



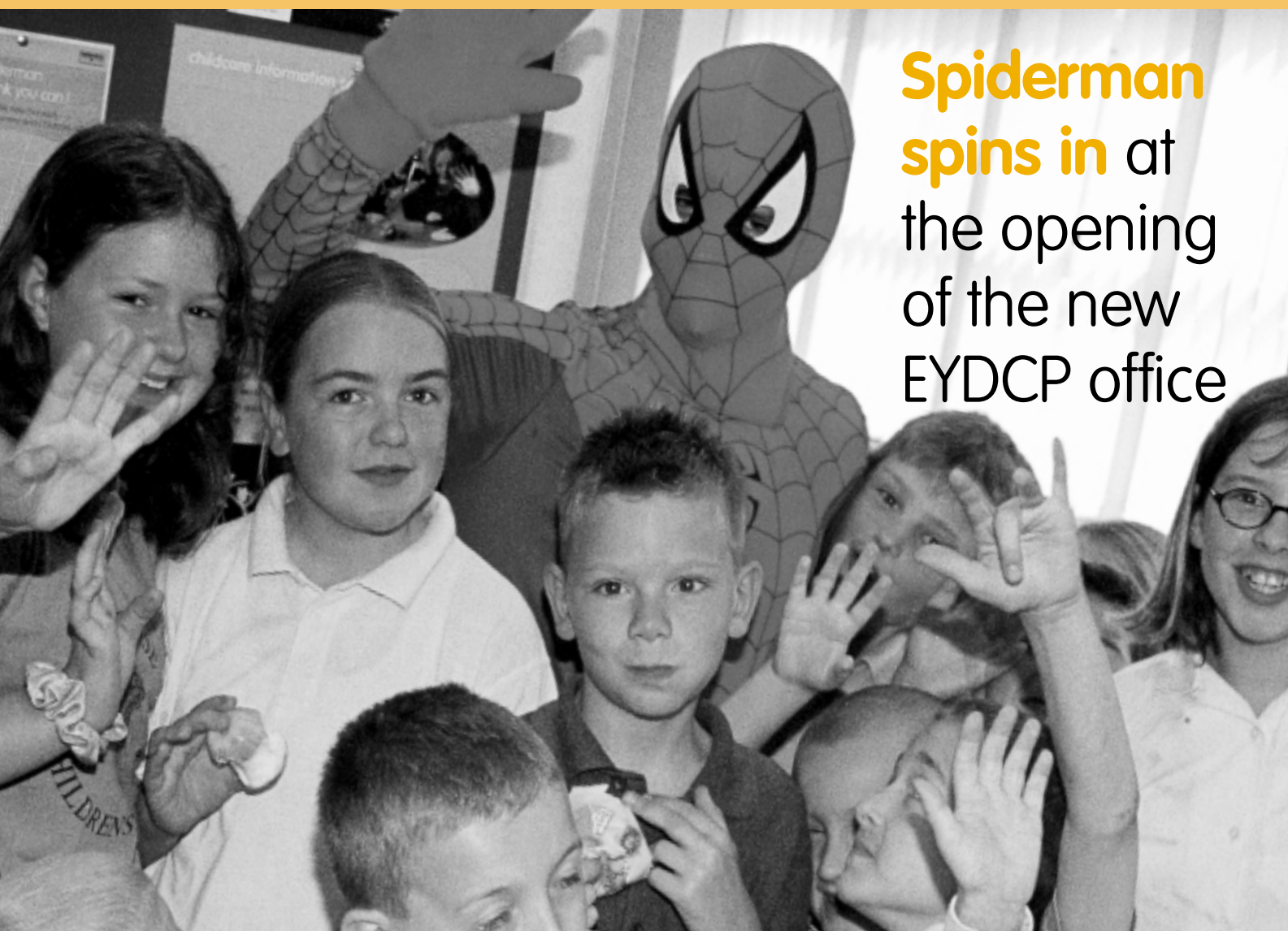
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partnership news

september 2002



Spiderman
spins in at
the opening
of the new
EYDCP office



welcome

to the Autumn Edition of Partnership News – our biggest and brightest so far! As always much has happened since the start of the summer term, so in this issue we celebrate and reflect on all the good things that have happened and look forward to the challenges of the coming term.

Since our last issue the DfES has approved the Early Years Development and Childcare Plan 2002-3 and we can steam ahead with our implementation plans throughout the County. Furthermore Gordon Brown's 2002 spending review confirms the government's commitment to the continuing development of high quality services for children and families. In turn these spending plans provide resources for the EYDCP to continue to deliver opportunities and services across Norfolk.

As we support the development of new accessible, good quality childcare places, we are actively recruiting and training a workforce to facilitate this provision. With our own support systems in place we are able to offer help with business, finance and marketing, and Ofsted registration and inspections.

