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Provider Portal

Communication Hubs Spring 2024

In 2019 the Norwich Opportunity Area launched the Communication Hubs model to provide early years practitioners with new CPD and networking opportunities to help support children's early speech, language, and communication development.

Since then, The Early Years Learning and Achievement Service have launched **five new Communication Hubs** in each of the following Norfolk districts:

- **Great Yarmouth & East**
- **Broadland**
- **North Norfolk**
- **King's Lynn and West**
- **South Norfolk**

The Communication Hubs offer was co-produced with both system partners and early years providers using the extensive feedback we received from our autumn speech and language questionnaire. As a result, here is what you can expect from your local Communication Hub:

- **Half termly network meetings** – a mixture of in-person and online deliveries (this may vary each term)
- Evening meetings that start from 6:30pm.
- **High-quality CPD** based on the areas that providers told us they would like more support with.
- Opportunities to **share best practice**, build relationships and network with other local settings.
- Optional 30 minute '**speech and language surgeries**' to allow practitioners the opportunity to talk to a local speech and language therapist and ask practice-based questions. (These surgeries will require practitioners to submit their questions in advance).
- Opportunities to speak with your local **Early Years Adviser and Improvement & Development Worker**.
- Improved access to speech and language resources via a small **resource library** that practitioners can browse during face-to-face meetings. (In the mid-long term, this will be extended to a resource borrow scheme).

Target audiences and cost

Childminders
Early Years Settings
School Nurseries &
Reception Classes

£0 – Fully funded

Training provider

Early Years & Childcare



Whilst we encourage practitioners to make use of their local Communication Hub, please note that practitioners can still attend any of the five pre-existing Communication Hubs listed below*:

- The North Norwich Communication Hub
- The Lakenham Communication Hub
- The Peapod Communication Hub (for community groups)
- The 0-2 Communication Hub (focused on 0-2 best practice)
- The Breckland Communication Hub

*Please note, the five pre-existing Communication Hubs, established by the Norwich Opportunity Area, have their own offers and agendas. Please get in touch with them directly to find out more, using the details on this [flyer](#).

Booking:

To book onto one of the new Communication Hub network meetings, please use the Provider Portal. Booking is limited to two practitioners per setting for face-to-face meetings and spaces will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. For online meetings, there is no booking limit for practitioners from the same setting.

If you would like to stay for the optional 30-minute Speech and Language Surgery at the end of each meeting (8pm-8:30pm) and you have a practice-based question to ask, please submit this via the Microsoft Form that will be sent to you before the meeting.

Spring 2024 – Network Meeting 7			
‘A practical session to explore recommended strategies’			
Code	Hub & Venue	Date	Time
CH031	North Norfolk Hub The Links Hotel, West Runton	Tuesday 23 January	6.30pm-8pm*
CH032	South Norfolk Hub Hethel Engineering Centre	Tuesday 23 January	6.30pm-8pm*
CH033	Broadland Hub Sprowston Manor Hotel	Wednesday 24 January	6.30pm-8pm*
CH034	Gt Yarmouth & East Hub The Imperial Hotel	Tuesday 30 January	6.30pm-8pm*
CH035	King’s Lynn & West Hub Knights Hill Hotel	Wednesday 31 January	6.30pm-8pm*



Spring 2024 – Network Meeting 8
‘Play, inclusivity and communication’ with Sophie Hutton

Sophie Hutton is an award-winning specialist speech and language therapist. She is the owner of The Nest Therapy Ltd – a specialist nursery provision for early years children with SEND, which provides independent assessment and interventions for children with a range of speech, language and communication needs to individual families, nurseries and schools.

Code	Hub & Venue	Date	Time
CH036	South Norfolk Hub Hethel Engineering Centre	Tuesday 12 March	6.30pm-8pm*
CH037	Broadland Hub The Nest	Wednesday 13 March	6.30pm-8pm*
CH038	North Norfolk Hub The Links Hotel, West Runton	Monday 18 March	6.30pm-8pm*
CH039	Gt Yarmouth & East Hub The Imperial Hotel	Tuesday 19 March	6.30pm-8pm*
CH040	King’s Lynn & West Hub Knights Hill Hotel	Wednesday 20 March	6.30pm-8pm*

*Each meeting includes the option to stay for a Speech and Language Surgery from 8pm-8.30pm. This will be led by the Hubs speech and language therapist.