



Dear all,

Team News

Our move to Wat Tyler West has now been confirmed as our permanent home. All contact numbers and email addresses are unchanged.

Children's Centres

Ofsted inspections of children's centres have started. At the time of writing no Swindon Children's Centre has been inspected, so we are waiting anxiously for the first phone call. Centres have been working very hard to make sure that they can provide evidence to the inspection team of the impact of the work they are doing. Many thanks to everyone who has supported them in doing this.

Contract Extensions

In May a committee of Swindon Borough Council's elected members (the Procurement Advisory Group) agreed to extend the contract that the Children's Society, Barnardos and West Swindon Family and Community Project hold to deliver management and family support at Eldene, Saltway, Robert Le Kyng and West Swindon Children's Centres until March 2012. They also agreed to extend the contract that Trio Childcare Connections hold to support childminders.

We look forward to continuing to work with our partners to improve outcomes for children in Swindon.

Two Year Old Pilot

This project goes from strength to strength. To date 187 of Swindon's most vulnerable two year olds have benefitted from up to 10

hours of funded early education either in group settings or accredited childminders. In addition, the families have received support from their children's centre in developing the home learning environment and other areas of family support. This work is making a vital contribution to our overall aim of narrowing the gap in opportunity and achievement.

And finally, this is going to be a time of uncertainty for all of us, but one thing remains constant – our unstinting commitment and hard work to making sure that every child has the chance to succeed.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Carmel Burton

Sure Start Partnership Manager.



Children Services Briefing

Swindon Borough Council, Group Director, Children, John Gilbert has initiated a briefing system to inform colleagues across the Children Service workforce. SSSP will include extracts from his briefings, in this and forthcoming newsletters, to provide information which may be of use to you.

Extracts from Issue No 7 – May 2010



The new coalition government has changed from the Department for Children, Schools and Families into the **Department for Education**, under Secretary of State **Michael Gove**.

The Ministerial Team are:

- **Nick Gibb MP**, Minister of State for Schools
- **Sarah Teather MP**, Minister of State for Children and Families
- **Tim Loughton MP**, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families

Monday 28 June 2010 it was announced that the Children Services Briefings will be put on hold until further notice.



Early Education Funding Agreement

The new Provider Agreement has now been finalised and approved by the Borough’s legal department. To download this Agreement please follow the link <http://www.earlyyearschildcare.org/eyr-nav-funding.htm>.

This Agreement should then be signed and returned to SSSP for the Local Authority to sign and date prior to the funding being released in September.

If you have any queries relating to this matter please contact Denise Stewart on 463127 or email dlstewart@swindon.gov.uk



The New Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People’s Workforce

The details of the new level 3 Diploma for the Children’s and Young people’s workforce are currently being finalised and the Diploma is on target to launch in September 2010.

This new qualification is part of the Governments ambition of creating a respected, minimum level 3 qualified children and young people’s workforce who make a positive difference to children, young people and their families. The Diploma will become the only full and relevant level 3 qualification offered for the children’s workforce (a certificate at Level 2 will also be available). Please note that all existing full and relevant Level 3 qualifications are still valid and will be considered equitable to the Level 3 diploma.



We will be holding information sessions in September that will be designed to answer all your questions regarding this new qualification. We will update you as soon as we have confirmed dates for these events.

Swindon Sure Start Partnership Website
<http://www.earlyyearschildcare.org>

Our website has dedicated sections on Jobs and Training, accessible via the menu on the left hand side of the screen.

Jobs

Information about working in childcare and details of current local vacancies.

For further information on working in this sector please call the Recruitment and Training Helpline on 0845 602 3209.

For information on Job Centre Plus vacancies please call them on 01793 586000 or visit their website:
www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

Training

Via our website there is a link to our current Training Plan and a dedicated area for Training Updates and our latest News. Here you will find late availability for courses, any course cancellations and additional courses, which have recently been added to the training calendar.

Workforce Development

How to contact your workforce development representative

Please find below a list of representatives from different sectors. Should you have a training or workforce development issue you would like to raise please email the appropriate individual and they will represent you at the next Early Years Workforce Development meeting:

Childminders: **Helen David** -
Helen.David@triochildcare.co.uk

Daycare Nurseries: **Lynn Webb** -
LWebb@swindon.gov.uk
Out of School: **Kim Poulton** -
KPoulton@swindon.gov.uk
Private Sessional Care: **Pauline Webster** -
pauline.webster@btinternet.com
School's forum: **Debbie Waldren** -
debbie@hmps.fsnet.co.uk
Voluntary Sector: **Linda Cowley**
vordapreschoolhighworth@hotmail.com



Who to contact for Workforce Development enquiries

Julie White - Childcare Workforce Development Administrator
Phone: 01793 463295 or Helpline 0845 602 3209
E-mail: juliewhite@swindon.gov.uk

Jayne Radford - Childcare Workforce Development Administrative Co-ordinator
Phone: 01793 466021
E-mail: jradford@swindon.gov.uk

Nic Topp - Childcare Workforce Development Officer
Phone: 01793 464314
E-mail: ntopp@swindon.gov.uk

Maddy Boardman - Childcare Workforce Development Manager
Phone: 01793 465016
E-mail: mboardman@swindon.gov.uk



Registered providers and your Ofsted SEF

We have been informed by a registered provider of a recent problem with their Ofsted SEF document.

The setting was recently inspected and the inspector informed the group that she had been unable to access the group SEF document online. Fortunately the group had saved the document and printed a hard copy. They were able to show this document to the inspector as proof of having completed the document.

It would be advisable therefore, to check your document and contact Ofsted to establish that Ofsted can access it online. You can contact Ofsted at enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

If you have any queries then please contact Kim Poulton, Safeguarding and Childcare Manager on kpoulton@swindon.gov.uk or on 01793 466314.

Safeguarding Self Review

By the time you read this all group setting will have received their Safeguarding Self Review Document to be completed by the end of September.

After the October holiday I will be carrying out a number of audits to verify these self reviews.

This work is in line with practice in schools and meets the requirement under section 11 of the Childrens Act regarding Safeguarding.

If you have any queries then please contact Kim Poulton, Safeguarding and Childcare Manager on kpoulton@swindon.gov.uk or on 01793 466314

