



WELCOME

I hope you all managed to enjoy a restful break over the summer and the new term has started well for you. It is hard to believe September is here already. Keep a look out for our newsletter which will come out every fortnight, this is how we will communicate all the latest updates. We can now embed videos and links to support CPD on the newsletter and would like it to reach as many 'on the ground' practitioners as possible. Please help us get the messages to the right people by forwarding this onto your team and EYFS Leads so they can subscribe themselves, this can be done by [clicking here](#) or by clicking the subscribe button at the end of this newsletter.

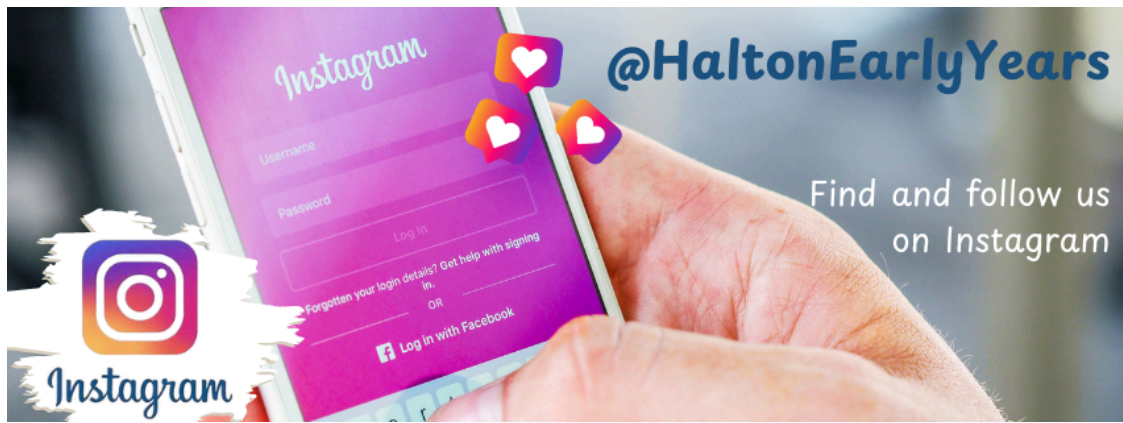
We have plenty to look forward to this term including the launch of our Early Years Cluster and Childminder PEEP sessions... take a look at our Autumn Term training directory so you don't miss out!

Send all enquiries to our central email address early.years@halton.gov.uk

We look forward to hearing from you
Best wishes
Sarah

UPDATES

This year we are making some changes to the way we work, including data collection, booking onto training and updated safeguarding policies. To keep everyone informed I would like to start the year with an online leadership briefing for all Managers and Childminders. It would be beneficial for all providers to attend. Please book on to confirm your attendance by [clicking here](#)



EXPANSION OF EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENTS

Autumn headcount day is **Thursday 19th September 2024**

The Provider Portal will be open from **5th - 23rd September 2024** to allow you to start inputting your autumn headcounts for all age ranges (including 9-23 month olds), however, please do not submit your headcount until headcount week (**16th-20th September**).

Only include children who were attending your setting during headcount week. Any children who are due to start after headcount week must be submitted as an adjustment.

NOTE: Any eligibility codes with a start date after **31st August 2024** will not be eligible in the autumn term. Please validate the codes before providing the funded hours to the family.



EARLY YEARS TRAINING

The Autumn Term training offer has been emailed out so make sure you check your inbox, if you haven't received a copy please contact early.years@halton.gov.uk

DON'T MISS OUT - COME AND JOIN US!

