

Early Years & Childcare Business Newsletter

11 February 2022
Issue No. 13

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

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

Statutory Sick Pay paid to employees due to coronavirus (COVID-19)

If you're an employer, find out if you can use the Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme to claim back employees' Statutory Sick Pay related to COVID-19. Please click [here](#) to see if you can claim SSP back.

Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG)

For the latest local information and information about the current ARG schemes, please visit your local district or borough council websites by clicking on the name's below:

- [North Warwickshire Borough Council](#)
- [Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council](#)
- [Rugby Borough Council](#)
- [Warwick District Council](#)
- [Stratford on Avon District Council](#)

Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund (WRIF)

Warwickshire County Council is creating a new £140 million fund to stimulate the county's economy, create jobs, support local businesses and bring investment into the county.

The WRIF will include three pillars of support:

- **Business Investment Growth**—Debt finance to growing medium and larger businesses with sound prospects (90 million).
- **Local Communities and Enterprise**—Smaller loans in order to support small businesses, including start-ups and social enterprises (£10 million). This will be launched in early 2022.
- **Property and Infrastructure**—Investment in commercial sites and premises to encourage businesses to invest in Warwickshire and create jobs (£40 million). This third pillar will also be launched in early 2022.

For more information please click [here](#).



Information is correct as at the time of publishing. All legal requirements are the responsibility of the business to maintain, ensuring that they reflect the correct current business information and relevant legislation.



Business Advice & Support

Business & Financial Support News

Maybe* offers free help for businesses to make social media work harder

A scheme funded by Warwickshire County Council offers 12 months free access for businesses to the social media platform Maybe*. It is designed to enable businesses to take their social media to the next level.

Maybe* is available to help Warwickshire businesses reach their customers digitally. The platform has been developed to provide High Street businesses across all sectors with access to social media tools and daily training on the main social media platforms. This can help increase sales and customer-base whilst helping businesses learn more about their customers and competitors.

The offer includes a social media guide for Warwickshire and guidance on how to replicate the formula used by other businesses to increase sales. The digital guide for Warwickshire can be found here—<https://www.maybetech.com/warwickshire/>

Future Careers Filming – Early Year & Childcare Settings

The Future Careers project, provides a digital media opportunity for businesses to work with a filming company to produce a piece which will showcase their current and future employment and career pathways.

Each participating business will present who they are, what they do and the opportunities which sit behind their doors. The team will look to film with senior management and HR teams, providing a company overview and insight to the recruitment processes, where roles are advertised, which skills are needed and progression pathways.

Settings which might not be experienced in front of the camera need not worry. There will be lots of support on hand to talk through preparations which will be friendly and informal.

Once complete, the film pieces will appear online for schools, colleges and employment programmes to access. View the schools films [here](#) and the recruitment films [here](#).

The team is now calling for any early years and childcare settings who would like to participate to come forward. Any business who would like to get involved should contact nikitatakhar@warwickshire.gov.uk

Warwickshire County Council Apprenticeship Levy Share Programme

The Warwickshire County Council Apprenticeship Levy Share Programme is an initiative which launched in 2019 to support small businesses in the recruiting and funding of apprenticeship training across Warwickshire. The programme allows Warwickshire County Council to share part of its apprenticeship levy funds to invest in businesses and residents who would benefit from such support. Warwickshire County Council has renewed its commitment to promoting apprenticeships with further funding into 2022. To find out more click [here](#).

Warwickshire CAVA—Funding and Income generation

There continues to be funding and grants available for voluntary and community groups with new schemes launching all the time. For more information and support with applying for funding and grants please click [here](#).

Business & Financial Support News

Early Education Funding 'Myth Buster'

The government published guidance on 25 November 2021 which outlined the technical notes to describe the methodology for calculating the 2022 to 2023 hourly funding rates for 2m 3 & 4 year old funding. This guidance also explains the supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools, early years pupil premium (EYPP) and the disability access fund (DAF) - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2022-to-2023/early-years-2022-to-2023-hourly-funding-rates-for-2-3-and-4-year-olds-technical-note>

How is the early education funding allocated to the Local Authority?

Payments are paid to the Local Authority via the overall Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the allocations are based on the numbers and hours submitted via the Annual Early Years Census with a balancing out process undertaken in the Summer Term by the DfE as some of the payment allocation will be retrospective.

How much should the Local Authority pass-through to providers?

Local authorities are required to pass-through at least 95% of their 3 and 4 year old funding from the government to early years providers. This ensures that most of the government funding reaches providers to enable them to deliver the government's funded entitlements. In Warwickshire, we pass-through 100% of the 2 year old funding rate to providers.

What is the remaining 5% (of the 3 & 4 year old funding) used for in Warwickshire?

The remaining 5% which is retained by the Local Authority is to facilitate operational functions related to managing the dispersal of the funding, SEND support (IDS) and to ensure statutory sufficiency duties for early years and childcare places are met e.g. business health checks and audits and place sufficiency works.

How is the early education funding rate decided?

Once the government have identified the funding rate for each local authority work is undertaken by Warwickshire Council Council's Senior Finance Officers to calculate a proposed funding rate. The proposed rates and information are reviewed and shared with the Early Years Funding Working Group. Once agreed by the Early Years Funding Working Group the proposed rates are then submitted to the Schools Forum for final sign off.