Relationships with our national partners are improving all the while, particularly with Ofsted. The autumn term sees the start of the first combined inspections for early years and childcare. We have also successfully bid for New Opportunities funding for out-of-school clubs, allowing us to increase the number of childcare places.

What is clearly emerging is the development of joined-up initiatives, bringing together Sure Start, Early Education, Early Excellence programmes and Neighbourhood Childcare Initiatives, to enable the EYDCP to offer schemes in the highest areas of need.

This is all exciting news for our Partnership in Norfolk, and I welcome all our partners to read on and share the achievements and challenges we face ahead of us.

Marcelle Curtis

Marcelle Curtis
Head of Early Years and Childcare Strategy

news round-up Spiderman spins in !



The webbed wonder leapt along to the new office of the EYDCP, in St Andrews Street to mingle with staff and scores of star-struck children. The childcare office will give the central team staff a base to work from in their battle to boost places. The Childcare Information Service, Training and Recruitment Team and Norfolk County Childminding Association are also based here.

The way ahead

Continuing to ensure every parent can access good quality affordable childcare is the Government's childcare vision.

Sure Start, Early Years and Childcare

A key part of this, longer term, is to establish children's centres in the top 20% of disadvantaged wards. These centres will bring together good quality childcare with early years education, family support and health services acting as 'service hubs' within the community for parents and providers of childcare services for children of all ages.

Commitment from central government

For the first time the Government has brought together Early Years, Childcare and Sure Start in one integrated unit, with Catherine Ashton as Minister responsible. More details to follow in the next issue

Childcare in schools

It is expected that as part of the Education Bill legislation will be agreed that will enable school governing bodies to directly run childcare on school premises. Guidance from the Government will be distributed by the EYDCP during the autumn term.

Six term school year

Consultation took place during the summer term. Representatives of the EYDCP were included in the process. Further information will follow.

Equal Opportunities – our big priority

This term we have made it our priority to ensure that all settings have effective equal opportunities strategies. Representatives from all groups will receive FREE support and training from the partnership. Details will be sent to all settings in the autumn term.

Toy Libraries get much needed funding



Earlier this year the EYDCP gave grants to 2 Toy Libraries, Earlham/Hamlet Centre (£34,000) and Thetford Toy Library (£8,000). Both have invested in toys for children with special needs, musical equipment and large outdoor items. The Earlham/Hamlet Centre used a large proportion of the grant towards making their service truly mobile with plans to purchase transportation.

Careers in Childcare/Playwork

Recruitment Roadshows

Members of the Training and Recruitment Team were out and about during the summer linking in with the support organisations, meeting people and recruiting childcare workers of the future. This term the team will be at the Jobs Fair to be held in the Castle Mall, Norwich on 12th - 15th September 2002.



Making Choices

With the development of so many new childcare places it is absolutely vital to recruit a new workforce and retain the existing one. During the summer term we ran three successful "Making Choices" courses and more are planned.

Making Choices is a free course, which runs for 6 weeks (2.5 hours per week) and is for people who would like to work with children but are unsure of which route to take.

The Training and Recruitment Team also produce a weekly vacancy list, which allows providers to advertise their vacancies free of charge across the county.

Contact the Childcare Information Service for more details on 01603 62 22 92

Want to learn more about marketing and networking

There are major conferences on 'Marketing for Success' and 'Network for Success' planned for this Autumn. Check out the dates and venues on the Diary Dates pages at the back of this issue. If you are interested book early, as demand is expected to be high. A booking form can be found in the Training News.

Grants - a logo MUST!

All projects supported through European Funding (ESF) must display the ESF logo on all their publicity materials. The EYDCP is also very happy for projects supported through the EYDCP to display its logo as well.



Both logos are available from our marketing team on 01603 598472.

More funding means extra help!

The EYDCP has been successful in obtaining DfES Business Development Funding. This will enable us to develop a support programmes aimed at improving the business skills of childcare providers and potential providers and to improve significantly the sustainability and viability of provision.

Forums - are they for you?

The forums are a place where anyone interested in childcare issues can meet and discuss ideas

A new leaflet asking for prospective Forum members to be part of the discussion group is enclosed with this edition of Partnership News. It would be great if you could put your copy on display to help create interest.

Joiners, Leavers and Movers

Welcome to:

Pam Arrowsmith, Kathleen Clark and Ralph Astley, join the Central Team.

Teresa Lamb joins the West Development Team.

Sue Dale – Care Standards Officer

Lisa Connolly, Marketing and Communications Manager.

Janet Morgan, Quality Assurance Co-ordinator.

Jenny Eaton, supporting Marketing, Business and Finance

Movers:

Ruth Taylor (part time) moved from the West to the Central team, Aliona Laker moved from the east to the Central team.

Valerie Heath, off on secondment to Fen Border Sure start.

Goodbye to:

Joan Finney, leaves for a career in nursing.

