

## **Early Years Bulletin : Transition Support**

We realise that we are putting out a lot of messages in addition to our regular updates, but this is our main way of communicating with you so please bear with us.

Please ensure that you are up to date with portal messages, emails and the Nottinghamshire Early Years Provider Webpage to keep up with the latest advice and support from Early Childhood Services during these unprecedented times.

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-and-childcare/childcare-providers/free-childcare-providers-information>

**Please also make sure that you keep us updated with your details using our online submission...it's really important that you update it each time anything changes for you.**

### **Support for Children's Transition over the Summer holiday break 2020**

We are all aware of the importance of good communication between providers to support smooth transitions. Through our regular conversations with you we are aware that in many cases these conversations have taken place and schools and settings have been in contact to share information and ideas about how they are approaching transitions this year. We would advise you to use the *All About Me* paperwork you have completed in previous years wherever it is possible to share information with the child's new setting. We also suggest that you provide details of the child's experience of lockdown and how this has reshaped their learning. Here is a link to an additional document to support you with this, the document is on the Provider Webpage.

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2891719/all-about-me-covid-19-extra-sheet.docx>

Children's experiences of transitions to new settings will be very different this year. To support you we have put together some top transition tips to help during these changed times.

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2891718/transition-top-tips-during-covid-19.docx>

Many of you have given much consideration as to how you will support children and their families to say a 'meaningful goodbye' to their key person, friends and the setting environment if they are not returning to the setting. We have heard some great ideas of how settings are supporting children and families to do this. Some are planning virtual graduation ceremonies. In one setting the child's key person is making a short personalised video for each child who is leaving to say good bye and to remember special things about the child's time with them. Some have shared, where appropriate, videos of staff and environments made during the lockdown. Others have chosen to send postcards or letters from the child's key person. We would love to hear more about the creative and innovative things you have been doing to support transitions.

If you need further support around transition please contact the Early Years Quality and Attainment Team

### **Transition Funding for Vulnerable Children**

Support for the most vulnerable children over the summer break. (Vulnerable children includes:- LAC, CPP, CIN, EHCP/SEND and those classed by the setting as "otherwise vulnerable".)

We are pleased to confirm that in order to further support transition for the most vulnerable children who will be leaving Early Years provision to go to school in Autumn, Nottinghamshire County Council is able to fund additional sessions across the summer holiday period when Early Years Entitlements are not usually

paid. For the five week Summer holiday period, this funding will be targeted for these children as part of a wider package of support.

Settings should use this funding to provide sessions to support transition to nursery or foundation units and focus the sessions to support children's social and emotional wellbeing and school, / nursery readiness. The most vulnerable children should be encouraged to continue attendance, as well as offering these sessions to vulnerable children who have not been in attendance as a gentle return to childcare and early education in a familiar setting before they move on to school. We encourage settings to use this funding creatively, to enable as many vulnerable children to remain in or return to the setting over the summer break.

As we have done for previous holiday payments, we will ask settings to complete a return at the end of the Summer break and will fund sessions when a child was in attendance to a maximum of 15 hours per week. We will make this return available to you in the coming weeks on the provider webpage.

Because this funding is aimed at supporting transition in a stable and familiar setting, this is only available to your regular attenders. Settings who are usually closed over the summer can, if they wish, use this funding to open up for limited sessions to support these children.

### Children's Centre Activities

For children who do not remain in the setting or are in need of a more targeted offer of support, the Children's Centre service are offering a menu of activity to families in the home and the community.



**Nottinghamshire  
Children's Centre Service**

**Transition to school**

As your child is due to start school in September, we wanted to share with you some ideas that we can offer to support both of you to get ready for the next stage of this journey. This service can be tailor made to suit your families individual needs. This service can be delivered in several ways from email support, or telephone contact through to 1-1 socially distanced visits and conversations. We are always here to help.

Things we can offer you are:

- All about me activities – self-portrait, comforters, health information, toilet training
- Play, listening and communication – talking walks, stories and singing. Understanding social cues and the emotional needs of your child
- Virtual chats – Support for parents, separation anxiety for both of you
- My school – getting to know my school, layout, teacher, school bag, visual timetables
- Routines and boundaries – Sleep and behaviour support
- Self-help skills for children and building independence
- Facing the world – what does this look like to your child post lockdown?

To access this service please talk to your child's Key worker

[W: nottinghamshire.gov.uk/childrenscentreservice](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/childrenscentreservice)

**...giving children the best start**

**Nottinghamshire  
County Council**

**Contact your nearest Children's Centre if you think a child/family would benefit from additional support:-**

<b>Children Centre</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>District</b>
Butlers Hill	0115 9773748	Ashfield
Summer House	0115 9773741	Ashfield
Summit Centre	0115 9773746	Ashfield
Hallcroft Childrens Centre	0115 9773754	Bassetlaw
Manton Childrens Centre	0115 9773758	Bassetlaw
West Bassetlaw Children's Centre	0115 9773759	Bassetlaw
Chilwell	0115 9773743	Broxtowe
Eastwood	0115 9773742	Broxtowe
Arnbrook	0115 9773752	Gedling
Netherfield	0115 9773751	Gedling
Ladybrook Children's Centre	0115 9773763	Mansfield
Mansfield Woodhouse	0115 9773765	Mansfield
Ravensdale with Forest Town	0115 9773740	Mansfield
Hawtonville	0115 9773745	Newark & Sherwood
Ollerton and Boughton	0115 9773747	Newark & Sherwood
Sherwood East	0115 9773744	Newark & Sherwood
Bingham	0115 +883749	Rushcliffe

### **Good News Stories**

Thank you for sending these in and please keep them coming.

We are particularly interested in

- Staying in touch with children at home - creative ways in which the sector is doing this if they are unable to attend the setting
- Using the Thank Our Children certificate available at <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/lord-lieutenant>

- Feedback from parents about the support they are getting from you during these challenging times.
- Feedback about the successes of re-opening to more children

Please send us your photos, ideas and activities to [eycovid19@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:eycovid19@nottscc.gov.uk)

**Don't forget** if you have queries please contact your local Teacher or Advisor or email  
[eycovid19@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:eycovid19@nottscc.gov.uk)

**Previous Guidance and Information for reference. All documents are now in collections on the DfE website**

**Early Years and Childcare Collection**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-and-childcare-coronavirus-covid-19>

**Financial support For Businesses Collection**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/financial-support-for-businesses-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

**Coronavirus CJRS Collection**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>