

# Early Years & Childcare Business Newsletter

30 November 2021  
Issue No. 11

Welcome and thank you for taking the time to read our latest Business Newsletter, we hope you find it useful to support you with the ongoing sustainability of your business. If you have anything that you would like to see included in future editions do let us know and please contact us for any further support or advice.

**Email:** [earlyyears@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@warwickshire.gov.uk)

**Websites:** [Early years and childcare settings during COVID-19](#)  
[Early Years & Childcare Providers](#)

## Staffing Recruitment and Retention

We held our final round table event on 5th November 2021, thank you to those of you who attended and gave some really valuable feedback for our Economy & Skills Team. We hope to provide further information shortly on any information and support that will be available for the sector.

## WCC Parent / Carer Early Years & Childcare Survey 2021

We are currently running a Parent / Carer survey to help us to understand the early years and childcare needs in Warwickshire. Hopefully, you will have all seen the poster and are able to share this with your families. Please also find a copy attached with this newsletter for information. It would be great to have as many responses as possible. The data we receive will be analysed to support our Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2021.

## Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA)—Autumn 2021

We appreciate that the last 18 months have brought about lots of additional reporting and surveys that providers have had to complete, we greatly appreciate your support. To ensure we could meet the early years and childcare needs of families in Warwickshire we had to regularly review and monitor the effect the pandemic had on settings and the availability of places. As restrictions ease we will be moving to our annual CSA this term to monitor sufficiency of places. We hope that providers will find the CSA useful to support with place planning. The setting will have received an email from our colleagues in the Business Intelligence Team—[businessintelligence@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:businessintelligence@warwickshire.gov.uk) we would be grateful if you could please complete the survey by **3rd December 2021** by clicking [here](#)

## *Why do we need to complete a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment?*

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that there is sufficient early years and childcare places for all families who need them in Warwickshire. To do this we must regularly monitor availability of places against demand using the CSA.

# Business & Financial Support News

## Warwickshire Means Business

Warwickshire County Council produces a monthly Warwickshire Means Business newsletter with all the latest updates for Warwickshire businesses including information on funding grants, events and different business focuses each month. Please click [here](#) to read the latest edition and subscribe to future newsletters.

## The Mental Health & Productivity Pilot

The Mental Health and Productivity Pilot (MHPP) led by Coventry University, has launched a campaign to reduce stigma around talking about mental health at work and to help employers start their own mental health campaigns in their workplaces. For more information please click here—<https://mhpp.me/about/>

## FREE Mental Health Awareness Workshops for professionals

Coventry and Warwickshire's Primary Mental Health team are providing FREE Mental Health Awareness Workshops for professionals working with children and young people in Warwickshire. To find out more please click [here](#)

## Fair Chance Employment Programme

The Fair Chance Employment Programme is designed to work collaboratively with education providers and employability groups, helping employers to “level up” their opportunities by offering Warwickshire residents with supportive needs equal access to careers. The scheme will launch in November 2021 and aims to promote and celebrate inclusive employment and will call out to employers who would like to become a Fair Chance Employer and engage with high-priority talent pools keen to access work opportunities. For more information please contact the Warwickshire Skills Hub team on [skillshub@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:skillshub@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Little Lives UK—Children's Community Support Programme

The Children's Community Support Programme is offering to support organisations that work with children, who are in need of support during these challenging times. Little Lives UK can support organisations by offering up to £1,500 worth of funding. For further information on eligibility criteria and how to apply please click [here](#)

## Third sector support scheme—Warwick District Council businesses

This scheme is to support third sector organisations, being charities and not-for-profit businesses, that have been critically impacted by the pandemic and government restrictions. Applications are invited from business and organisations that fall into this category only. For more information click [here](#)

## Warwickshire County Council Councillor's Grant Fund

The Warwickshire County Council Councillor's Grant Fund is aimed at community and voluntary organisations. The Fund provides each of the County's 57 Councillors with a pot of £6000 to support small-scale projects within their division. For more information please click [here](#)

## DfE Early Years Recovery Package

As part of the autumn Spending Review announcement, the Chancellor has committed to further invest in helping children, young people, and families recover from the effects of the pandemic. Please see the attached factsheet for more details.