Books for Babies gets cash injection

Books for Babies, a Thetford based scheme designed to encourage parents to share books with their children, received a grant from the EYDCP. The £5,000 grant enabled them to offer a new lending facility to parents, who can now borrow the books and read them at home with their children. It also allowed more 'fun-sessions' to be held. All this contributing to the development of our children's' early literacy.



Got any news? We are always interested to hear from you. If you have any news stories or feedback please contact Lisa Connolly, Marketing and Communications Manager on **01603 59 84 72** or email lisa.connolly.edu@norfolk.gov.uk

Deadline for the next issue is 1st December 2002



early education

Foundation Stage



Foundation Stage Training

All Foundation Stage Practitioners in the voluntary and private sector receiving the Nursery Education Grant are expected to attend two training days during 2002-03. The EYDCP's Training Team in association with their training partners have developed a programme of courses. All details are available in the new Foundation Stage Training Booklet – due to be distributed at the start of September.

**Foundation Stage Profile (FSP)
New for 2002/2003**

The FSP is a summary of each child's progress and learning needs at the end of the Foundation Stage. It is a vital tool in the delivery of successful Early Years Education. It is broadly based on practitioner's observations and assessments and is still under development, with an aim to use it from June 2003.

During the Autumn Term there will be a series of sessions for Foundation Stage Practitioners to discuss FSP. For more details of the Working Together courses, see the Foundation Stage Training Booklet.

Are you missing out on funding for three year olds?

The EYDCP will continue funding early education for three year olds for two terms (i.e. the term of their fourth birthday and the term before) in areas of disadvantage the EYDCP will fund children for three terms. See table below for details. The overall aim is to have in place universal provision for all three year olds by September 2004. Current take up is 61%.

Child will be three in	Free education provided	Additional for Disadvantaged Area's
Sept 2002 Oct 2002 Nov 2002 Dec 2002	April - July 2003 Sept - Dec 2003	Jan - March 2003
Jan 2003 Feb 2003 Mar 2003	Sept - Dec 2003 and Jan - Mar 2004	April - July 2003
April 2003 May 2003 June 2003 July 2003 Aug 2003	Jan - Mar 2004 and April - July 2004	Sept - Dec 2003
Sept 2003 Oct 2003 Nov 2003 Dec 2003	April - Dec 2004	Jan - Mar 2004



Who pays?

Child lives in	A three year old attends pre-school in	Funded by
Norfolk Norfolk Norfolk	Norfolk Suffolk Cambridge/ Lincolnshire	Norfolk Suffolk Norfolk
Suffolk Cambridge/ Lincolnshire	Norfolk Norfolk	Norfolk Cambridge/ Lincolnshire

Are you a member of the plan?

There are still settings, which have not yet joined the Plan. Remember that funding is only available for three and four year olds where the setting is a member of the Plan. Resource packs for settings joining the Plan will be available from September, ask your Early Years Co-ordinators for more details.

Claims

Please remember that only those children who are registered on or before the term Headcount date can be included on the funding claim. The Headcount date for the Autumn Term is 19th September, and the contacts are:
Martin Brock: 01603 22 24 32
Jayne Dyndal: 01603 22 34 96
Hilary Bradshaw: 01603 22 24 27

First admissions to schools

At the time of the publication of the previous issue of Partnership News in April it was not possible to share the outcomes of the consultation on policy for First Admissions to School and admission arrangements for Nursery Classes.

Since that time Members of the County Council agreed the preferred option for all children to start school in September in the year of their fifth birthday, with the younger children starting part time, becoming full time the following January. A three term intake for Nursery Classes was also agreed. The new policy will be implemented from September 2003.

For nursery classes

From September 2002, the LEA will conduct a review of the allocation and uptake of nursery places.

More involvement of teachers (for the non maintained sector)

A condition of receiving the Nursery Education Grant for settings in the voluntary and private sector is the involvement of a qualified teacher. The aim is to have in place one teacher per ten settings by 2004.

September will see some changes in and the expansion of the Early Years Team providing this support, with Advisory Teachers becoming Early Years Co-ordinators and taking responsibility for 3 teams of Link Teachers. We welcome Rosie Smith (covering Jo Mixer's maternity leave) and Mary Read as Early Years Co-ordinators and 10 new Link Teachers

Early years resource bank

The EYDCP has allocated some funding to develop a large and wide ranging resource bank, supporting the work of the Link Teachers, and distributed individually by them. However it is hoped that during the autumn term a detailed list of resources will be sent to all settings. The Resource Bank will be located at the West Norfolk Professional Development Centre and it is hoped that during the year additional centres will open in Norwich and Great Yarmouth.

Book boxes

During the Summer Term Public Libraries 'piloted' a new service for playgroups in the south of the County. Under the new scheme playgroups were offered theme boxes. Each of the boxes contains up to 25 story and non-fiction books and, where possible tapes and toys. The box also contained an evaluation form which gave playgroup workers the chance to suggest other themes for new collections. During the Autumn Term this service will be widened across the rest of the County, with the hope that this service will help Playgroups to address the Early Learning Goals whilst still encouraging them to share books and stories with children. Contact Dorne Fraiser from the Library Service for more information.

