



# P

## VI SENCo Newsletter.

AUTUMN 2021

### CONTENTS:

Page 1: Welcome back

Page 2: SEN Inclusion  
Funding

Page 3—5 : Fundamen-  
tal principles of the  
code of practice

Page 6: Early years con-  
sultation forums are ON  
Microsoft TEAMS.

Page 7: Royal Green-  
wich Local Offer – Early  
Years Inclusion Team  
page

Page 8—9: General in-  
formation regarding  
SEND/ EYIT

Page 10: Communica-  
tion

Welcome back all Managers, SENCos and Practitioners.

I hope you all had chance to have a break away from work over the summer to rest and recuperate, maybe even a 'staycation'.....



The coronavirus is unfortunately still with us, so we will continue to be mindful of developments and follow local and or government advice. The Early Years Inclusion Team will continue to offer support flexibly and in a variety of ways e.g. visits to settings, virtual meetings, some face-to-face meetings, pre-recorded training etc.

Any questions or queries regarding SEND do make contact via phone / email with you link Area SENCo. Further details on Area SENCo contact numbers/ emails can be found on the RBG SEND Local Offer under the 'Meet the Team' drop down under, link below....

<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=LXxEdfRvhbo>

**Changes to Development Matters, the revised non-statutory curriculum guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) from September 2021.**

As a result of, these changes the SEN Inclusion Fund has taken away the requirement to submit EYFS tracking data from the mandatory evidence required for reviews and will now require a clear summative assessment of the child's needs (this can be either a separate setting based report or a detailed description in the 'assessing' section on the application/ review appendix's).

For further information please see the attached 'Amendment to the SEN Inclusion Fund required evidence' (document attached)

or click on the following link

[Early Years Special Educational Needs \(SEN\) Inclusion Funding - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

alternatively scan the QR code using a mobile device



## **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE- The importance of Early Identification**

Statutory responsibilities – A child may have special educational needs requiring the intervention of the LEA as well as the Health Service before he or she reaches compulsory school age.



Early identification – All children with special educational needs should be identified and assessed as early as possible, and as quickly and as thoroughly as possible. Children whose needs are identified early are less likely to have serious difficulties later on.

Partnership with parents – The knowledge views and experience of parents are vital. Effective assessment and provision will be secured where there is the greatest possible degree of partnership between parents and their children, schools and settings, LEAs and other agencies.

Pupil participation – All providers must develop procedures for involving children in decision making and exercising choice.

Inclusion – The special educational needs of children will normally be met in mainstream schools or settings. When parents want a mainstream place for their child, the education service should do everything possible to try to provide it.

Involving all staff – Provision for children with special educational needs is a matter for everyone in an early years setting or school, not just the SENCo or support staff.

**Please see below for further reminders on the referral options for children with emerging or complex SEND.....**

**Referral process reminders:**

**For Speech Therapy / Occupational Therapy / Physiotherapy (child must have Greenwich GP),**

**Parents are to continue to email initial contact with these services via the following email.**

**[Oxl-tr.askinttherapiesadvice@nhs.net](mailto:Oxl-tr.askinttherapiesadvice@nhs.net)**



## Referrals to the Early Years Coordination Team (EYCT)

Children need to be referred into this team in a timely manner if they are already known to 3 or more supporting services across education and health or you think they may need the support from 3 or more of the services connected to the EYCT.

Please check the child you are referring into the team lives in Greenwich Borough or has a Greenwich GP.

See details on our webpage on the Royal Greenwich Local Offer for more information about the EYCT referral and process.

<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=LXxEdfRvhbo>



Also, in downloads there is an 'easy read' information leaflet for parents to go with the Early Years Coordination Team referral form- this will support you further in explaining to parents about this team and why you are

### Health Services Single Point of Access (SPA) 8836 8621 - Ext 2

Contact this number first if you have any queries about a child's specialist health services or any Early Years Coordination Team (EYCT) queries.

If you make a referral to the EYCT and have not heard the outcome regarding this referral within 2 months, please contact this number to check what is happening.

---

## Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a main benefit for disabled / SEND children. It is there to help meet some of the extra costs of having a disabled child / child with SEND.

Please keep this in mind when working with Parents who have a child with SEND.



## Disability Access Fund DAF

Three- and four-year old children who are in receipt of child Disability Living Allowance and are receiving the free early learning entitlement are eligible for the Disability Access Fund (DAF).

DAF is paid to the child's early years setting (as nominated by the parent) as a fixed annual rate of £615 per eligible child. The funding is non-transferable and does not follow the child if there is a transition to another setting during the academic year.

See below link from our webpage on the Royal Greenwich Local Offer for more details.

