addressed in South Asian languages

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55925490>



MAYOR OF LONDON

LONDON ASSEMBLY

## Translated COVID-19 guidance

Find information in community languages here

<https://www.london.gov.uk/coronavirus/translated-covid-19-guidance>





**South East London**  
Clinical Commissioning Group

Click on blue hyperlinks for information

- [COVID-19 vaccine](#)
  - [FAQs – Vaccine coverage and eligibility](#)
  - [FAQs – Vaccine safety and components](#)
  - [FAQs – Vaccine efficacy/effectiveness](#)
  - [FAQs – Practical queries around getting the vaccine](#)
  - [FAQs – Operational plans](#)
  - [Public resources](#)
  - [Get Involved](#)
- [Our COVID-19 response](#)
- [Reporting COVID-19 scams](#)

<https://selondonccg.nhs.uk/what-we-do/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/>



#### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE:**

The NHS in south east London is working hard to vaccinate those most at-risk from COVID-19.

If you are aged 64 and over, a frontline health or social care worker, a carer (you are eligible for a [Carer's Allowance](#)) or clinically extremely vulnerable (high risk) – you can book your vaccine online at [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination) or call 119 without needing an invitation.

If you are on the learning disability register or clinically vulnerable (moderate risk) from COVID-19 please wait to be contacted by the NHS.

See the full list of priority groups [here](#) and guidance on the high and moderate risk categories [here](#).

## Guidance

# Holiday activities and food programme

Information for local authorities who will receive funding to support disadvantaged children during the 2021 Easter, summer and Christmas holidays.

[Holiday activities and food programme 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

### Contents

1. [Overview](#)
2. [Background](#)
3. [Who the programme is for](#)
4. [Funding](#)
5. [What's involved](#)

### What is the Holiday Activities and Food Fund for?

Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue and evidence suggests that they can have a positive impact on children and young people and that they work best when they:

- provide consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities
- cover more than just breakfast or lunch
- involve children (and parents) in food preparation

### Who the programme is for

The aim of the programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least 4 hours a day, 4 days a week, 6 weeks a year. This holiday provision is for children who receive **benefits-related free school meals**. It will of course be optional for eligible children to attend this provision if they wish.

Local authorities are asked by the DFE to ensure that the offer of free holiday club provision is available for all children eligible for free school meals in the area. DFE also encourages local authorities to make the holiday clubs available to any children not eligible for free school meals, who can pay to attend.

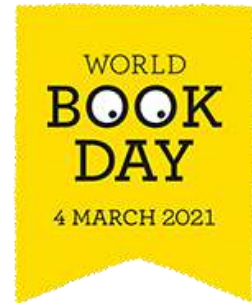
As a result of this, the government want children who attend this provision to:

- eat more healthily over the school holidays
- be more active during the school holidays
- take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider educational attainment
- be safe and not to be socially isolated
- have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition
- be more engaged with school and other local services

### What do you need to do as an out of school provider?

In the meantime, if you do provide out of school and / or holiday provision please make sure you feature on the Family Services Directory. If you don't, or need to update your information, please do so by getting in touch with [fis@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:fis@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

# Home Learning Environment



## Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day 2021

World Book Day aims to 'change lives through a love of books and shared reading. World book day is a great way to inspire children to love and enjoy books. You can have a book-themed event and invite children to dress up as their favourite book character. You can have lots of fun theming a whole day, or a whole week of activities around books.

Children need to hear between one to two thousand stories and books read, before moving on to become readers themselves. Having access to books and developing a love of reading for pleasure is vital for a child's future, so we need to celebrate books and celebrate reading with our children!

- ☀ Give parents and carers books to take home to share with their children.
- ☀ Explore a range of reading materials.
- ☀ Books that offer the opportunity to share rhyme and poetry,
- ☀ Traditional stories, classic fiction, new fiction and opportunities to discover non-fiction.
- ☀ There are also a wider range such as comics and graphic novels, dual language texts, short stories, magazines and on-screen texts.