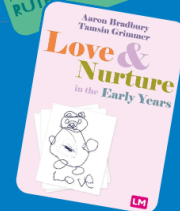
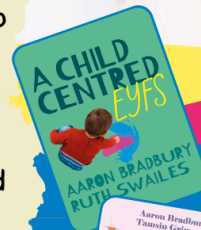
EARLY YEARS CLUSTER

For the first of our termly Early Years Clusters we are delighted to invite Halton's Foundation Stage Practitioners from Pre-School and Reception to join us and our guest speakers for a day of **inspiration**, **self-reflection** and **collaboration**

9th October 2024, 9.30-15.30, DCBL Stadium



Don't miss the opportunity to meet and be inspired by Aaron Bradbury, an Early Years author and principle Lecturer for Early Years and Childhood (Learning and Development, Psychology, Special Educational Needs, and Inclusion)



Lunch and refreshments will be provided

Fantastic FREE raffle prizes to be won!

Helping children and young people to fulfil their potential and SHINE!



For more information contact early.years@halton.gov.uk

DIARY DATES

Data collection dates for Ready for Reception and WellComm



Autumn Term – Friday 25th October 2024

Spring Term – Friday 14th February 2025

Summer Term – Friday 27th June 2025

If you have any questions about data please contact our Early Years Data Analyst clare.rowlands@halton.gov.uk

DID YOU KNOW....?



If you weren't able to join us for our *'Evening with Ofsted'* session in July take a look at this webinar for some of the key messages that were shared. In this episode Phil Minns (Senior HMI, Curriculum) and Sam Sleeman-Boss (Quality and Practice Lead, Early Education) discuss why communication and language are so important.

Is your environment working for you?

New term feels like a good time to make sure your environment is working for your new cohort of children. Alistar Brice Clegg has released his latest blog, to help make sure your continuous provision is meaningful and manageable. For more information [click here](#)



FURTHER UPDATES

Remember that all DSLs and their deputies should undertake the **Operation Encompass Key Adult Training**, available for FREE online.

This free training update's your knowledge of domestic abuse, children as victims of domestic abuse, how Operation Encompass works in principle and how staff can support children experiencing domestic abuse. This training will also assist you in developing the skills and knowledge to fully embed Operation Encompass in your setting. Please note that in Halton, Operation Encompass currently applies to daycare settings and preschools.

Are you recruiting?

The financial incentive (£1,000 welcome bonus) ends in December 2024, if you want to be part of the scheme before it's too late contact the Early years team.

Early Years & Childcare Job Fair is being held on **Thursday 26th September 9.30-2pm** at Warrington Road Family Hub. Come and promote your recruitment drive or speak with other professionals around training and apprenticeships in Early Years.

Please email early.years@halton.gov.uk for more information.

Click [here](#) for the online training

Childcare works hubs business planning support

To help early years plan for the childcare expansion and wraparound. Childcare works hub has plenty of helpful resources, information and bitesize videos around business support and planning. Take a look [Childcare Works - childcareworks.org.uk](https://childcareworks.org.uk)

Ofsted Updates

Ofsted have released two articles detailing feedback from their recent consultation the 'Big Listen' and upcoming changes to the way they report on inspection judgements.

There are some interesting reflection points made for Early Years and well worth a read!

High-quality early education and childcare is the bedrock of education" (Ofsted;2024)

Single headline Ofsted grades scrapped in landmark school reform - GOV.UK
(www.gov.uk)

[Hearing feedback, accepting criticism and building a better Ofsted: the response to the Big Listen](#) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

SEND Local Offer

Family hubs would like to involve early years settings, schools and colleges in the development and review of the local offer. Therefore, we are seeking expressions of interest from anybody who would be interested in supporting the co design of the local offer to attend on Wednesday 25th September between 1.30 - 4.00pm.

Please email Adam Hindhaugh (adam.hindhaugh@halton.gov.uk) to register your interest.

SHARE WITH YOUR PARENTS



Supporting baby's communication skills: some top tips produced in different languages. [Click here](#) for more information.

This will compliment the wealth of resources that are available on [Halton's Communication Hub](#)

School Admissions

Primary School 2025 admissions is now live. Parents and carers of children born between 01/09/2020 and 31/08/2021 are invited to make an application now, with the **deadline** being **15th January 2025**.

Please remind parents and share on your social media.

Subscribe

If would like to subscribe to our Early Years newsletter 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

Search



Talk Halton



Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes WA8 7QF