First ever combined inspections

Ofsted has informed the EYDCP that it is to start combined inspections from September. Information will be sent to settings and the EYDCP about one month in advance of inspections. Link teachers (for Foundation Stage curriculum) and Norfolk Early Years Support Network Day Care Advisers (for Care Standards) will be able to help settings to get ready for inspection. Further details of the joint help available for the combined inspections will be circulated shortly.

Joint training

There is a move to bring together all Foundation Stage practitioners from the maintained and non-maintained sectors for joint training from 2003.

Apart from the sessions to look at the Foundation Stage Profile the Advisory Service Numeracy Team will be providing joint training on the latest DfES guidance during October and November. Dates and venues have been set. Please refer to the Foundation Stage Training Booklet for details.



early education

If you have any general queries about the area SENCO team please contact the secretary on **01603 76 47 07**

Special Educational Needs

The area SENCO team is growing and as from September this year will be organised on the basis of High School catchments, which is in keeping with the organisation of the Link teachers. We also hope to develop a Support Team for each setting. The area Sencos will also continue to work with the Norfolk Early Years Support Network, and with the Partnership Development Teams.

The names of the area SENCO's and the areas they cover are listed below. Anne Thatcher has retired and we thank her for all her work as an area SENCO over the past two years. Carol Pennycook joins the team as from January 2003 and in the meantime Joy Tooley will cover her patch.

Chris Baldwin West Walton, Downham Market **Leslie Tott** Terrington St Clement, Hunstanton, Swaffham, Watton, Methwold, Thetford **Sylvia Houseago** North Walsham, Aylsham, Hoveton, Stalham **Liz Player** Wells, Sheringham, Cromer, Fakenham, Reepham, Litcham **Gill Ellison** Norwich **Jill Brooks** Sprowston, Thorpe, Framingham Earl, Hethersett **Jill Clifford** Dereham, Costessey, Hellesdon, Taverham **Joy Tooley** Martham, Caister, Gorleston, Gt Yarmouth, Acle, Loddon **Carol Pennycook** Wymondham, Attleborough, Long Stratton, Harlesdon, Diss (from January 2003)

A small team of specialist support assistants work with the area SENCO's. They continue to provide focussed short-term support, working under the guidance of the area SENCO's.

As from September this will include specialist support time from Autistic Spectrum Disorder assistants. Jackie Gay left the team at the end of last term – thanks to Jackie for her much valued work.

The Norfolk EYDCP is well on the way to meeting the government targets in providing area SENCO's and ensuring that all setting have a SENCO. The task for us now is to further develop the service to ensure that all children access effective early education, that transition from one phase of education to another is properly planned and that early educators work in partnership with other agencies in the interests of the children.

Training support based SENCO's must undergo two training days in 2002-03. Attendance at Conferences, such as SENCO 2002, count towards training requirements.

Guidance for funding

Funding for additional support for three and four year old children with special educational needs is a major issue and at times the subject of much confusion. Revised guidance will be sent to all setting SENCO's in September.

Consultation

The EYDCP has been asked to respond to a number of consultation documents.

Together from the start

Practical guidance for professionals working with disabled children (birth to two) and their families.

This is a consultation document jointly issued by the Department for Education and Skills and the Department of Health. It is concerned with the delivery of services to children with disabilities in the age range birth to two and their families. We are currently drafting our response. If you would like your views and comments included please contact Jan Smith before the final document is submitted to the DfES on September 23rd 2002, email comments to jan.smith.edu@norfolk.gov.uk

Supporting the cost of home-based childcare

A proposal to approve home childcares, and so enable parents to access childcare tax element of the Working Tax Credit

The EYDCP consulted with key partners and submitted our comments to the DfES. We are awaiting their response.

audit of early years education

Meetings to share outcomes of the Audit took place during the summer term in areas of perceived highest shortfall of early education places. Representatives from all early education settings and schools were invited. Information was shared and action plans drawn up. The Audit identified that some areas had greater needs than others.

Priority for action will be given to areas of disadvantage where there is a shortfall of places for three and four year olds. Concentrating secondly on all other shortfalling areas.

Capital funding is available to support the development of two or three new nursery classes in areas of disadvantage during 2002-03, where there is a significant shortfall of places and no other initiatives are being developed. Some schools have allocated their own capital funds to support developments

Schools highest on the list for developments are:

Herman First School in Gorleston to develop a nursery class for 26 part time places from summer term 2003

West Walton Primary and Marshland St James First School for 13 part time places each from autumn term 2003

Redcastle Furze Primary School in Thetford for 26 part time places from spring term 2003

Consultation

Public notices for the four schools will be published on 6th September. (Consultation period is two months).

Consultation with the EYDCP will take place at local and county level during the autumn term.

All developments are linked with childcare and Sure Start initiatives in the areas.

The proposal for all the new nursery classes is to explore opportunities to extend the places and provide integrated early years education and childcare (wrap-around) for three and four year olds in the not too distant future.



celebrating national childcare month

This year was the first time a full month of programmes and events around the county had ever been planned. In association with our partner organisations, we arranged playdays, roadshows, fundays and local community events, culminating in our stand at the Royal Norfolk Show. All events were designed to celebrate childcare and boost recruitment and registration.

We gained good coverage in the local press and on the radio. People all over the county began to recognise what the EYDCP was about and become interested in our work.

Here is a small sample of the fantastic time we had!



Cash Boost For New Toy Library

a new toy library will be able to hit the road and benefit even more children thanks to a generous cash boost from childcare chiefs

Evening News July 9th 2002



EYDCP

on hand to help
out in Thetford

Thetford & Watton Times
July 31st 2002



EYDCP

out and about at this
years Royal Norfolk
Show



Early Morning Call from Breakfast Club

Radio Norfolk's Roy Waller
helps youngsters kick
start the day

Evening News July 9th 2002



At Your Service

Parents urged to get
involved in childcare
month events

Evening News June 5th 2002





childcare

A key goal for the EYDCP is to close the childcare gap between childcare places in disadvantaged areas and others. The EYDCP actively support the development of integrated early years, childcare and family support services.

Initiatives such as out-of-school childcare, Early Excellence, Neighbourhood Nursery Initiative and Sure Start all aim to work with parents, children and young people so they can flourish at home, school and in later life.

Developing childcare

Case study Silver Road Childcare Facility - a developing project

In 2001 St. Mary Magdalene and St. George's Pre School Groups were in financial difficulty, it seemed the only future for the Pre School Group was to develop an all day service for children aged 0 to 12.

A planning group including representatives of local parents, the two local Pre School Groups, and local schools and churches was formed. Assisted by the EYDCP and its development workers a survey was carried out with local parents and carers to assess demand and a public meeting was held.

As a result a Business Plan was drawn up and the Silver Road Childcare Facility Group was born in January of this year they began to apply for grants. Since then £8000 was received from Lloyds TSB to fund part of a Project manager and an architect. In February £26 521 was granted from the New Opportunities Fund for the Project Manager, Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club.

The Childcare Facility can be used not only by local people but also by those commuting into Norwich from the north and east of the city. As a result local people, including single parents and the unemployed, will have an easily accessible, affordable facility enabling them to return to work or take up training opportunities.

The Group is now exploring opportunities to develop a Neighbourhood Nursery.

Sure Start

Rural Sure Start in the Fen Border villages

Cambridgeshire and Norfolk EYDCPs were successful in securing national project funding to run a mini rural Sure Start programme in the Fen Border villages from 2002-04. This funding will help to develop local activities in the villages and bring new services and facilities to families. The activities will, in time, link to the new Neighbourhood Nursery in Emneth and Wisbech.

Sure Start update

Three new Sure Starts were recently announced for Norfolk to support the North Norfolk, West, Breckland and Central Norwich areas. It is too early to say if the Sure Starts will develop Neighbourhood Nurseries, but interest has already been expressed by them.

Neighbourhood nurseries

The EYDCP is working with a number of providers in developing Neighbourhood Nurseries creating an additional 350 new childcare places with initiatives developing across the county.

Early Excellence Centre

The governors have finalised and submitted building plans for planning permission for Earlham Early Years Centre (formally Earlham Nursery School)



The Norfolk Quality Kitemark gets underway

The pilot scheme, announced in the last issue, has been kick started this Autumn ready for roll out. Welcome to Janet Morgan, who has been appointed Quality Assurance Co-ordinator. Janet will be involved in running two information sessions, preceding the roll out, which should give you all the background information you need to help achieve the Norfolk Quality Kitemark. We hope you will be able to attend - details can be found in Diary Dates on the back cover. A team of mentors have also been appointed to support this initiative

Investors In Children Award update

This is a national quality rating scheme launched by the DfES. It ties in well with the Norfolk Quality Kitemark so we will be liaising closely with the DfES to ensure the Kitemark meets the criteria of Investors in Children.

Following local consultation comments were passed to the DfES. We are expecting a response later this term. Indications are that the award will be based on:

- Ofsted Inspection results
- Approved quality assurance accreditation
- Qualifications, education and training of staff

News from the East

In this edition of Partnership News we hear from the East Team.

"The last term was an exciting and busy time for the South and East Development team. To improve our knowledge of local communities and help us develop suitable provision we have been actively distributing thousands of questionnaires to parents. Feedback was provided at public meetings. Thank you to the schools for your support and to all those parents who returned the questionnaires. Holiday playschemes, after school schemes and care for babies are currently the highest demand.

In June we submitted a bid to the New Opportunities Fund for start up funding of £272,000 for an amazing 466 new childcare places in the South and East of Norfolk. These included wraparound places, after School places, breakfast clubs and holiday playschemes. This follows a successful bid in February this year for around £85,000 to create 194 new childcare places for our area. In September the team will begin to send out questionnaires to parents in the Wymondham and Acle areas.

On 7th May our office at Havenbridge House, North Quay, Great Yarmouth was officially opened by NEYDCP Chair Dorothy Wedge and Radio Broadland DJ Greg Martin. About 20 children from St. Nicholas Children's Centre After School Club came to help us celebrate and we were joined by lots of other guests."

Jill Warwick Partnership Area Team Leader

New opportunities fund (NOF)

The EYDCP has done extremely well. In the latest Round it was granted funding for 673 new childcare places.

In the June Round we submitted a bid for well over 1000 places.

Although the funding for childcare places is increasing the numbers opening is still relatively low. The summer holiday has shown yet again that there still is a tremendous shortage of childcare facilities.

Two more chances to bid

There are only two rounds left for New Opportunity Funding. Anyone who is aware of childcare needs in their community and is thinking about setting up or expanding a childcare service has just two more opportunities to bid for a grant from the National Lottery Opportunities Fund. Deadlines for the final two rounds are October 2002 and February 2003. Local Partnership Teams can help identifying needs and putting the bids together.

Got funding...what next?

The EYDCP is aware of the difficulties providers are experiencing when setting up provision. To help, training courses, workshops, literature and support are in place. We can help with business planning, management training, meeting Ofsted requirements, marketing clinics and many other areas. Please see Training News for specific course details, dates and venues, or contact the Childcare Information Service on 01603 62 22 92.

Ofsted (pathways to registration)

Over recent months, DfES and Ofsted have been working together to address the shortfall in the number of newly registered childcare places. As a result they have agreed a joint action plan. These include:

To clear all outstanding applications over five months old and to aim to establish registration times as 12 weeks for childminders and 25 weeks for providers of day-care

To improve local communications between Ofsted and EYDCP's

To track potential providers from expression of interest to Ofsted registration, and support them through the process

At local level, the new Care Standards Officer, Sue Dale, will be responsible for this.

Day-care expansion

More and more pre-schools and even some schools are developing or considering 'wrap-around' or extended care. During the autumn term there will be a number of Growing Your Pre-school courses around the county for pre-schools wishing to extend their provision.

Day-care expansion grant (Revenue & Capital)

This grant is aimed at providing support for any group provider of early education intending to expand their services from the traditional 2.5-hour early years education to provide a longer day-care facility. The maximum amount of revenue funding available for a new extended place is £380 and capital £285. Only a few grants have been paid out so far. There is still funding left for 2002-03.

Growing your pre-school

This course has been designed for staff and volunteers in pre-schools who would like to expand the service they offer to families of young children. These courses start in October 2002. For more information contact the Childcare Information Service on 01603 62 22 92.

Case study

Day-care expansion grant - Old Buckenham pre-school

The pre-school at Buckenham moved into its own premises and subsequently doubled its provision. That move (and registration with OFSTED for full day care) enabled them to apply for the Day-care expansion grant.

It was anticipated that there would be slow and steady build up to 16 children attending, however the scheme has been hugely popular with 30 out of 38 children on the register staying for lunch on a regular basis last term. The feedback from parents is extremely positive.

Wraparound care eases the difficulties for working parents and enables them to have more flexibility in their working patterns, and the children can gain valuable social skills. The grant has facilitated the appointment of a new member of staff, which has eased the burden on the team and will also be used to purchase equipment to support the lunchtime activities.





For a copy of any of our new literature please call Monday to Friday on 01603 62 22 92

All our literature is accessible via your local Forums. The Childcare Information Service are aiming to set up a partnership distribution system later on in the year.

childcare information service

Over the last few months the Childcare Information Service has undergone many changes, not least our move to new premises at St Andrews House in January. Since that time we have been manually updating your records to put on a new database. This new database is government supported and has a link to the national website. If you have previously given us permission to place your information on the internet and you would like to view your information please look at www.childcarelink.org.uk

Efforts are ongoing to supply your details to as many people throughout Norfolk as possible, and also to offer new resources that assist you as providers. As our service grows, we can send your details to a larger number of people, helping support your business.

Information

Information is available for:

- Parents thinking about local childcare facilities
- People thinking of a new career in childcare
- People working in childcare that are thinking about training and becoming better qualified
- Employers who are thinking about their employee's childcare needs.

Plus new leaflets including:

Information packs for anyone interested in setting up a childcare facility or becoming a childminder.

Fact sheets for anyone considering a career in childminding or setting up a provision. The fact sheets include details on the range and types of benefits that you may be able to access.

Leaflets for parents with information on the different types of childcare available. They include pre-schools, day nurseries, after school care, childminders and nannies. We have also produced a leaflet on 3 and 4 year old funding and what to look for in a quality childcare provision.

CIS leaflet with information about the Childcare Information Service, and what it can do for you?

Think Three Think Free designed to inform parents of their entitlement to early years funding for children aged three and four. The leaflet is constantly reviewed and updated, until such time as the county has secured enough funding for all three and four year olds.

Help us keep your records up to date

So we can continue to provide an accurate information service, it is important that all details are up to date. If your provision details change in any way let us know.

Data protection act

The Childcare Information Service releases data to all sectors of the community, and because of the Data Protection Act, all provisions must complete and sign an agreement form. The Childcare Information Service will be in contact soon with more information and the forms for completion.

If you are thinking of becoming a childminder - Norfolk County Childminding Association is here to help! NCCMA's support for childminding has grown further this year thanks to further funding from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

NCCMA staff can now contact everyone who has attended Childminding Information Sessions and offer help and support through the registration process. In addition, we also provide childminder training throughout Norfolk.



Graduates Set The Standard

Eastern Daily Press June 13th 2002 (Job Search)

childminding update

Childminder Start-Up grant

If you are applying for a Start-Up grant for childminding, our staff can visit you and talk through your application. Grants of £300 and up to £600 are available to help with the start-up cost of childminding and the NCCMA can advise on how the grant may be best used.

Childminder support grant

Childminders in identified areas can apply for a support grant. This grant supports registered childminders, is administered through the EYDCP and offers childminders financial support for un-filled places. Your local County Liaison Officer will have more details. Application packs are available from Rachel Jackson on 01603 22 25 21.

Cross-border initiatives

NCCMA is working with partners in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships to develop childminding networks to operate across the Norfolk borders:

The Emneth Childminding Network, co-ordinated by Sarah Vick, is planning to expand to operate over the Fen Border Sure Start area.

We are also joining with Keystone Community Partnership in Thetford to bid for funds to set up a Network, which will operate across the border into Suffolk.

News from our networks

NCCMA County Liaison Officers are supporting the development of childminding networks in the county.

In Norwich Linda Wright and Debbie Dawson, have spent the summer term working on the development of this network.

In Emneth Sarah Vick started as Network Co-ordinator and has been very busy contacting childminders about the development of the childminder network that will be to be attached to the Nursery School.

In King's Lynn Stephanie Copeland started as Network Co-ordinator and will be based within Sure Start's premises at Oak Circle, Gaywood. (telephone number to follow) This will be a 20 childminder network, with half the childminders serving King's Lynn Nursery School and other half working alongside the King's Lynn Sure Start team.

In Great Yarmouth Nikki Bird, County Liaison Officer assumed management responsibility for the Great Yarmouth Childminding Network on April 1st 2002.

A Network Co-ordinator was appointed, welcome to Sally Lee.

Childminder Information Sessions

Sessions are available this term, please see Diary Dates on the back cover for more information.





norfolk early years support network

News update

Since Easter the Network have been working to a new agreement with the Local Authority via the EYDCP to offer a support service to providers to enable them to meet the requirements of the 14 National Daycare Standards. The Network's team of Daycare Advisors are available to make visits to providers prior to their transitional Ofsted inspections and work through the requirements with them. The aim of this service is to assist providers to be as prepared as possible for the inspection.

Many of you have already taken advantage of this service, and the feedback has been

very positive, with everyone finding it very helpful and supportive. Where providers have already had their transitional inspection the Advisors are able to offer advice and support in meeting any issues arising from it. Advisors have also been continuing their role of supporting staff and committees in meeting their legal responsibilities in areas such as Charity Law, Employment and Health & Safety and are always willing to talk through any queries that providers may have.

The Network Admin Centre at 115 City Rd Norwich is also available as a source of advice and information. The Centre is open term time, Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 3.30pm and staff are available by phone

01603 219300 or in person. If we can be of assistance to you, or you would like to arrange a visit from a Daycare Advisor please let us know.

The Network also have a full programme of training planned for the Autumn term, full details of which appeared in the Summer edition of the Training News. Places on these courses can be booked via the Partnership Training Team. If you would like to discuss the content of the courses, or their suitability for your present needs, contact the Network Admin Centre and we will be happy to talk this through with you.



partner focus

Norfolk Children's Fund extended to 2006

Exciting things are happening for the Children's Fund in Norfolk.

Recent good news is that as a result of the treasury review, funding has been extended to 2006, so Norfolk's 5 to 13 year olds can continue to reap the benefits of Children's Fund services.

With more services ready to begin delivery this couldn't be more timely. There are now 35 services working in partnership across the county and new service proposals continuing to come forward for approval. For more details contact Nicky Dawson on 01603 49 51 21.

NHS childcare strategy gets much needed resource

Norfolk and Suffolk EYDCP's with the NHS have developed a partnership to support the recruitment of an NHS Childcare Co-ordinator in the Gorleston/Waveney area. The Co-ordinator will help develop and implement family employment practises, which in turn help employers provide a better balance of work and family life.