To help children develop, it is important for parents and early years practitioners to embrace and teach children about the magic of storytelling. Re-tell well known stories through play.

Use props and loose parts as an invitation for children to re-tell the stories they know.

### [Penny's top 5 storytelling tips - YouTube](#)

Click on the links below for ideas on how you can tell stories with:



## Different Voices



- ★ [printable story telling kits, like Goldilocks](#)
- ★ [Fairy Tale fridge magnets](#)
- ★ [Story Stones](#)
- ★ [storytelling cards](#)
- ★ [story telling tin](#)
- ★ [story maps](#)
- ★ [The Very Hungry Caterpillar activities](#)

One popular way of celebrating the day is for children to dress up as their favourite characters from books and literature. You can creativity make costumes of characters and plan fun activities.

Handa from Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne

Lola from Big Hair Don't Care by Crystal Swain-Bates



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/ehorton0050/storybook-character-costumes/>



Dress as Mr Strong or Little Miss Sunshine

[MR-Strong-and-Little-Miss-Sunshine.pdf](#)  
(bookaid.org)



Dress as the Gruffalo

[GRUFFALO-revised.pdf](#)  
(bookaid.org)



Dress as Spot

[dress-up-sheets-spot-claude.pdf](#) (bookaid.org)



Dress as Elmer

[Elmer.pdf](#) (bookaid.org)

Video: Make a reading den

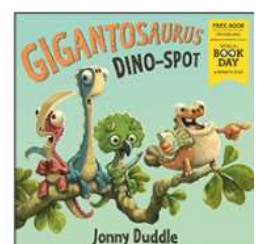
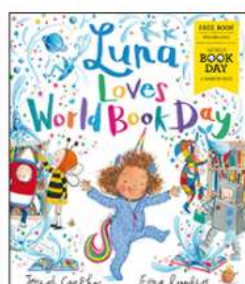
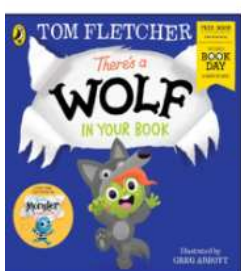


Creating a special place to read shows just how wonderful books are. All you really need is a place to sit and some books.

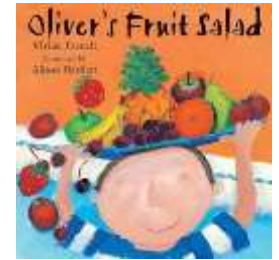
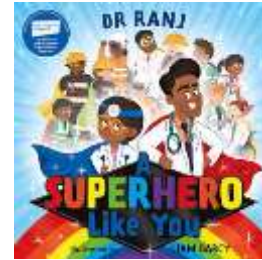
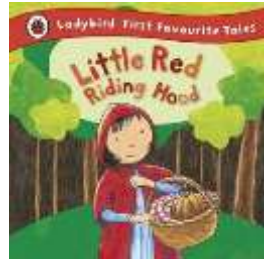
By adding some extra special touches, you can make a little reading den that children love to visit. There are lots of online ideas

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/blog/building-reading-dens/>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/doreenspencer/book-corner-ideas/>

