



WELCOME

It's hard to believe we're heading into July this week! And like you, we're busy preparing exciting Early Years opportunities for the next academic year.

As parents begin looking ahead to September—perhaps with their children starting school—many may also be thinking about returning to work. It's the perfect time to spread the word about the **Do Something Big** campaign. Please share it through your own social media and newsletters—you'll find the details below. You never know who might be inspired to step into the world of Early Years or Childminding 😊

As always, keep in touch with the team via our central inbox: early.years@halton.gov.uk.

Best wishes
Sarah

UPDATES

Ofsted confirms September publication for consultation response, ahead of new-look education inspections from November

Ofsted's formal response to the consultation, originally due this summer, will now be published in September. Sir Martyn Oliver, His Majesty's Chief Inspector, confirmed the delay to allow for deeper analysis of the extensive feedback and further testing of proposed measures.

For more information, visit: [Ofsted confirms September publication for consultation response, ahead of new-look education inspections from November - GOV.UK](#)



RealiseEY – Early Years Managers App

RealiseEY is the brand new **free** to access app created just for Early Years Managers in small settings. Giving you the tools, expert advice, and peer support you need - all in one place.

[Click here](#) to find out more.

New Neurodiversity Pathway for Cheshire & Merseyside

A new neurodevelopmental pathway is being introduced to better support neurodivergent children and young people. As part of this, families will work with practitioners (e.g. school SENCOs) to complete a *This is Me* profile—helping identify strengths and support needs early, without waiting for a diagnosis. The tool is already in use in Wirral and will roll out across the region during 2025. Implementation will be tailored locally.

For more information about This is Me, visit the [NHS Cheshire and Merseyside website](#).

EXPANSION/ENTITLEMENTS

Estimated Hours

The Provider Portal will be open between 7th-11th July for the submission of your estimated hours for the autumn term.

Adjustments

Deadline for Summer Term Adjustments:

Friday, 11th July

 **Tip:** Don't wait until the last minute—get your adjustments in early to avoid any last-minute issues!



As the school gates swing open, new doors open for parents too!

As children head off to school, many parents find themselves with more time and new possibilities. Whether they are looking to return to work, start a new career, or explore flexible opportunities, now is the perfect moment to do something big. Help us spread the word via your newsletters and social media by signposting your parents, carers, or anyone interested to [Do Something Big – Early Years Careers](#) for more information about working in early years.

Got vacancies to fill?

You can advertise early years job vacancies **for free** here:

 [Search and apply for jobs](#) | [Find a job](#)

SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

Operation Encompass

DSLs in group-based settings must make sure that they have completed the free online Operation Encompass training, accessed [here](#). The Operation Encompass website also offers resources for educational settings

Stay Safe This Summer – Know Martyn's Law

The UK's new Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, known as Martyn's Law, aims to keep the public safer by requiring certain venues and events to have plans in place to respond to terrorist threats.

A short Home Office video explains who the law applies to and what steps need to be taken. It's a must-watch for anyone managing public spaces or events.

 [Watch the video and learn more on ProtectUK](#)

Let's stay alert and protect each other.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



ADDvanced Solutions
Community Network

Supporting you to find the answers

Amazing Play An Essential Introduction to Play and Play Work

Delivered by: Ben Kingston-Hughes

 **Date:** Thursday, 3rd July 2025

 **Time:** 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

 **Venue:** DCBL Stadium, Widnes

An Introduction to ADHD Learning Workshop

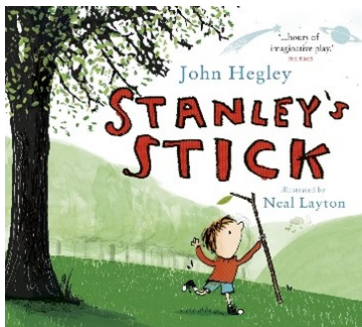
Delivered by: ADDvanced solutions

 **Date:** Thursday, 10th July 2025

 **Time:** 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

 **Venue:** DCBL Stadium, Widnes

DON'T MISS OUT!



New Early Years Resource from the National Literacy Trust

The Early Years Team at the National Literacy Trust has developed a wonderful new resource tailored specifically for Early Years practitioners. Inspired by the imaginative journey in *Stanley's Stick* by John Hegley and Neal Layton, this resource invites children to explore the magic of storytelling, creativity, and early writing.

Through a series of engaging and playful activities, children are encouraged to:

- Embark on imaginative adventures
- Develop their storytelling skills
- Express themselves through early mark-making and writing

This resource is perfect for sparking curiosity and language development in early years settings. [Click here](#) to log in and download your copy.

ARE YOU READY?

Did you know that all early years settings in England must have a Climate Action Plan in place by the end of 2025?

All early years settings in England are expected to have a Climate Action Plan in place by the end of 2025. This is part of the Department for Education's commitment to sustainability and climate education.

To help you get started, you can access a range of national resources:

- [Sustainability Support for Education](#) – Government guidance, templates, and planning tools.
- [Climate Ambassadors Programme](#) – Connects you with experts who can support your sustainability journey.
- [National Education Nature Park](#) – Encourages children to explore and protect their local environment.

You can also explore the [Early Years Sustainable Hub](#), developed by Highfield Nursery School in Ipswich and Everton Nursery School in Liverpool, which offers practical, early years-focused ideas and inspiration.

BABY BLOG



Baby Attachment part 2 – Dr Mona Sakr

In this blogpost, Dr Mona Sakr shares 5 things baby room practitioners can work on to help foster secure attachment among the babies in the room.

Click below to read the blog

[5 Strategies to Foster Secure Attachment in Baby Rooms](#)

CLUSTER CORNER

Out Now: School Readiness Matters

From personal, social and emotional development to communication, literacy, maths and beyond, each chapter offers research-informed strategies, reflection points and top tips to support truly child-centred transitions.

🔗 Download for free now via @TACTYCEarlyyears: <https://www.tactyc.org.uk>

SHARE WITH PARENTS

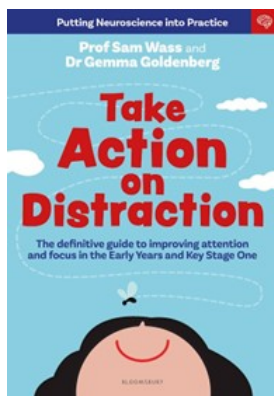
Outdoor Play and Water Safety

Playing outside is a vital part of every child's development—supporting physical health, creativity, and social skills. Water play, in particular, can be a source of endless fun and learning, whether in the garden, at the beach, or during bath time.

However, it's important to remember that easy access to water in familiar spaces can sometimes make it easy to overlook the risks. Even shallow water can pose a danger, especially for young children. Protecting children from the dangers of water starts at home so share the #SplashSafety messages on your social media and newsletter to parents/carers.



RESEARCH/READING



Looking for a new book to dive into?

This insightful book, mentioned at our spring term Communication Champions session and more recently during Dr Julian Grenier online session, blends neuroscience with practical strategies to help children in Early Years and KS1 settings improve focus and attention.

FURTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Dingley's Promise have 4 fab short videos about working with and supporting children with SEND.



The 20 minute video we have shared here outlines the 3 aspects of meaningful inclusion: an enabling environment, differentiation, and individualised and supported learning. It provides practical questions to ask yourself to ensure you are providing meaningful inclusion as a way of working in your setting.

You can access all the videos by heading to [Dingley's Promise: Fostering Meaningful Inclusion in Early Years Settings - childcareworks.org.uk](https://childcareworks.org.uk) It's a great resource to share with your team for training and discussion!

SEND SURVEY

Halton SEND Strategic Improvement Board are seeking the views of children, young people and their families on their experience of Halton SEND services across Education, Health and Social Care. This is an ideal opportunity for children, young people and their families to provide feedback on the services they have received. This information will ensure that all partners working together across the local area can utilise this feedback for the improvements being introduced and developed for SEND services in Halton.

There are two surveys to complete one for children and young people and another for parents and carers. The closing date for the surveys is **Thursday 31 July 2025**.



Scan QR code above or [click here](#)



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Take a look at the FREE information and resources on
Halton's Communication Hub

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Talk Halton



Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes WA8 7QF