

# Early Years Provider Newsletter

Edition 2, **April 2020**

## INTRODUCTION –

Welcome to the second edition of the Early Years Provider Newsletter publication providing useful snippets, updates and links to information and guidance on a range of topics. We are sending the newsletter out fortnightly, with a larger publication quarterly

- Covid-19- help and support
- The Early Years Foundation Stage
- Early Help
- Health
- Safeguarding
- SEND and Inclusion
- Training and Development opportunities
- Other helpful information
- Team contact details


## Covid-19

Following Covid-19 should you have any queries in regards to you as a childcare provider and a business please click [here](#) to access the bury directory pages.

Whenever any new guidance is issued we will email you straight away with the information and relevant links.

Remember to keep up to date with our pages below.

 [Bury Council Early Years Team](#)

 [The Bury Directory](#) The Bury Directory Team are currently working with a new supplier to implement a new and improved platform.

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### **Public Health England**

Keep up to date with the latest developments and advice from Public Health England by clicking:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

### **Coronavirus testing extended to all essential workers in England who have symptoms**

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has announced that from 23<sup>rd</sup> April anybody in England who has symptoms of coronavirus and is classed as an essential worker, and members of their household who are currently experiencing symptoms, will be able get tested. This includes staff working in early years settings.

### **Testing**

Manchester Airport are now able to test children of all essential workers who are aged 5 and over.

To access more information please click on link below

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> April, employers can register online and refer self-isolating staff, and from 24<sup>th</sup> April employees will be able to book a test directly on gov.uk for themselves or

members of their household who are experiencing symptoms – a high temperature or new continuous cough.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-testing-extended-to-all-essential-workers-in-england-who-have-symptoms>

## **Provider Updates**

Many childcare providers have been providing us with updates regarding their current situation, also highlighting where they may have places available for those keyworker parents who may need them. Thank you for keeping us up to date with this . Please continue to communicate with us on issues that affect your sustainability. Whilst we are not always in a position to help we will try to feedback any key themes through to the DfE (Department for Education). Equally we have been heartened to hear from some providers who are coping well at this time and this is good news, please let us know.

This information has been crucial in providing alternative care at very short notice, enabling keyworkers to continue in their vital roles. Any keyworker parents needing a place are being directed to [childinfo@bury.gov.uk](mailto:childinfo@bury.gov.uk) where impartial advice, support and help is given to support families making choices.

## **Data Returns**

Local Authorities are now having to submit twice weekly data returns to the DfE regarding numbers of settings open and closed and numbers of children from keyworkers and in the vulnerable category. This supports the government getting a broad overview across the country of current supply and demand.

## **Business Support**

We are aware that for some this is a very difficult time, financially. Where financial and business support may be required to sustain the continued provision, Bury Council have a single point of contact you may wish to access - [investin@Bury.gov.uk](mailto:investin@Bury.gov.uk), where advice, support and signposting is available in terms of how to access loans, grants etc. Please send any questions or requests for financial advice to this email.

We have today linked in with the Business Growth Hub who are funded through Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

The Business Growth Hub advice to us is that settings need to contact them directly to discuss individual business needs and cash flow issues. They have also advised that businesses may need to consider their position in relation to accessing the LA funding or wholly furloughing some staff and they will advise you of the most appropriate steps to take based on your own specific circumstances.

Please visit the following link:

<https://www.businessgrowthhub.com/coronavirus/resources/2020/03/coronavirus-business-support-webinar-series>

Call the Business Growth Hub helpline directly on: **0161 237 4128**

Or e-mail them at: [BGH@growthco.uk](mailto:BGH@growthco.uk)

This is in addition to the Early Years Entitlement Funding and all queries for this should continue to come to [earlyyearsfunding@bury.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyearsfunding@bury.gov.uk)

The following information is lifted from the DfE Guidance

### **Temporary extension to 2 year old free early education entitlements eligibility to Section 17 NRPF children**

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we are temporarily extending 2 year old entitlements eligibility to include children assessed as being vulnerable and meeting the definition in Section 17 (s17) of the Children Act 1989 and who have No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF).

The Secretary of State for Education has decided to temporarily extend eligibility for the free early education entitlement to two year olds from families in receipt of s17 support who have NRPF, for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak only. This is to support their safety and wellbeing whilst the lockdown is in place. Eligible children are British-born child(ren) who are entitled to be here, yet not receiving support by virtue of the parent's immigration status which triggers the NRPF. This is a temporary measure during COVID-19, is intended to support vulnerable children usually not eligible for a free early education place.

### **Information re Food boxes**

If you have any families that require a food box /parcel can you direct people to the early help inbox ([earlyhelp@bury.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@bury.gov.uk)) to make their request with name, address and number of children. Provision of food boxes is linked to needs and people will be asked about their situation to ensure our most in need families receive the support

**Early Years Foundation Stage**

Your Early Years Advisors details are listed below:

Jo Monaghan – Bury East Locality [-j.monaghan@bury.gov.uk](mailto:j.monaghan@bury.gov.uk)

Lois Hulley – Whitefield Locality – [l.hulley@bury.gov.uk](mailto:l.hulley@bury.gov.uk)

Gill Mirabatur –Radcliffe Locality- [g.mirabatur@bury.gov.uk](mailto:g.mirabatur@bury.gov.uk)

Their role is to support you in any matters regarding EYFS, specifically including vulnerable children. You should by now all have had contact by your named advisor. If not please drop an email and introduce yourself. They will be setting up virtual support networks in the future and will want to hear from you about how best this will work for you and your staff.

### **Temporary Changes to the EYFS from 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2020**

From 24 April 2020, the Government has temporarily disapplied and modified certain elements of the EYFS statutory framework for early years providers who remain open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This will allow providers greater flexibility to respond to changes in workforce availability and potential fluctuations in demand, while still providing care that is high quality and safe.

The temporary changes include:

- providers are not required to meet existing learning and development requirements, but instead should use reasonable endeavours to meet them during the COVID-19 period
- providers are not required to undertake the EYFS profile assessment in 2019/20 academic year, and accordingly local authorities are not required to collect or moderate data on this
- providers are not required to undertake the 2 year progress check during the coronavirus (COVID-19) period
- exceptions are allowed to the qualifications that staff hold in order to be counted in ratio requirements
- requirements around paediatric first aid (where children aged 2-5 years old are on-site). For those caring for children aged 2-5, providers must use their 'best endeavours' to ensure one person with a full PFA certificate is on-site at all times when children are present. If after using best endeavours they are still unable to secure a member of staff with PFA to be on site then they must carry out a written risk assessment and ensure that someone with a current First Aid at

Work or emergency PFA certification is on site at all times children are on premises.

- There is no longer the requirement for new entrants to hold PFA certification to count in ratios during this period.

The term 'best endeavours' applies to the paediatric first aid requirements. This is a higher level requirement than 'reasonable endeavours'. The guidance providers further information on this.

The rest of the EYFS remains in place. Please be aware that the requirement to have someone with full PFA certification on-site remains in place where children aged 0-24 months are on-site, due to the higher safety factors for babies and children in this youngest age bracket.

Early years providers and local authorities should familiarise themselves with the details of the changes, that can be found on the usual [EYFS statutory framework](#) webpage. Government will notify providers when these temporary changes will be lifted via usual government communications.

We have worked with Foundation Years to produce a [video podcast](#) for local authorities and providers to share the latest information on the EYFS disapplication's.

### **Resources that support the EYFS**

[Click here for a list of online educational resources](#) which have been identified by some of the country's leading educational experts to support learning at home.

The Department for Education's [Hungry Little Minds](#) campaign features tips and practical activities that parents can do at home with children to support their early learning. There are many simple ways to help children learn and it does not have to feel like 'learning'. Having everyday conversations, make-believe play and reading together all make a big difference to children's development. Settings can direct parents to the [BBC's Tiny Happy People](#).

Here is the link to our online magazine where early year's professional can sign up and received their very own copy! They can view back copies here too.

[www.parenta.com/magazine](http://www.parenta.com/magazine)

Here is the link to the blog on our website which is updated regularly with advice:

<https://www.parenta.com/parentablog/>

## Other Health updates

### **Advice on staying mentally healthy at home** [WHO press release](#)

As part our #HealthyAtHome campaign, we have published advice on staying mentally healthy when at home for long periods.

You can access this information [here](#)

For more information about keeping #HealthyAtHome, click [here](#)

**Hope you are all keeping safe and well during this lockdown period. Have you seen these free workouts from NHS UK?**

**Please follow this link:** <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/gym-free-workouts/>

**Put the fun back into fitness with these equipment-free workouts for all levels.**

These illustrated guides are designed to help make your workouts effective and easy to follow.

Created with busy people in mind, these routines from fitness expert Neila Rey, now known as Darebee, can be done anywhere, at any time.

Many of these routines count towards your recommended 150 minutes a week of exercise and muscle-strengthening activity.

For the latest information on COVID-19, you can also follow @WHO on our social media channels for the latest

***You can find information and support on the Mental Health and how to stay healthy***

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/category/mental-health>

The **NHS** Apps Library helps the public to find trusted **health** and wellbeing apps. These digital tools have been assessed by the **NHS** as clinically safe and secure to use. ... Get round-the-clock **support** from therapists to help you cope with stress and anxiety.