## Business & Financial Support News

### Early Education Funding Focus

#### Early Education Funding

For more information on how to apply to deliver the early education funding please see our webpages — <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/early-years-childcare-providers/early-education-funding-2-3-4-year-olds>

#### Electronic Parental Declaration Forms 2021/22

Did you know that the Parental Declaration Form for 2021/22 is now electronic? The Parental Declaration Forms can now be emailed to parents for completion. Copies of the forms can be found on our webpages along with guidance on how to use them — <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/early-years-childcare-providers/early-education-funding-2-3-4-year-olds>

#### Early Education Funding—Staff Awareness

We have recently had calls from parents asking how to apply for the 3 & 4 year old universal entitlement. They say they have been told by their early years provider that they need to apply for a code. All 3 & 4 year olds are eligible for the universal entitlement (15 hours funding) the term after they turn 3. Parents do not need to apply for a code for this. Could we please ask that all staff are aware of the early education funding entitlements for 2, 3 & 4 year olds. Please refer to the early education funding leaflets for staff training, leaflets can be found here—<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childcarecosts>

#### Spending Review Outcome

Key announcements from the Spending Review for the early years and childcare sector:

- We are investing additional funding for the early years entitlements worth £160m in 2022-23, £180m in 2023-24 and £170m in 2024-25. This is for local authorities to increase hourly rates paid to childcare providers for the government's free childcare entitlement offers and reflects the costs of inflation and national living wage increases.
- £18 million in 2024-25 to create a network of family hubs to improve access to services for families, and £20 million in 2024-25 for parenting support.
- Over £200 million a year for the continuation of the holiday activities and food programme, providing enriching activities and healthy meals for disadvantaged children during school holidays.

To read the full publication please click [here](#). The Department for Education information is on page 96.

# COVID-19 Government Business Support Latest Updates

The Government has a webpage specifically for [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): financial support for education, early years and children's social care](#) where you can find all of the latest information and guidance to support your business. Also available is the coronavirus support finder — <https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder>

[30 hours free childcare: local authority and early years provider guide](#)—Updated 22.10.21—Updated the links to the specification for a level 3 SEND qualification, level 3 SENCO job description and free SEND resources on page 35 of the operational guidance.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): financial support for education, early years and children's social care](#)—Updated 22.10.21—We have updated this guidance to reflect the withdrawal of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and the Self Employment Income Support Scheme on 30 September 2021.

[How early years multiple providers work](#)—Published 28.10.21—A report on early years multiple providers and how they influence policy and practice across individual nurseries and pre-schools.

[Ofsted calls for stronger oversight of early years multiple providers and social care groups](#)—Published 28.10.21—Ofsted has published two research reports looking at early years multiple providers and providers that own more than one children's home.

[Find examples to help you calculate your employees' wages](#)—Updated 29.10.21—Information added because the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ended on 30 September 2021.

[Claim for wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)—Updated 29.10.21—Updated information because the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ended on 30 September. Updated 'Return to your claim' and 'If you have missed the claim deadline' section. Removed 'If you have not claimed enough' section. GUIDANCE NOW WITHDRAWN

[Download a template if you're claiming for 16 or more employees through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)—Updated 29.10.21—Updated information because the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ended on 30 September 2021.

[Pay Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grants back](#)—Updated 29.10.21—Information updated because the Coronavirus Job Retention scheme ended on 30 September. Information added about when you must get a payment reference number and pay HMRC back.

[National professional qualification \(NPOs\): list of providers](#)—Updated 01.11.21—Updated the contact details for UCL Institute of Education: Centre for Educational Leadership under National provider, and added East Manchester Teaching School Hub to North-West providers.

[Return to your claim for the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme](#)—Updated 01.11.21—Section added with links to guidance for the fifth grant and previous grants. A link to guidance on how to pay back a grant has also been added.

# COVID-19 Government Business Support

## Latest Updates continued

[Tell HMRC and pay back a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant](#)—Updated 01.11.21—If you've received a letter from HMRC you may need to pay back some or all of the grant. A new section has also been added called 'Check how to tell HMRC and pay money back'. You can use the service to check whether you need to tell HMRC and pay back a grant.

