

Please pass this information to relevant colleagues in your provision.

Early Years Broadcast 12 – 01 April 2021

Early Education Funding (provider.portal@suffolk.gov.uk)

Suffolk Provider Portal – Registered User breaches – Introduction of administration charge

Despite reminding providers in early years broadcasts of the need not to share Suffolk provider portal log in details, we continue to identify situations where this has occurred. From a data protection viewpoint this is a serious issue and could lead to Suffolk County Council (SCC) being heavily fined and access to the provider portal being withdrawn for all providers.

The best way to avoid this is for everyone to adhere to the portal user agreement and never to share log in details.

When this situation does occur a significant amount of additional work is created across SCC and particularly in the Early Years and Childcare Service (EYCS). A number of reporting processes have to be followed, the account has to be closed and eventually a new account established to enable the provider concerned to continue to access funding claims via the provider portal.

To reflect the amount of work involved and to reinforce the seriousness of the breach we will be introducing a £100 administration charge in all instances. This charge will come into effect from 01 April 2021.

Headcount week - Summer Term 2021

Headcount week will be week commencing 26 April 2021. The headcount task will be sent out on Monday 26 April 2021 and will be open for 2 weeks closing on Sunday 09 May 2021.

Provider Portal Statements and Reports:

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and Income Deprivation Affecting Children Income (IDACI) reports for this term have been merged into one report.

The termly and annual funding statements have also been merged into one report for this term.

Remittance advice codes

Information regarding remittance advice codes can be found at the link below.

<https://www.suffolklearning.co.uk/early-years/claiming-funding-for-2,-3-4-year-olds>

Golden Tickets – Summer Term

The latest batch of Golden Ticket were posted on 31 March 2021. Please remember this is not the only way eligibility can be confirmed. Parents can also use the online checker:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/two, or to provide you with paper evidence, where appropriate.

Provider Portal - reminder for users

- Registered portal users **MUST NOT** share their login details. To do so is classed as a data breach.
- Registered portal user absence- if your registered portal user has left your provision or will be absent during the task period, you must let us know **as soon as possible**. Please email: provider.portal@suffolk.gov.uk. Failure to let us know will affect our ability to process your claim.

Early Years and Childcare Service
Information for Suffolk's List of Provider (LoP) Members
Registered users of the Provider Portal (PVI & Schools)

Please pass this information to relevant colleagues in your provision.

Early Years SEND Funding (EYCSEN@suffolk.gov.uk)

High Needs Funding (HNF) Summer Term 2021

The submission period for High Needs Funding applications is from Monday 12 April up to the deadline of Friday 30 April 2021 at 4pm.

Please see the link below for guidance and application forms:

www.suffolklearning.co.uk/early-years/inclusion/high-need-funding

Early Years and Childcare Workforce Development (EYC.WFD@suffolk.gov.uk)

Revised EYFS framework

The [new EYFS statutory framework](#) has been published and legislation laid in Parliament. This is the revised and final EYFS framework that all registered nurseries, childminders, schools and pre-schools in England will follow from **1 September 2021**.

To find out more please access the foundation years website, using the link below, where you will find full details about the reforms including a summary of amendments to safety and welfare requirements and support materials for implementation. These materials include a vodcast specifically aimed at PVIs and childminders and also some case studies and recordings from the Learn - Explore - Debate events hosted by Foundation Years which focused on the revised EYFS.

[New EYFS framework published | From pregnancy to children aged 5 \(foundationyears.org.uk\)](http://foundationyears.org.uk)

Qualification news

There has been an update on the government website regarding the guidance for early years qualifications, which you should be aware of. [Check early years qualifications - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

It appears that last year, due to the Coronavirus restrictions, NCFE CACHE gave the option for the level 2 (Early Years Practitioner) and the level 3 (Early Years Educator) qualifications to be completed as '*knowledge only*' without the need to complete the work placement competencies. As such, the CACHE level 2 and level 3 qualifications are not a licence to practice if they have been awarded with '*knowledge only*' shown on the certificate. There will be an option for learners to update this at a later date by completing their work placement competencies and upgrading their qualification to the full licence to practice.

Regarding the BTEC level 2 and 3 qualifications; BTEC insisted on work placement competencies being completed, so some students will not have qualified as yet. However, providers can be assured that BTEC have not awarded any qualifications as '*knowledge only*' and as such those qualifications will still meet the full and relevant criteria for early years with a licence to practice.

CPD opportunities

New virtual training CPD opportunities available in the summer term will include:

- SEND: 4 broad areas of need split into separate 2-hour virtual classroom events
- Skills for new leaders: a 2-hour virtual classroom event
- Mini-movers: all about physical development which will be available as a 2 -hour virtual classroom event (fully subsidised) and as a virtual in setting training

Please see the updated course poster for course codes and other training opportunities:

<https://www.suffolklearning.co.uk/early-years/training-and-qualifications>

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NASEN resources

NASEN have added some more free resources to their events including "*Meeting the needs of every child*". This 2-hour webinar will provide practitioners with a thorough understanding of inclusive practice for SEND in early years settings and will cover:

- Responsibilities of a PVI setting towards children with SEND.
- The role of the SENCO and the key person
- What effective inclusive practice looks like in a PVI setting?
- How to use the NASEN free face-to-face training materials.