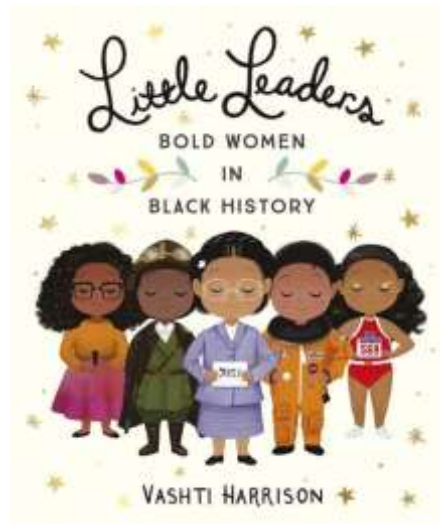


### A Few Characters Ideas

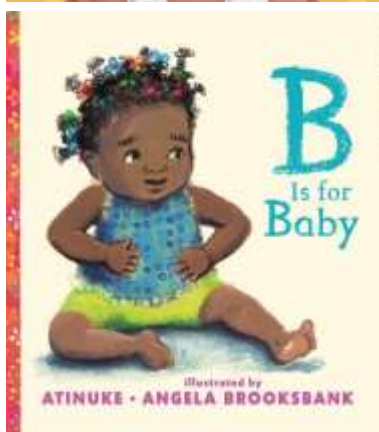
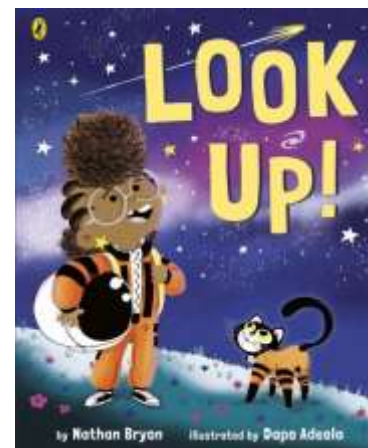
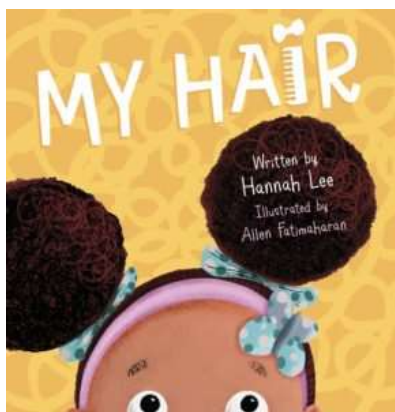


### On World Book Day, Black Characters Matter

<https://archive.voice-online.co.uk/article/world-book-day-black-characters-matter>



<https://www.worldbookday.com/2020/10/black-history-month/>



## Healthy Early Years London

### Mental Health & Wellbeing



HM Government



Anna Freud  
National Centre for  
Children and Families



MindEd  
e-learning to support healthy minds

#### WELLBEING FOR EDUCATION RETURN: RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION STAFF INFORMATION SHEET AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



New and updated [Wellbeing for Education Return](#) resources are now available for education staff who do not have access to locally adapted training and support, or to supplement existing local offers. You will need to set up an account and access a code.

These include a short, recorded webinar - '[Every interaction matters](#)'. It introduces a simple framework for promoting wellbeing, resilience and mental health, building on education staff's existing roles, skills and personal qualities. It is intended for use by education leaders with all staff in staff or INSET sessions, or for education staff to work through individually.

This sits alongside the original Wellbeing for Education Return [content](#) covering issues such as bereavement, loss, anxiety, stress and trauma and signposting to [free information and resources](#) for education staff, children and young people, parents and carers.

[Information sheet and FAQ's](#) attached



# Looking after your mental health as a teacher

[Looking after your mental health as a teacher | Mental Health Foundation](#)



## Psychological First Aid: Supporting Children and Young People


### FREE ONLINE COURSE

By Public Health England



 Duration  
3 weeks

 Weekly study  
1 hour

 100% online  
Try this course for free

#### Learn how to support children and young people using psychological first aid

On this 3-week free course you will explore the techniques of psychological first aid (PFA), the globally recommended training for supporting people during emergencies. You'll focus on children and young people's mental health, and what you can do to help them cope and access the support they need during and after emergencies and crisis situations. The course has been produced by

#### Identify how emergencies like COVID-19 affect children and young people's mental health

Crises can severely impact mental health and it's important that people have access to the support they need. During this course, you'll explore how emergencies affect mental health and what you can do to help the children, young people, and families you come into contact with. You'll learn how to recognise the common signs of distress across different age groups and be able to identify who might be at an increased risk. PFA will also teach you helpful strategies to determine when people require additional support.