## Safeguarding

**Please see link regarding the DFE's guidance around vulnerable children.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

**Please note: During the coronavirus pandemic these procedures still apply.**

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child, you should contact:

- **Bury Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team on 0161-253-5678 or outside of office hours the Emergency Duty Team on 0161-253-6606; or**
- **Greater Manchester Police on 101.**

***If the child is in immediate danger ring Greater Manchester Police on 999.***

**Do you know that Bury Safeguarding Children Board is now known as Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership (BISP)**

Safeguarding e training-Are you aware that there are a number of e learning links available for early year's practitioners to access on Bury Integrated Safeguarding partnership website?

Many of these courses are free. (Please see training and development section for more information below)

Keep up to date with everything you need to know about safeguarding children in Bury by visiting:

<https://burysafeguardingpartnership.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8876>

**How do you know which service you are you looking for?**

Early Help means taking action to support a child, young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges. Early Help can be required at any stage of a child's life, from pre-birth to adulthood and applies to any problems or need that the family can't deal



with alone. It empowers them to regain control of their circumstances and can help transform the lives of vulnerable children.

[Bury Children's Trust Partnership](#) vision is that children and young people will have access to the **right help at the right time** and from the right person. For those affected, early help can stop a small problem from exacerbating and causing long-lasting damage to individuals, families and the wider communities. For services, the right help given at the right time creates medium and long term savings and means public funds can be used in the best way to benefit those most in need. The [Children's Trust Partnership Early Help Strategy](#) provides a set of principles that will help us to build a culture of early help.

The toolkit provides information that will support practitioners and others to be able to provide the **right help at the right time**, thereby improving outcomes for children and young people and reducing unnecessary service interventions.

For information on a subject please click on the links below:

- [Attachment](#)
- [Caring Responsibility](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation](#)
- [Debt](#)
- [Domestic Violence and Abuse](#)
- [E-safety & Social Media](#)
- [Hate incidents & Crime](#)
- [Self Harm](#)
- [Substance Misuse](#)
- [Transgender](#)
- [Working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Families](#)
- [Speech, Language and Communication Needs: a focus on early years and primary school age children](#)

## SEND and Inclusion

Bury is constantly reviewing working practices, and how to best support our children with emerging and lower level SEN needs, alongside our early years staff and our childcare providers.

The Early Years Inclusion Fund will focus on emerging and lower level SEN i.e. where a child requires some provision in addition to or different from the settings usual graduated approach to help children learn.

As a Setting you will be able to apply for short term Early Years Inclusion Funding at any time across the whole year

Funding is to be used to support emerging needs in pre-school children – including those children within the 0-2 year's age range.

As a Setting you can make a request for short term Early Years Inclusion Funding where you have exhausted all available resources and support. Funding is intended to support children with emerging needs for a time limited period only.

Please find attached letter alongside the request form and Story So Far for your information



Letter~ 1.doc



EYIFSH~Funding  
Request.docx



Story so far.doc

[Click here for A list of online educational resources](#) which have been identified by some of the country's leading educational experts to support learning at home.

The BBC enhancing its education provision to include daily lessons starting from 20 April 2020

You will find lots of useful information within the website which will keep you fully informed about the activity and priorities of the NW SEND Regional Network, enabling all partners to work in co-production and participate in supporting our colleagues, partners and wider agencies to improve the life chances, aspirations and outcomes for children and young people across the North West, (aged 0-25) with additional needs and disabilities.

We hope that you find the site useful and if you have any suggestions, want to give feedback or want to share information across the NW Networks, then please get in touch with us via the Contact Us page.



1. <https://www.nwsend.network>

The North West **SEND Regional Network** have issued a **NEWS SPECIAL** which is **HOT OFF THE PRESS** and features a range of useful links to support families, children, young people and practitioners during the current Covid-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. The **newsletter** also has help...

- o **Communication**  
Created by POINT on behalf of the NW SEND Regional Network 2016. Network ...
- o **Your Local Area**  
The aspiration across the North West partnerships is to deliver Special ...
- o **Contact Us**  
The NW SEND Regional Network can be contacted in a variety of ways. This ...
- o **Events Calendar**  
The calendar gives you access to events both from the North West Regional ...
- o **About**  
The SEND Regional Network Steering Group provide strategic direction for ...
- o **Newsletters - Nwsend**  
NW Network Newsletters You can access our monthly newsletters here, packed ...