Please see their events list for dates and to book a place: <https://nasen.org.uk/events>

Early Years COVID information and updates (EYC19@suffolk.gov.uk)

COVID-19: Reintroducing confirmatory PCR testing

As the prevalence of COVID-19 reduces to low levels in the population, the chance of a false positive result increases – though still remains unlikely. We can mitigate against the risk of false positives by confirming a positive lateral flow test with another test – such as a PCR test. Find out more about the reintroduction of confirmatory PCR testing.

Read the new post here: <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2021/03/30/covid-19-reintroducing-confirmatory-pcr-testing/>

Changes to Suffolk's test centres as popularity of home testing grows

The way Suffolk continues to test its residents for Coronavirus is changing with a much greater focus on home testing. Suffolk currently has 28 rapid lateral flow testing centres across the county for people who need to leave their homes and do not have symptoms of Coronavirus. However, since the initial plans, the asymptomatic testing landscape has changed in the UK and there is now a Government-led focus towards home testing.

In response to this greater emphasis on home testing, there will be changes to the 28 community sites.

New testing sites are planned to open in Ipswich and Newmarket town centres and Ipswich's Portman Road area to take advantage of passing footfall as lockdown restrictions continue to ease. There will also be the creation of four mobile testing teams, who can visit anywhere in Suffolk at short notice, bolster testing in communities and also respond to any outbreaks.

In addition, 14 testing centres will close – 4 of these will close from Wednesday 31 March. The remaining 10 will close on April 16th. Fourteen test centres will remain open across Suffolk.

Sites to close by 31st March:

Aldeburgh, Southwold, Woodbridge, Bungay

Sites due to close on 16th April

Nayland, Brandon, Elmswell, Needham Market, Holbrook, Hadleigh, Halesworth, Eye, Saxmundham, Debenham

Sites which will remain open (reduced operating hours)

Ipswich University of Suffolk, Bury, Lowestoft South, Lowestoft North, Haverhill, Mildenhall, Felixstowe, Ipswich West. Stowmarket, Martlesham, Sudbury, Beccles, Framlingham

New sites planned/relocations

Ipswich Town Centre

Ipswich Portman Road area

Newmarket Town Centre

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Rapid Testing for Household and Childcare bubbles for people without symptoms.

The following people in England will have access to regular rapid lateral flow testing made available to them:

- secondary school pupils and college students
- staff of primary and secondary schools, nurseries and colleges
- households, childcare and support bubbles of early years children, nursery children, primary and secondary-age pupils and college students
- households, childcare and support bubbles of staff of nurseries, primary and secondary schools, and colleges
- anyone who works in an occupation related to a childcare provider, school, nursery or college, and their household, childcare and support bubbles

Children of primary school age or younger will not be asked to test at this time.

For more information, including how to order, please see the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Test and Trace Support Payment

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a Test and Trace Support Payment or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria.

More information is at the link: [Test and Trace Support payments for parents](#)

COVID Reporting -Test and Trace Procedure – Flowchart

Report positive cases as soon as possible - do not delay.

You can find the most recently updated flowchart information at the link below:

<https://www.suffolklearning.co.uk/early-years/covid-19>

Suffolk Corona Watch – you may find this website useful to monitor where cases are increasing in local communities <https://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna/coronawatch>

Link to the NHS Website for self-isolation guidance is below:

[How long to self-isolate - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/self-isolation)

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) – Updated Site information

For all staff working in the education sector (including **early years settings**)

Please use the link below, more sites opening soon.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/getting-a-test/covid-19-asymptomatic-testing/>

How to alert Ofsted

Please see the link below for guidance on reporting any serious childcare incidents which may occur and for reporting any Coronavirus cases and closures.

www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-serious-childcare-incident

Wellbeing Support for Leaders & Managers:

Call 01473260163 or email leadershipwellbeingsupport@suffolk.gov.uk

Alerts from Department for Education (DfE)

Please subscribe to receive alerts directly from DfE, the link is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/help/update-email-notifications>

Please pass this information to relevant colleagues in your provision.

Updated guidance on actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

We have updated our [guidance on actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This includes updated information on shielding for staff and children who are clinically extremely vulnerable, twice-weekly asymptomatic testing for childminders and Test and Trace payments for parents. It also provides advice on singing for parent and child groups, educational day visits and trips, and resuming Ofsted visits.

The Big Ask from the Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioner has launched The Big Ask: She is seeking the views of children and young people and will use what they tell us to show the Government what children think and what they need to live happier lives. Please circulate across your networks:

[The Big Ask | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

Other useful links:

Funding for charities, community organisations and social enterprises

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/business/funding-for-charities-business-and-community-organisations/>

Local Welfare Assistance Scheme: gateway partners

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/gateway-partners/>

Suffolk Advice and Support Service

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>

Suffolk Family Information Service

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/guidance-for-parents-and-carers/suffolk-family-information-service/>



Early Years practitioners: using cyber security to protect your settings

How to protect sensitive information about your setting and the children in your care from accidental damage and online criminals.

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/early-years-practitioners-using-cyber-security-to-protect-your-settings>