#### What topics will you cover?

- What is Psychological First Aid?
- How do children and young people respond to emergencies and crisis situations?
- The PFA stages to supporting people: Prepare, Look, Listen, Link
- Supporting yourself and your colleagues

#### What will you achieve?

By the end of the course, you'll be able to...

- Explain what psychological first aid is
- Identify children, young people and families for whom it is suited and how you can help them
- Describe how children and young people of different ages react to traumatic experiences
- Identify ways to look after yourself and your peers when working in the context of an emergency
- Engage with further reading into psychosocial support during emergencies

#### Who is the course for? And what skills do you need?

- Be a good listener. An important part of PFA is identifying what help and support each person requires.
- Understand the importance of accurate information during the pandemic and where to access it.
- Have the ability to encourage active coping by, for instance, helping people make plans.
- Encourage and help people to connect to others (in line with current regulations).
- Be aware of people's cultural preferences and needs.
- Be aware that some people may be extremely distraught and tearful and that you may become upset too

## Keeping Children Safe



020 8921 4477

safeguardingchildren@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

### Contact Children's Services

Emergency Duty Team (out of office hours only): 020 8854 8888

Referral team: 020 8921 3172

Email: [mash-referrals@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:mash-referrals@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

LADO : 020 8921 3930 / [childrens-LADO@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:childrens-LADO@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

Early Years & Childcare : 020 8921 3877 / [childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:childcare-support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

Ofsted : 0300 123 4666 / [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)

## Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing is when an employee of an organisation passes on information that they reasonably believe shows wrongdoing or a cover up by that organisation. This might be about activity that is:

- illegal
- risks others' health and safety
- is about poor practice or leadership
- failure to meet statutory requirements

As long as you fit the [criteria for whistleblowing](#), you are protected under the law.

To be a whistleblower, you need to be a worker. This includes:

- employees
- temporary agency staff
- home workers
- trainees on vocational schemes
- people whose employment has ended

You must have a whistleblowing policy if you have staff or childminding assistants. The policy must require immediate and prompt action without delay to report directly to senior manager and/or DSL, LADO/MASH **and Ofsted**

[enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)

<https://www.report-childcare-incident.service.gov.uk/serious-incident/childcare/update-incident/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-serious-childcare-incident>



## Mental Health & Wellbeing of Parents

As you are acutely aware there is increased concern regarding Parental Mental Health. The GSCP have been focussed on this area of concern for some time but it has been a particular priority during the pandemic and the increase in cases (including child deaths) that may be linked to Parental Mental Health.

The GSCP Schools Sub Group have procured the following training and support materials (please see below and attached) which you may find useful.

This is **FREE training** accessible immediately online, please make available to all your staff working with families and parents and then evaluate its impact

WEBINAR: Raising Awareness about Parental Mental Health during COVID

[https://mega.nz/file/G11k2lqb#UR\\_Z\\_7sYIGncNZN6b\\_1y98XM9ZLZIKR6OcJ7vO6Kh5k](https://mega.nz/file/G11k2lqb#UR_Z_7sYIGncNZN6b_1y98XM9ZLZIKR6OcJ7vO6Kh5k)



You have been sent this via the GSCP to be shared within your organisation, should you want or need to share this with a non-Greenwich agency, please seek permission from the GSCP.

Attached is the accompanying [PowerPoint Presentation](#), [research paper](#) & [CRIB sheet](#) including a list of useful local support services which may be of use for your community.

The RBG MASH Team is always available to support and advise should you be concerned for a child's safety/wellbeing. Please do not hesitate to contact them should you have any concerns or wish to discuss a particular case.