We also congratulate all involved in the successful PCT bid for childcare development in Norwich NHS hospital, and look forward to more news next issue.

Great news for young parents!

In Great Yarmouth, the Partnership for Health is funding a scheme, which will not only provide childcare places but also helpful support and advice for young parents. The scheme will extend the work of the Great Yarmouth Young Women's Project and will also involve young fathers. The aim of the scheme is for childminders to work with teenage parents on developing their self-advocacy and parenting skills, while boosting their self-esteem. The childcare support will enable them to attend training or education and/or employment.

Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA) – working hard this summer!

The PLA development workers regularly meet parents as part of their work, but this summer has been exceptional. In conjunction with the National Alliance Playweek and the National Childcare Month, the PLA organised two very successful fundays. Adults and children all joined in, gaining useful play ideas that can be used at home. We hope similar events can be repeated next year. For a play activities information pack, contact the PLA on 01603 767525.

diary dates

Course Title	Childminder Information Sessions	
Venue	The Annex, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 10 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
	Tuesday 15 October 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
	Wednesday 6 November 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
	Tuesday 3 December 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Sheringham Community Primary School, Cooper Road, off Holway Road	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 12 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Date and Duration	Thursday 7 November 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Dereham Neatherd Community High School, Norwich Road, Dereham	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 17 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	North Walsham Infants School, Manor Road, North Walsham	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 24 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Unit 5 North Lynn Business Village, Bergen Way, King's Lynn	
Date and Duration	Monday 9 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Date and Duration	Wednesday 16 October 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Date and Duration	Thursday 7 November 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Terrington St Clements Primary School, 72 Churchgate Way	
Date and Duration	Wednesday 6 November 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Wayland Community High School, Merton Way, Watton	
Date and Duration	Wednesday 13 November 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Magdalen Methodist Church, Magdalen Way, Gorleston	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 10 September 2002	9.30 – 11.30am
Venue	Loddon First School, Kitten Lane, Loddon	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 17 September 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Venue	Havenbridge House, Great Yarmouth	
Date and Duration	Tuesday 8 October 2002	7.30 –9.30pm
Course Title	Daycare Information Sessions	
Venue	Norwich - The Annex, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich	
Date and Duration	12 September 2002	7.30 – 9.30pm
Date and Duration	8 October 2002	7.30 – 9.30pm
Date and Duration	12 November 2002	7.30 – 9.30pm
Course Title	Marketing For Success	
Venue	Norwich Sports Village Hotel, Norwich	
Date and Duration	14 October 2002	9.30am – 4.30pm
Venue	Tea Park View Hotel, King's Lynn	
Date and Duration	15 October 2002	9.30am – 4.30pm

Course Title	Network for Success	
Venue	Norwich Sports Village Hotel, Norwich	
Date and Duration	23 September 2002	7.00 – 9.00pm
Venue	Dukes Head Regal Hotel, King's Lynn	
Date and Duration	24 September 2002	7.00 – 9.00pm
Venue	The Bell Hotel, Thetford	
Date and Duration	25 September 2002	7.00 – 9.00pm
Venue	Elizabeth Hotel, Great Yarmouth	
Date and Duration	26 September 2002	7.00 – 9.00pm
Forum Dates East Norfolk Forum		
Venue	2nd Floor, Havenbridge House, Great Yarmouth	
Date and Time	7th October 2002	1.30 pm
Venue	2nd Floor, Havenbridge House, Great Yarmouth	
Date and Time	3rd December 2002	1.30 pm
South Norfolk Forum		
Venue	Swan House, Long Stratton, Norfolk	
Date and Time	17th October 2002	7.30 pm
Venue	TBC	
Date and Time	12th December 2002	7.30 pm
Broadland Forum		
Venue	Hillbillies Playhouse, Taverham, Norwich	
Date and Time	12th September 2002	7.30 pm
Venue	Norwich PDC (Woodside Road)	
Date and Time	12th November 2002	7.30 pm
Norwich Forum		
Venue	Treehouse Children's Centre, Chatham St, Norwich	
Date and Time	18th September 2002	7.30 pm (7pm networking)
Venue	St Andrews House, St Andrews Street, Norwich	
Date and Time	6th November 2002	7.30 pm (7pm networking)
North Norfolk Forum		
Venue	Fakenham Childrens Day Centre, Fakenham	
Date and Time	10th September 2002	7.30 pm
Venue	TBC	
Date and Time	4th November 2002	1.30 - 3.30pm
Course Title	Quality Assurance Information Sessions	
Venue	Norwich Sports Village, Norwich	
Date and Time	16th September 2002	1.30 - 3.30pm
Venue	Knights Hotel, King's Lynn	
Date and Time	20th September 2002	1.30 - 3.30pm

whatever
you're
thinking ...

...about childcare or early years education please call the
Norfolk Childcare Information Service on 01603 62 22 92 for details