Early Years Funding Working Group sector representatives:

- Vacant position
- The Burrow Nursery & Pre-School
- Studley Infant School
- Stockingford Nursery School
- School run provision representation by Business Manager

School Forum PVI sector representatives:

- The Burrow Nursery & Pre-School
- Castle Nursery

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>

[Tell HMRC and pay back a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant](#)—Updated 10.01.22—If you've received an email from HMRC, you can now check whether you need to tell HMRC and pay back a grant.

[Return to your claim for the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme](#)—Updated 11.01.22—New section added called 'If you still need to make a claim'. If you've not been able to make a claim due to an HMRC error or other exceptional circumstances, you must contact us by 28 February 2022. If you think your grant amount is too low, you must also contact us by 28 February 2022.

[NHS Test and Trace in the workplace](#)—Updated 11.01.22— Updated text to reflect confirmatory PCR policy change. Updated 18.01.22 Clarified definition of critical workers.

[Additional actions for childminders during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic](#)—First published 12.01.22—What childminders should do when someone they live with has COVID-19 symptoms, tested positive, or is self-isolating as a close contact. Updated 25.01.22—Converted the guidance to HTML for accessibility.

[Test and Trace Support Payment scheme: claiming financial support](#)—Updated 14.01.22—Updated to clarify Test and Trace Support Payment eligibility: a positive COVID-19 PCR test or an assisted rapid lateral flow test. Updated 25.01.22—Removed information regarding self-isolation change for contacts of Omicron cases which ended on 13 December 2021.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for pregnant employees](#)—Updated 14.01.22—Updated to provide additional guidance to pregnant employees and employers of women who are 26 weeks pregnant and beyond, and details on JCVI advice that pregnant women are more at risk of severe COVID-19 disease. Updated 20.01.22—Updated to reflect current guidance on work arrangements and face coverings. Updated 31.01.22—Updated with the information that it is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering.

[Check early years qualifications](#)—Updated 18.01.22—We have updated the link to the level 3 early years special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) qualification specification and role description.

[Claim back Statutory Sick Pay paid to your employees due to coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - Updated 19.01.22— The scheme has been reintroduced. You can only claim for employees who were off work on or after 21 December 2021. The maximum number of employees you can claim for is the number you had across your PAYE schemes on 30 November 2021. If the period of absence started before 21 December 2021, you'll need to use 21 December 2021 as the start date.

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)—Updated 19.01.22—Updated to reflect the removal of Plan B requirements for working from home, face coverings in classrooms, face coverings in communal areas and mandatory NHS COVID Pass certification requirements for events.

[Check if you can claim back Statutory Sick Pay paid to employees due to coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - Updated 20.01.22—Out of date information about shielding has been removed.

COVID-19 Government Business Support

Latest Updates continued

Business Advice & Support

[Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)—Updated 19.01.22—Updated to reflect the removal of Plan B requirements for working from home, face coverings in classrooms, face coverings in communal areas and mandatory NHS COVID Pass certification requirements for events.

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)—Updated 20.01.22—Updated guidance to align with the Plan B announcement on Wednesday 19 January 2022. This includes the removal of the recommendation to wear face coverings in communal areas from 27 January. Additional guidance has also been added on staff deployment and staff shortages, EYFS flexibilities, prioritising early years places and reporting COVID cases to Ofsted.

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#)—Updated 20.01.22—Updated information on the use of face coverings, use of NHS COVID passes, keeping settings safe, isolation for boarding school pupils and working from home.

[Managing coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in education and childcare settings](#)—Updated 21.01.22—Updated to align with the Plan B announcement on 19 January.

[Free courses for jobs](#)—Updated 21.01.22—Updated the information on the National Living Wage in the ‘Free qualifications for adults’ section and the eligibility in the ‘Skills Bootcamps’ section.

[Find a Skills Bootcamp](#)—Updated 21.01.22—Updated the list of Skills Bootcamps to remove courses that are no longer taking applications and updated the contact details for Bootcamps in construction, digital, engineering, green skills and rail. Updated 28.01.22—Added 5 new digital skills bootcamps in coding with Northcoders.

[Help and support if your business is affected by coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - Updated 25.01.22—Registration for the next live webinar about coronavirus (COVID-19) Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme 2 has been added. Updated 27.01.22—A video about how to report coronavirus (COVID-19) taxable grants and payments has been added. Updated 03.02.22—Links to a video about COVID-19 Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme 2 and to register for a webinar about how to declare your grants on your Company Tax Return have been added. Updated 09.02.22—The video about how to report coronavirus (COVID-19) taxable grants and payments has been updated.

[Holiday activities and food programme](#)—Updated 28.01.22—Added clarification on when an additional HAF week can take place in ‘Holiday activities and food programme 2022’.

[National professional qualifications \(NQs\) reforms](#)—Updated 01.02.22—We have updated the guidance to clarify that the funding covers the training aspect of the qualifications and that NPQ participants who withdraw from a qualification cannot receive a scholarship for the same qualification at a later date. We have also updated the ‘Apply for an NPQ’ section to reflect that interested participants can register for an email alert.

[Early years initial teacher training \(ITT\) providers](#)—Updated 01.02.22—Removed University of Portsmouth from the list.

[Check early years qualifications](#)—Updated 10.02.22—Updated with links to pages containing existing early years qualification information in a new format including—qualification requirements, qualifications achieved in England, qualifications achieved outside England, qualifications that do not meet the criteria and pathway into early years.

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

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>