## Training and Development Opportunities

Visit [The Bury Directory](#) for details of [Training Providers\\*](#)

\*Please note: Independent Training providers are not linked to, or endorsed by Bury MBC. You should always make all your own checks regarding fitness for purpose and suitability to meet your needs, however the new Early Years Quality Networks will be a

good forum for these discussions and sharing any good and valuable support you have had.

Did you know the [Are you ready for Inspection 2020](#) page on [The Bury Directory](#) has now gone live. Click the link for all the advice:

You still have time to register now and watch online –The 2020 Early Years Summit- Speech, Language and Communication –From host Kathy Brodie  
<https://www.earlyyearssummit.com/>

Learning through Landscapes have set up a free online forum to support outdoor learning during Covid-19 restrictions: <https://www.ltl.org.uk/>

Bury Integrated Safeguarding partnership website have many e learning courses that you can access free of charge.

These include a variety of topics such as :

Adverse childhood experiences  
Awareness of forced marriage  
Bullying  
FGM  
Understanding drugs and addiction

Please access the link for more details.

<https://burysafeguardingpartnership.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8876>

We have set up a page on The Bury Directory for all our **Communication champions** to access across Bury. We have included links to useful tools and resources, and also to relevant agencies.

<https://www.theburydirectory.co.uk/kb5/bury/directory/service.page?id=Qzj8nsrWy7A>

We are interested in your thoughts and opinions about the page, so please let us know if you have any ideas of how we could develop this page further. Thank you.

Sharon Walton Tel : 0161 253 6436 /07814 215 035, or email [s.walton@bury.gov.uk](mailto:s.walton@bury.gov.uk)

Register on the below link to access the following webinars organised by GL

Assessment:

**Wednesday 6 May (11am – 12pm): *How speech, language and communication needs can impact on attainment and social and emotional development, and what works to identify and tackle SLCN in schools*** – led by Louisa Reeves, Lead Speech and language Advisor from I CAN.

• **Wednesday 20 May (11am – 12pm): *The trend towards place-based change and how schools across Bolton are addressing the language deficit*** – led by Right to Succeed, Whole Education and Bolton LA.

<https://dmtrk.net/29N0-1KSFP-059H6H5O45/cr.aspx?v=1>

### ***Helpful information***

This may be useful for older children if you are an Out of School Club, or your children have older siblings...

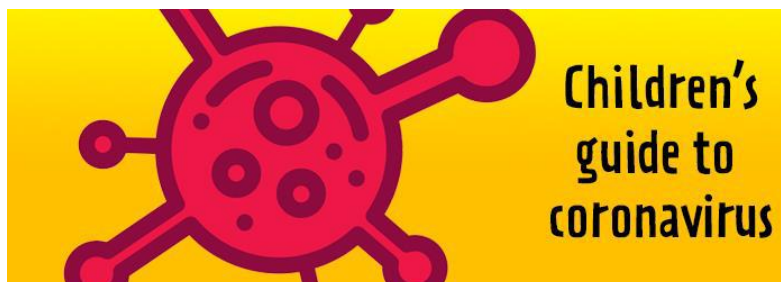
“My Hero is you” This is a new fictional book developed by and for children, and aims to help families understand and cope with COVID-19.

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/my-hero-you>

It was produced through a collaboration of more than 50 organisations working in the humanitarian sector as part of the [Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings](#) co-chaired by WHO.

This heart-warming, beautifully illustrated book, aimed at 6-11 year-olds, explains how children can protect themselves, their families and friends from coronavirus and how to manage difficult emotions when confronted with a new and rapidly changing reality. During the early stages of the project, more than 1700 children, parents, caregivers and teachers from around the world shared how they were coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. The input was invaluable to the project team in making sure that the story and its messages resonated with children from different backgrounds and continents.

In order to reach as many children as possible, the book is being widely translated, with a number of language versions released today and more than 30 others in the pipeline. All language version can be found at the link below. It is being released as both an online product and audio book.



## **Children's guide to Coronavirus**

The Children's Commissioner has created a children's guide to coronavirus to help explain the situation.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/childrens-guide-to-coronavirus/>

Suzanne Zydeek has posted some interesting articles online about managing emotions and well-being throughout the lockdown. Please take a look and share with your families...

<http://www.suzannezeedyk.com/fed-up-of-being-cooped-up-in-lockdown-with-the-kids/>

## **Our Team**

### **Janet Watts**

**Family Information & Bury Directory Officer**

Tel: 0161-253 5941

0161 253 7956/5849

Email: [family information service](mailto:familyinformation@bury.gov.uk) [childinfo@bury.gov.uk](mailto:childinfo@bury.gov.uk)

Visit [www.theburydirectory.co.uk](http://www.theburydirectory.co.uk)

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Tuesday to Friday

Term time only

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Term Time Only

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Monday-Friday

All year round