## Understanding domestic abuse & the impacts on children



### Free Online Zoom Training

**Thurs 4 March 2021**

**7pm – 8.30pm**

1. Sign up on Direct Services to Schools

[http://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/private,-voluntary-and-independent-\(pvi\)-and-childminders](http://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/private,-voluntary-and-independent-(pvi)-and-childminders)

2. Download Zoom app

<https://zoom.us/download>

3. Look out for meeting invite via email

The training session will explore:

- increasing awareness of domestic abuse
- the impacts of domestic abuse on children both in the short and long term
- how to recognise the signs of abuse – as a survivor or witness
- how to respond to a disclosure of domestic abuse

To book <https://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/pvi>

Or email [eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)





## Keeping babies and young children safe:

### *Understanding child development to build strong foundations*

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#### FREE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

*Please note this training will be delivered via zoom*

**11 March 2021**

10am – 3pm

**For early years managers, designated safeguarding leads, room leaders and childminders**

A new refresher on early child development so that practitioners and staff are better equipped to identify and respond to concerns about babies and young children.

Following the deaths of babies and young children, this training is strongly recommended

By the end of this **one day** programme participants will have a good understanding of

- infant brain development (pre-birth to 4 years)
- attachment theory
- how babies and young children communicate – language development and behaviour
- the impact of trauma and neglect on the child's development
- what can we do to support child development
- local opportunities and resources to promote the child's development

**How to book**

<https://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/pvi>

or email [eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:eyc.training@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

## Safe Sleeping for Babies

# Babies and sleeping on sofas



Sleeping on a sofa with your baby increases the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) by up to 50 times ([www.lullabytrust.org.uk](http://www.lullabytrust.org.uk))

In the middle of the night you may be feeding your baby, you will be tired and think that **“just this once it will be safe”**, as you’re too tired to take your baby back upstairs.... If you have a plan you can prevent this

You may not intend to sleep on the sofa with you baby –it is important to **make a plan to prevent this from happening:**

- Keep a Moses basket by the sofa (without any toys or loose clothing inside)
- Feed you baby on a chair where you will not fall asleep
- Feed them whilst watching something or reading, something that will keep you awake
- Partner can take the baby to the cot or Moses basket
- Set an alarm to go off in 15/20 mins after feeding started if you feel sleepy, then move baby to their bed.



**90% of babies who died whilst sharing a bed with an adult, died in hazardous co-sleeping situations.**



To take the best steps to prevent SIDS, families should not fall asleep with their baby, especially when:

- they have recently drunk any alcohol
- **they or their partner smoke**
- they have taken any drugs that make them feel sleepy or affect their awareness
- **their baby was born prematurely** or weighed under 2.5kg or 5½ lbs when they were born
- **In these scenarios, it is always best to put baby in their own safe sleep space such as a cot or a Moses basket.** ([www.lullabytrust.org.uk](http://www.lullabytrust.org.uk))

**230**  
SIDS claims the lives of approximately 230 babies every year in the UK; that's around 4 babies a week

Four small icons of babies, each with a different colored head (brown, orange, yellow, and red).

## Digital Offers by **Children's Centres** and **Greenwich Libraries**

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Greenwich-Libraries-375637446612900/videos/>



### **Children's Centres**

To get in touch with your local Children's Centre by phone – you can find their contact details here

[https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/directory/15/childrens\\_centres](https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/directory/15/childrens_centres)

#### **EAST CHILDREN'S CENTRES**

[www.facebook.com/abbeywoodthamesmeadchildrenscentres](http://www.facebook.com/abbeywoodthamesmeadchildrenscentres)

Telephone 020 8311 5491 / Email [waterways@gll.org](mailto:waterways@gll.org)

#### **SOUTH GREENWICH CHILDREN'S CENTRES**

[www.facebook.com/southgreenwichchildrenscentres](http://www.facebook.com/southgreenwichchildrenscentres)

Tel: 020 8859 1110 / Email: [SGCCSM@gll.org](mailto:SGCCSM@gll.org)

#### **GREENWICH WEST CHILDREN'S CENTRES**

Website: <https://www.quaggydevelopmenttrust.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/quaggycc>

Follow Halo the Hippo <https://www.facebook.com/halothehippo>

#### **CENTRAL GREENWICH CHILDREN'S CENTRES**

<http://www.homestartgreenwich.org.uk/>

[Join us on Facebook](#) [Follow us on instagram](#)