[https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/site.page?id=AW\\_sij-2PUs](https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/site.page?id=AW_sij-2PUs)





## **EARLY YEARS CONSULTATION FORUMS ARE STILL ON MICROSOFT TEAMS.**

Due to the COVID 19 situation these forums will transfer to an online virtual meet up via Microsoft Team. Microsoft Teams is free you just download the app and click on the invitation link that will be sent to you via your link Area SENCo.

At the Early Years Consultation Forums, we aim to create a supportive, safe and confidential space in which to explore issues and concerns in detail. The Forums are non-judgemental and allow members to acknowledge strengths and difficulties as well as developing knowledge and skills. Through active listening, suggesting what might be going on and problem clarification; members share thinking and ideas to generate possible solutions.

**Forums will currently take place in four areas of Royal Greenwich**

**South**

**West**

**East**

**Central**



**DATES TO FOLLOW**

**The Early Years Inclusion Team’s webpages have  
been updated on the SEND Local Offer**



Follow the link below or the scan QR code.

Via this main webpage you can access, information about our team, resources, activity videos, referral forms, symbols and much more.

Go on have a look today !!!!!!!!!!!

**EYIT main landing page:**



<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/service.page?>



## General information regarding SEND/ EYIT:

(Including a drop down for 'Meet the Team' information- this contains all team members up to date contact details)

Early Years SEND - Information



<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=LXxEdfRvhbo>



PAGE 8

## Early Years SEND - Resources for PVI SENCo's and practitioners (Including SEND toolkit information, templates, observation tools)

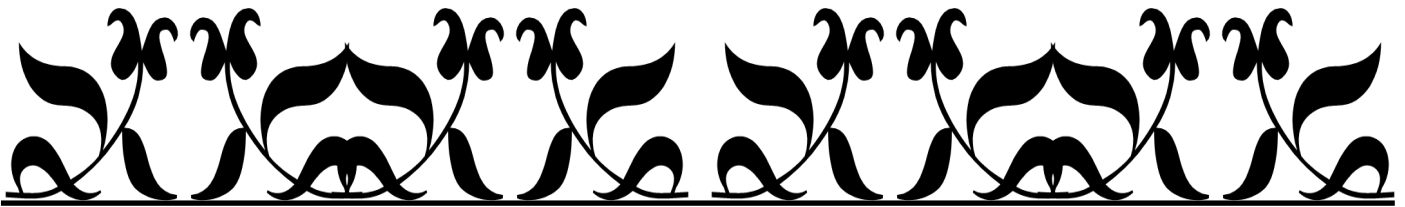
Early Years SEND – Resources for PVI SENCo's and practitioners



<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=sQgN8-wUzcl>



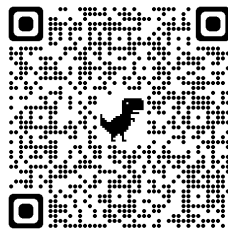




**Click or scan here for information on Early Years Inclusion Fund**  
(Including downloads such as an application form & an example of how to fill it in)

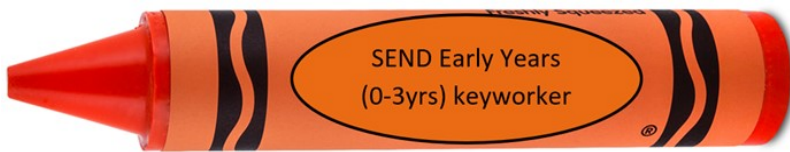


<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/site.page?id=uk4u3gbDifw>

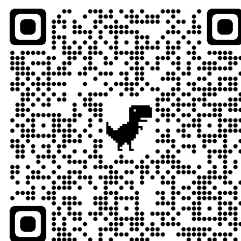


### **EYIT - SEND Early Years keyworker**

Find out about the keyworker and what her role is within the Early Years Inclusion Team.



<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/service.page?id=E7Gg6pg7pYQ&localofferchannel=1>



**See the attached booklet- a great resource for staff in your setting**

**Universally Speaking-** The ages and stages of children's communication development from birth to 5 years



Communication is the way we connect with other people. It underpins learning and development in children of all ages and is a skill that can always be developed and improved.

Learning a language is the most important thing a child will ever do. Young babies and children need to learn how to:

- Understand what people are saying
- Use words and sentences properly
- Speak clearly
- Look, listen and take turns

People sometimes assume that speech, language and communication skills develop and flourish no matter what.

This is not the case... children need adults to encourage and support development of their language and communication.

Universally Speaking is a series of 3 booklets for anyone who works with children and young people.

To order further copies of the Universally Speaking booklets please go to:

**[www.ican.org.uk/shop](http://www.ican.org.uk/shop)**