



WELCOME

We're excited to welcome everyone joining us for the SEND Conference tomorrow. All workshops are now fully booked and will be led by *Dingley's Promise*, champions of inclusion in the early years.

In other exciting news, we're delighted to welcome Carmen Williams to the Early Years team. Carmen is the first of three Early Years Intervention Officers who will be joining us, with all posts in place by December.

Best wishes

Get in touch with the team on early.years@halton.gov.uk

UPDATES

Drop-In Sessions with the 0–19 Health Team

The 0–19 Health Team is hosting a series of informal drop-in sessions to support parents. These sessions offer a friendly and relaxed space to talk through any concerns parents may have about their child (e.g. weaning and nutrition, sleep routines, toilet training)

 **First session:** Tuesday 25th November

 **Time:** 4:00–6:00pm

 **Location:** Kingsway Family Hub

No appointment needed— so please signpost parents/carers to just drop in!



Birth to 5 Matters Guidance Under Review

Five years after its launch, *Birth to 5 Matters*—the non-statutory guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage—is being reviewed and refreshed to reflect new research and current sector priorities. Practitioners are invited to share feedback via an online survey this

November to help shape the revised guidance. You can access the survey [here](#)

FEYE FUNDING

Reminder: Autumn Term Adjustments

The deadline for submitting any autumn term adjustments is **Friday 28th November**. No further adjustments can be submitted after this date.

TRAINING

Last Chance to Book!

There's not long left until our Early Years Cluster event. We're delighted to have Ruth Swailes guiding us through the day with her expertise and insights.

✅ Don't miss this opportunity to learn, share, and connect with colleagues.

Book Your Place Now

SAFEGUARDING AND WELFARE

Safeguarding Spotlight: Cybersecurity in Early Years

Following the data breach at Kido nursery group, experts are urging early years settings to strengthen their digital defences. There are growing calls for online security to be recognised as a safeguarding requirement and included in inspections. Read more in Nursery World's long-read: [Early years settings warned to increase cyber-attack protection.](#)

FURTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FREE Early Years Immunisation Education Session – 4th December

Early Years providers – including nurseries, family centres, childminders, preschools, and children's centres – are invited to a **free education session** designed to support your role in promoting childhood immunisations.

 **Date:** Thursday 4th December

 **Time:** 9:30–11:00am

 **Location:** Heath Business and Technical Park, Runcorn

This **non-clinical session** will help you:

- * Build confidence in conversations with parents and carers
- * Understand the importance of the childhood immunisation schedule
- * Recognise your role in supporting the UK immunisation programme
- * Explore event stands with resources to support early years children

 **Book your place here:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/early-years-immunisation-education-event-tickets-1630660933749?aff=oddtcreator>

SEND

FREE Training Session: Sensory Processing Differences in the Early Years

 Tuesday, 11 November 2025

 09:30 – 12:30

FREE training session designed for Early Years practitioners to deepen your understanding of Sensory Processing Differences.

This interactive session will:

- ✓ Introduce the concept of sensory processing
- ✓ Explore sensory processing differences in young children
- ✓ Demonstrate how to create sensory-friendly environments
- ✓ Provide guidance on when additional support may be needed and where to access it

[Click here](#) to book your place

DON'T MISS OUT!

DfE Prevent Training for EYFS practitioners

A great opportunity to book on virtual training designed by DfE for staff within the early years foundation stage to understand their responsibilities and the importance of the Prevent duty. Book on to a date to suit you via the link below:

[Regional Prevent education co-ordinators - GOV.UK](#)

RESEARCH/READING



Play Dough: An Early Years Essential

Play dough isn't just a fun extra—it's vital for early years learning. It builds fine motor skills, strengthens hand muscles for writing, and sparks creativity and language development. Through simple play, children develop coordination, social skills, and problem-solving. [Click here](#) to read the article by Dr Aaron Bradbury

SHARE WITH PARENTS

Get the right care in the right place this winter

Knowing where to go when your child is unwell can save time and ensure the best care.

Online symptom checker

Alder Hey Children's Hospital has an online symptom checker with advice on treating common symptoms in children. Visit the website:

www.alderhey.nhs.uk/symptom-checker

Pharmacy Services

Your local pharmacy can treat minor illnesses with over-the-counter treatments, and most pharmacies can also offer prescription medicine for conditions, including:

- Impetigo (aged 1 year and over)
- Infected insect bites (aged 1 year and over)
- Earache (aged 1 to 17 years)
- Sore throat (aged 5 years and over)
- Sinusitis (aged 12 years and over)



Scan here to find out more

**A&E**

A&E is for people with life threatening illness or injury, so if you think your child needs immediate attention, then you should attend A&E.

Conditions that require immediate attention include:

- Shortness of breath
- Seizures
- Severe bleeding or burns
- Head or eye injuries
- Allergic reactions
- Serious animal bites
- Uncontrolled pain



If your child is struggling to breathe or loses consciousness, you should call 999

GP Services

Your GP can help with common illnesses including:

- Persistent coughs
- Skin infections
- Eye infections
- Ear pain

**Urgent treatment / walk-in centres**

If your GP surgery is closed, UTCs have specialist nurses and doctors that can help. Common conditions that can be treated include:

- Cuts and scrapes
- Minor burns
- Minor breathing difficulties
- Suspected fractures
- Uncontrolled fever

**Find your local Urgent Treatment Centre****St Helens Urgent Treatment Centre**

The Millennium Centre, Corporation St, St Helens WA10 1HU
8am-8pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

Runcorn Urgent Treatment Centre

Nightingale Building, Hospital Way, Runcorn WA7 2DA
8am-9pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

Widnes Urgent Treatment Centre

Health Care Resource Centre, Caldwell Rd, Widnes WA8 7GD
8am-9pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

Huyton NHS Walk-in Centre

Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton L36 6GA
8am-8pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

Kirkby Urgent Treatment Centre

St Chads Clinic, St Chads Drive, Kirkby L32 8RE
8am-8pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

Halewood NHS Walk-in Centre

The Halewood Centre, Roseheath Drive, Halewood L26 9UH
8am-8pm, 7 days a week incl. Bank Holidays

**Look, Say, Sing, Play**

Right from birth, every time you play with your child, use silly voices, or even sing, you're not just bonding, you're building their brain.

[Get free brain-building tips](#)

Look, Say, Sing, Play: Everyday Brain Building

The NSPCC's *Look, Say, Sing, Play* campaign shows how simple interactions—looking, talking, singing, and playing—help babies' brains grow. These resources give parents easy tips and activities to turn daily moments into learning opportunities.

[Share the toolkit with families](#)

COMMUNITY SPIRIT**HALTON HEALTH IMPROVEMENT****Halton Christmas Cards That Care 2025****Spread Some Festive Cheer! 🎄**

It's Christmas card time! If your setting is getting crafty, why not make an extra card or two for someone in the community? Drop off your creations at one of our community venues by **28th November**.

✳ See drop-off locations, or contact Age.well@halton.gov.uk for more info.

WIDNES
Ditton Family Hub and Community Centre Reception (previously Children's Centre)
Ditton Library (closed Wednesday)
Kingsway Family Hub Reception (previously Children's Centre) and Widnes Library main entrance
Upton Community Centre
Warrington Road Family Hub Reception (previously Children's Centre)

RUNCORN
Brookvale Family Hub Reception (previously Children's Centre)
Castlefields Community Centre
Grangeway Community Centre
Halton Lea Library
Halton Lodge Family Hub Reception (previously Children's Centre)
Murdishaw Community Centre
Runcorn Library (Old Town - closed Wednesday)
Windmill Hill Family Hub Reception (previously Children's Centre)



For more information call the team on:
0300 029 0029
or visit www.haltonhealthimprovement.co.uk

[@HaltonBC](#) [Halton BC](#)



HHEYS HIGHLIGHTS

Supervised Toothbrushing – Last Chance to Sign Up! 🖋️

Interested in offering supervised toothbrushing in your setting? There's only a few training slots left this year. Funding is available for children aged 2–7, with full training and support provided.

Subscribe

If this newsletter has been shared with you via your setting/school and you would like to receive a copy directly to your own inbox please click on the subscribe button and complete the relevant information.



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



Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes WA8 7QF