[Kickstart Scheme employer resources](#)—Updated 04.11.21—Added '5 tips to fill your Kickstart vacancy swiftly and successfully' document.

[National professional qualifications framework](#)—Published 05.11.21—Find out how to access national professional qualifications (NPQs) training and support for school teachers and leaders.

[Check if you can claim back Statutory Sick Pay paid to employees due to coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - Updated 10.11.21—The state aid limits section has been updated since 1 January 2021 EU state aid rules no longer apply in the UK, except for aid in-scope of the Northern Ireland Protocol and Structural Funds.

[Kickstart Scheme closure](#)—Updated 19.11.21—Added deadlines for completing Kickstart Scheme tasks.

[Kickstart Scheme](#)—Updated 19.11.21—Employers and gateways must check the deadlines for the tasks they need to complete as part of the Kickstart Scheme.

[Kickstart Scheme terms and conditions](#)—Updated 22.11.21—Added new clause at the end of section 3 and added definition for 'project end date'.

[Claim a top-up refund or compensation for Childcare service issues](#)—Updated 25.11.21—'Claiming 30 hours free childcare compensation' section has been updated to clarify term dates and conditions for claiming.

[Early years funding: 2021-2022](#)—Updated 25.11.21—We've added the early years funded entitlement cost changes forecasts, England: spending round 2021 to 2022 document.

[Early years funding: 2022 to 2023](#)—Published 25.11.21—Information for local authorities and institutions about early years funding for the 2022 to 2023 financial year.

[Free courses for jobs](#)—Updated 26.11.21—Updated the information about adults who claim Universal Credit. Also updated the 'Free qualifications for adults' eligibility section to confirm that from April 2022, any adult in England earning under the National Living Wage will also be able to access these qualifications for free, regardless of their prior qualification level.

[Find a free level 3 qualification](#)—Updated 26.11.21—Updated 'List of free level 3 qualifications available to eligible adults'. New qualifications are highlighted by '(added November 2021)' in the qualification title field.

# Useful Business Support Websites & Contacts

## Starting up a childcare business

Information and tips on setting up and running your own business

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/business>

## Charity Commission

Useful information on setting up and running a charity

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

## Companies House

Information on starting up and running a company

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house>

## Staff Employment – ACAS

Advice and information on staff employment matters

<https://www.acas.org.uk/>

## PACEY - Business Smart

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/business-smart/about-business-smart/>

## Find useful briefings, DfE guidance and slides from events and training

<https://app-t1pr-seycp.azurewebsites.net/resources.htm>

## Government help with childcare costs for parents

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

## Group setting cost calculator co-produced with Merton and PACEY through DSF funding

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/nurseries/group-setting-cost-calculator/>

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/nurseries/group-setting-occupancy-tool/>

## Warwickshire County Council Warwickshire Insights

Warwickshire Insights provides statistical information about local areas in Warwickshire

<https://data.warwickshire.gov.uk/>

## Out of School Alliance

Information and support to individuals and organisations setting up and running out of school clubs, holiday clubs and playschemes.

<https://www.outofschoolalliance.co.uk/>

## The Pensions Regulator

Information and guidance on staff pensions and the responsibility of the employer

<https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/>

## Coram Family and Childcare's resources are designed to help professionals working in childcare and early years

<https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/resources-professionals>

## NDNA – Business Zone NDNA Business Zone

[http://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/News/Early\\_Years\\_Business\\_Zone.aspx](http://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/News/Early_Years_Business_Zone.aspx)

## Early Years Alliance – Business and Management

<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/business-and-management>

<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/cost-delivery-calculator>

## Foundation Years – Business Planning

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2019/08/business-planning/>

## Warwickshire County Council Family Information Service

Free advertising for your childcare business on the childcare directory.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis>

## Support and advice for your early years business

<https://www.earlyyearsbusinesszone.org.uk/>

## Early years business sustainability

Advice, examples and resources to help early years providers run a sustainable business

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-business-sustainability>

## Warwickshire County Council Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childcaretypes>

## Warwickshire County Council Support for businesses & suppliers

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinesssupport>