

Children's Services Provider News



Welcome

... to the 14th edition of the Children's Services Provider News!

I hope you find lots of useful information about local and national issues, as well as information sharing and good practice.

Please send any comments to Judith Heron, Children and Families Information Service, 80 Warwick Road, Carlisle, CA1 1DU or telephone 01228 226346 or email judith.heron@cumbria.gov.uk - we'd love to hear from you.

Hope you enjoy this issue!

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Applying for a primary school place in Cumbria September 2013

Families with children born between **1 September 2008** and **31 August 2009** need to make an application for an infant / primary school. The closing date for applications is **15 January 2013**.

Families with older children may also find the following information helpful.

If they have a child attending an infant school in **year 2** they will need to make an application to transfer to a junior / primary school by **15 January 2013**.

Families with children in **year 6** (the last year of primary education) need to make an application for a secondary school by **31 October 2012**

To find out more and for details on how to make an online application please see the county council's website at:

cumbria.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Children and Families Information Service

Are your details up-to-date on the CFIS information database?

The Children and Families Information Service database holds details of all registered childcare and early years providers in Cumbria. We use these details to tell parents and carers about you, so it is really important that they are accurate.

Due to our service implementing a new information system, we will be collecting more information, and will carry out a second audit that will take place in October 2012.

But please remember....you can get in touch with us at any time to tell us about changes to your details - especially vacancies, contact details for parents, opening times and charges. Telephone **08457 125 737** or email us at childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk.

Information on-line

Visit our website [www.cumbria.gov.uk childrensservices/childrenandfamilies/cfis.asp](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/childrenandfamilies/cfis.asp) to access the Children and Families Information Service leaflets and newsletters. You can order leaflets, flyers and small publicity cards to give to parents and carers by contacting us on **08457 125 737** or send an email to childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk.

Parents finding it difficult to access childcare?

Tell them to ring the Children and Families Information Service! We will contact childcare providers on a customer's behalf and try to find a solution to the problem, as well as go through financial issues to ensure all entitlements are being claimed.

The Children's Services On-line Directory

Visit www.help4me.info to search for services, activities and family-related organisations.

Website for young people in Cumbria

13-19 year olds in Cumbria can find out about activities in their area by visiting www.wotson4u.com.

Disabilities and Additional Needs

The **Aiming High Network** is a database of information about children and young people with disabilities and additional needs in Cumbria. Inclusion on the database is voluntary by request from parents and carers. Information is used to send families information specific to their needs.

Contact the **Children and Families Information Service** on **08457 125 737** or email childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk

Disposable Underwear? No Thanks!

CottonBaby

Cotton Baby is one of the UK's longest established washable nappy companies, basing their reputation on bringing you the best reusable nappies they can find and providing you with bespoke advice to ensure the best nappies for babies.

Did you know that a baby will have around 5,000 nappy changes before mastering the art of potty training? If using disposable nappies every one of those could take hundreds of years to decompose.

Reusable nappies do need to be washed, however they can go in with other clothing and often just pad out washes you're doing anyway. Nappies don't need to be soaked, before going into the wash.

Modern nappies have benefited from some new designs and materials which mean's that drying is now quick and easy. Microfibre has seen a revolution in drying times, coupled with natural fibres like bamboo and cotton, reusable nappies are performing better than ever in terms of absorbing loads and yet drying quickly.

These day's nappies can be anything from plain white through to being embroidered in your favourite football teams logos. Fastenings are simple and nappy changing times no more complicated than with disposables. 15 – 20 nappies will be more than enough.

For more information and advice please call **Nicola Latimer, Cotton Baby on 01228 712699**

Childminder Mini Olympics

A Mini Olympics took place on Wednesday 15 August 2012 at Moresby Church Hall for children who are minded by Copeland childminders and was organised by Childminder Miriam McAllister.

All the events were adapted to the child's age, with the youngest competitor being 14 months old and the oldest 11 years old.

The children were lead in by a torch bearer, each waving their own flags. All of the children took part in a selection of events including Volley Ball (using balloons) and had lots of fun.

Children were presented with gold certificates and chocolate medals.



Free early learning places for less advantaged two year olds

From September 2013, 20% of two year olds will be entitled to 570 hours a year FREE early years education.

Eligibility will be based on several factors but the majority of children will be in care or living in households which meet the criteria used for free school meals.

The entitlement will then be extended to 40% of eligible two year olds for September 2014.

Further information about this will be issued but if you have any queries you would like to discuss please contact Children and Families Information Service on **08457 125 737** or email **childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk**

Parents' Week 2012



Parents' Week this year will be taking place from 22 – 28 October 2012. The theme this year is 'Make A Moment', celebrating those moments that make being a child and being a parent so special.

Being there for children isn't about paying for expensive toys or day trips. It's about the time and attention you give. Whether you have five minutes, half an hour, or longer, sharing a moment is what it's all about – taking a moment to give them full attention whatever you're up to at the time.

So join in Parents' Week 2012 and help to:

- Celebrate the hard work parents do;
- Raise awareness of the importance of spending quality one-to-one time with a child.

To register visit www.parentsweek.org.uk
activity packs are available from mid September, if
you have any questions contact
parentsweek@familyandparenting.org.



www.mobilefarm.biz

Mobile Farm venture

Bring the countryside into the classroom with Fishers Mobile Farm.

If you are organising a special event for children, families or seeking to give a special experience to pupils, we can bring our farm to you. From nursery groups, primary schools to summer fayres everyone gets an opportunity for a hands on experience with our friendly farm animals

We can offer an opportunity for children of all ages to experience farm life, by introducing children to a range of farm animals in a safe, well organised environment. Our visits fulfil important elements of the National Curriculum all within a safe environment of your setting.

For further information please take a look at our website www.mobilefarm.biz or contact us on 01257 471212 or 0773 795 2673 or email us at info@mobilefarm.biz

We look forward to talking to you and discussing how we could tailor a visit to meet your particular needs.

Daycare Trust National Childcare Week survey

National Childcare week 2012 ran between 2 – 9 July 2012

The Daycare Trust would like to thank anyone who took part in their National Childcare Week, which helped them to highlight the importance of childcare, extended schools and early years provision.

The theme this year was Families in Focus, promoting the benefits of engaging the whole family. Daycare Trust asked you to hold a Big Breakfast Bonanza, and to invite children, parents, carers and other family members to join in the celebrations and share a morning meal.

If your setting took part in National Childcare Week could you please follow the link below to complete the survey they have produced asking for your views

www.surveymonkey.com/s/NCW



Useful Websites

Early Years Resources for Schools, Nurseries and Childminders

The TTS Early Years Resources collection is full of ideas for learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Visit www.tts-group.co.uk to find out what available.

The Daycare Trust

The Daycare Trust is a national childcare charity campaigning for quality, accessible , affordable childcare for all.

Free factsheet and other resources for parents and carers are available when you visit:
www.daycaretrust.org.uk

Netmums

For advice and information from activities to food and lots more visit www.netmums.com



Dad

Dads can get expert advice and support from professionals about areas such as: Fatherhood, separation, child maintenance and much more.



The Foundation Stage Forum

The Forum was initially set up in early 2003, in response to a perceived lack of support for practitioners and other professionals involved in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

LA Membership Scheme

The Foundation Stage Forum operates a scheme whereby the early years teams working in Local Authorities can purchase membership for all the EYFS providers in Cumbria.

Cumbria has a membership for the site where you can have access to articles, resources, what's new section and the discussion forum.

To register, complete a short form online www.eyfs.info, when you arrive at the LA Registration Password call the Children and Families Information Service on **08457 125 737** and they will issue you with the Local Authority password.

Childcare Expo 2012



RICOH ARENA
COVENTRY
28TH - 29TH
SEP 2012

Childcare Expo 2012 is the event for early years and childcare providers. The free event showcases activities, products and services designed to give early years professionals ideas to take back to their settings.

Visitors are invited to 'try and buy' from a diverse range of early years suppliers and take the time to network with businesses and other childcare professionals.

To register for your free ticket please visit www.childcareexpo.co.uk



Code of Practice - effective from September 2012



NDNA Support nurseries with new government early education guidance.

The National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) has launched a new factsheet to help nurseries understand the new statutory guidance when delivering the free early education for three and four year olds.

Key changes to the Code of Practice includes greater flexibility for parents, allowing them to access the entitlement over a minimum of two day instead of three days and the right to take up places between 7.00am and 7.00pm rather than between 8.00am and 6.00pm.

A copy of this new factsheet will be posted out to all NDNA members and is also available on the NDNA website www.ndna.org.uk/code-of-practice

Please ensure that you read the code of practice to check it against your provider agreements from your local authority.

Helen O'Grady Drama Academy



The Helen O'Grady Drama Academy offers a unique and highly effective curriculum firmly based around verbal communication and use of language. The programme teaches social and personal growth and has a proven impact on children's confidence.

Kindy Drama

In 2009, the age range was extended with the introduction of an engaging preschool programme called **Kindy Drama**. After pilot schemes in four locations, the programme is now becoming more widely available around the country.

A typical Kindy lesson includes children singing a familiar 'Hello Song', activities to encourage children to speak to each other and their teacher, speech exercises, to develop strong projected voices and movement so little ones can discover other ways of communicating.

The main part of each lesson develops these skills further, making them into a story with music, a short 'play' or a series of high impact activities children can identify with.

To find out about the programme and to locate your local classes, call **Principal Becky Crawley** on **01228 540518** or email northlakes@helenogrady.co.uk





Commission on childcare

In June this year the Prime Minister announced a commission on childcare, which was to look at how to reduce the costs of childcare for working families and burdens on childcare providers.

It will look broadly at relevant issues and particularly consider three key themes:

- Ways to encourage the provision of wraparound and holiday care for school age children;
- Identify any regulations that burdens childcare providers unnecessarily because it is not needed for reasons of quality or safety;
- How childcare supports families to move into sustained employment and out of poverty.

It will draw on the knowledge and view of a wide range of experts in the field, together with international evidence on high quality, affordable childcare.

The commission report will be published this autumn, look out for more information on the Department for Education website at www.education.gov.uk



Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day 2012 will take place on Friday 23 November



Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day give children and young people from all backgrounds the chance to work with adults for the day and be involved in decision making. Children benefit from the opportunity to experience the world of work and make their voices heard.

Organisations across every sector can take part – it's a flexible event which can be tailored to suit your needs. You will be provided with guidance, resources and support to help you get the most out of the day.

5 reasons for organisations to take part:

1. Improved links with customers or service users and the local community;
2. Fresh ideas and creative ways to improve what you do;
3. Better understanding of how children and young people experience issues involved in your work;
4. Demonstrate your commitment to listening to young people;
5. It's easy to do, the benefits outweigh the work needed to make a really successful day.

If you are interested in taking part join the mailing list at childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/takeover_day or get in touch at takeover.day@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk



Be Healthy

Being physically, mentally and emotionally healthy, choosing a lifestyle that is healthy – including sexual health and not taking illegal drugs.

Smile4Life

On the 18th May 2012, the Smile4Life Programme was successfully launched in Cumbria. Prior to the launch, Parkfield Nursery, Munchkins Nursery and St. Aidans Nursery all situated in Carlisle, worked towards the Smile4Life award and were presented with their certificates by Sue Gregory, Deputy Chief Dental Officer for England.

At the event, Sue Gregory recognised the innovative work providers were undertaking to improve the oral health of children in their care and stated that she would be recommending national attention to the commitment shown by Cumbria Early Years providers.

To date, the focus has been on developing this modern approach to oral health and implementing it in Children's Centres across Cumbria. This focus is now being progressed to wider Early Years Providers to enable more children to benefit from the Programme.

You will therefore soon be receiving an invitation to attend a local training event in which you will have the opportunity to explore the Smile4Life



Programme in more detail, see how you can participate in the Programme and improve the oral health of the children in your care, and meet the people who will support you to do this.

In the meantime, if you would like any further information on the Programme or would like to access any of the resources please visit: www.smile4life.org.uk or email Melanie Smith at melanie.smith@centrallancashire.nhs.uk

Smile4Life – Reducing tooth decay in children and laying solid foundations for good oral health throughout life.

Healthy Start

The scheme provides vouchers to spend with local retailers. If you're at least 10 weeks pregnant or have a child aged 1-4 years old you can get one £3.10 voucher per week. Children under one year old can get two £3.10 vouchers (£6.20) per week.

The vouchers can be swapped for the following:

- Milk – whole, semi skimmed or skimmed,
- Fresh or frozen fruit or vegetables
- Infant formula milk

The scheme also provides vouchers which are exchanged through the NHS for Healthy Start vitamin supplements containing the appropriate amounts of recommended vitamins A, C and D (for children) and C, D and folic acid (for pregnant women and new mothers).

Healthy Start vouchers can be used in any shop that is registered to take part in the scheme. Look out for the Healthy Start sticker in shop windows such as:

- corner shops;
- food co-ops;
- greengrocers;
- market stalls;
- milk floats or vans;
- pharmacies;
- supermarkets.



The Healthy Start scheme has a range of quick and easy recipes for you to try.

For more information about the Healthy Start scheme visit www.healthystart.nhs.uk

FREE Nutrition training for childminders

Childminders can have access to FREE Nutrition training to gain knowledge. The training will include:

- How to work with food groups;
- Packed lunches;
- Food labelling;
- Dental health;
- Exploring issues around fussy eating and allergies;
- Food policies and working with parents.

Ofsted will soon require evidence of how childminders meet the nutritional requirements for children. It has the advantage of allowing you to enhance your own and your families understanding of what constitutes a healthy, balanced diet, all for FREE.



To book a place contact Lisa Worthington on **01900 706160** or email **lisa.worthington@cumbria.gov.uk**

Courses run from 10.00am – 4.00pm and dates available are:

20 October 2012

Kendal West Sure Start Children's Centre, Kendal Green, Kendal, LA9 5PP

27 October 2012

Ormsgill Sure Start Children's Centre, Millstone Avenue, Barrow In Furness, LA14 5RU

10 November 2012

Penrith Sure Start Children's Centre, North Eden C/C, Penrith Regent Old London Road, Penrith, CA11 8ET

17 November 2012

Cockermouth Sure Start Children's Centre, 2 The Dairy, South Street, Cockermouth, CA13 9RT

19 January 2013

South Whitehaven Sure Start Children's Centre, Valley Primary School, Whinlatter Road, Whitehaven, CA28 8DA

26 January 2013

Kendal West Sure Start Children's Centre, Kendal Green, Kendal, LA9 5PP

9 February 2013

Deaf Vision, 3 Compton Street, Carlisle, CA1 1HT

2 March 2013

Appleby Sure Start Children's Centre, Appleby Primary School, Station Road, Appleby, CA16 6TX



What is Start4Life?



Start4Life aims to provide health advice to pregnant women and new mothers. It also includes tips for their partners, relatives and friends to support and encourage mothers in healthy lifestyle choices for themselves and their babies.

Information for healthcare and childcare professionals

Your role is vital in encouraging and supporting parents to give their children the building blocks for a better start in life. Start4Life have created a selection of colourful, easy to understand leaflets that can be displayed in your setting.

Leaflets available are listed below:

- Off to the best start;
- Building blocks for a better start in life;
- Vitamins and you;
- Folic acid;
- Breastfeeding at study or work;
- Guide to bottle feeding.

You can download a copy of any of the leaflets above at www.nhs.uk/start4life/Pages/healthcare-professionals or order online at www.orderline.dh.gov.uk or by calling 0300 123 1002.

Early Years providers - resources for local supporters

Change4Life can help Early Years and Childcare providers to promote healthier lifestyles to toddlers and pre-school children and their families. It's really important that this age group has healthy habits right from the start.

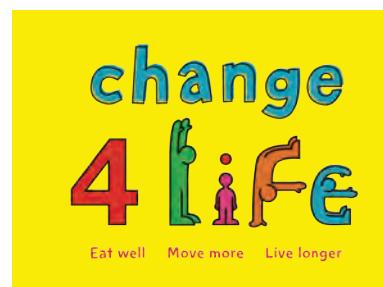
To register as a supporter visit www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Supporters-Registration/pages/registration

Resources are available from the www.orderline.dh.gov.uk or by calling 0300 123 1002 just quote the smart number reference.

Change4Life for Early Years Providers

If you work in an Early Years setting Change4Life can help you promote healthier lifestyles to toddlers and pre-school children and their families. As a childcare provider your link to the local community puts you in a great position to spread the Change4Life word.

Part of the campaign focuses on Early Years because good habits picked up now can reap great rewards later. If a child becomes used to eating regular meals, only having nutritious snacks between meals and enjoys being active they have a great chance of becoming a healthy youngster and enjoying a longer, healthier life.



Check out the Sub Brands of Change4Life

These sub-brands are to engage a wide audience:

- Bike4Life;
- Breakfast4Life;
- Let's Dance with Change4Life;
- Play4Life;
- Swim4Life;
- Walk4Life.

To find out more visit www.nhs.uk/change4life/pages/sub-brands



Stay safe

Safe from abuse, neglect and violence from accidental injury, from bullying and discrimination, from crime and anti social behaviour.

www.childcare.co.uk



www.childcare.co.uk is one of the largest searchable databases of childcare providers in England. They enable parents to look for babysitters, nannies, registered childminders or private tutors etc.

Finding a local childcare provider is easy using the Childcare.co.uk postcode search facility, parents and childcare providers can register free.

Childcare providers can search for local parents seeking childcare services such as private tutor etc.

For more information visit www.childcare.co.uk



Consultation on the two year old early education entitlement

The Government is now consulting on eligibility criteria for the second phase of the free early education for two year olds. The first phase of the entitlement from September 2013 is for around 20 per cent of two year olds in England.

The second phase is for around 40 per cent from September 2014.

The Government proposes to extend free places to more low income families, two year olds with special educational needs or disabilities and those who have left care but are unable to return home.

The consultation deadline is 15 October 2012. To respond to the consultation visit: www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/consultations/a00211261/extending-free-early-education-two-year-olds



Early Years Workforce Qualifications Audit Tool

The Early Years Workforce Qualifications audit tool is an online database, which registered childcare providers can use to store information about their setting staff. It is an easy way to record the qualifications about their ongoing and additional training and development achievements.

By completing the audit tool settings are able to:

- Check the setting meets minimum staff ratio requirements;
- Monitor training needs;
- Set targets for increasing staff qualifications;
- Record and manage workforce development in the setting;
- Produce a report for Ofsted inspections.

If you are interested in the Early Years Workforce Qualification Audit Tool visit www.education.gov.uk/wqat/login

There is also an Early Years qualifications list to enable providers to determine if the qualifications held by themselves and their staff meet the EYFS requirements.

The list can be viewed at: www.education.gov.uk/eypqd/qualification-search



New guidance for Ofsted Inspectors published

Ofsted have published new guidance for inspectors which applies to all inspections carried out from September 2012. The guidance is shorter and more concise, can help settings have an insight into what inspectors will be looking for under the new framework and to help them carry out their self evaluations.

The guidance will be particularly useful for managers and Early Years professionals who take part in the observations. For more information visit:

www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/conducting-early-years-inspections

Changes will affect childcare provider applications in late July and August 2012

Ofsted changed the way that they register providers on the Early Years Register in September 2012 which was due to the launch of the new Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

This affected anyone applying in late July and August 2012 to be an early years and childcare provider or childminder on the Early Years Register. There are new versions of the main registration documents and application forms.

For further information visit: www.ofsted.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/for-early-years-and-childcare-providers/applying-be-provider-late-july-and-august-2012

Ofsted's regulation and inspection of providers on the Early Years Register from September 2012

Ofsted have produced a common question and answers document for providers who are registered.

To view a copy click on the link below: www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/ofsteds-regulation-and-inspection-of-providers-early-years-register-september-2012-common-questions

Ofsted is committed to providing information to parents and carers

Ofsted publish information on their website about each early years and childcare providers who are registered on the Early Years and Childcare registers.

Their intention is to give parents and carers as much information as possible about each provider, to help them make choices about the most suitable early years and childcare provision for their children.

Parent and carers can obtain information about any registered setting and to do so they would follow this process:

- search Ofsted's website for details of providers using any information they have about a provider or where they want to find a provider;
- use the 'operating providers' tab for current providers and 'all providers' tag if they want to search for any previously registered provision from an address;
- look at any individual provider's web page;
- see if there are any conditions of registration – conditions limit the way a provider may operate by placing restrictions on their registration;
- read any previous inspection report;
- read any complaints or compliance action where relevant.

To find a copy of your inspection report follow: www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report

Revised early years regulation and inspection framework

Ofsted are changing the inspection judgements they make for early years provision from 1 September 2012.

Ofsted has written to all registered providers to explain how the changes will affect them. Inspectors will judge the overall quality and standards of registered early years provision taking into account three judgements. These are:

- How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend;
- The contribution of the early years provision to children's wellbeing;
- The leadership and management of the early years provision.

Daycare Trust publishers babysitter report

Young Babysitters in Britain is the first report to examine the use and profile of babysitters in Britain.

The research, part of Daycare Trust's Big Lottery funded project 'Informal Childcare: Choice or Chance?' looked at the experiences of young babysitters, parents' satisfaction, and child safety and welfare issues.

If you would like to read the full report visit www.daycaretrust.org.uk/news.php?id=69.

CUMBRIA LSCB

CUMBRIA LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

The Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) was established by the Childcare Act 2004 and has a statutory responsibility in each locality.

LSCBs are a key system in every local authority in the country for organisations to come together to agree on how they will cooperate with one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The purpose of this partnership working is to ensure safeguarding children remains high on the agenda.

Visiting the website www.cumbrialscb.com will give you access to range of information anything from procedures, guidance and protocols to staff recruitment.

Clicking on the 'Training' tab will give you access to the Multi-Agency Training Team, who provide the relevant safeguarding training courses to statutory agencies.

Anti Bullying Week 2012

This year Anti-bullying week will run from **19 to 23 November 2012**, and provides an opportunity for childcare providers to take a stand against bullying in all its form.

The theme this year is '**We're better without bullying**'.



It aims to shed light on how bullying undermines young people's achievements, whether it is at school, in sport or any other extra curriculum activity that children should be free to enjoy.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance held a competition encouraging children and young people to create a visual statement for their club that make it clear bullying is not accepted. The top five winning entries will be displayed on the Anti-Bullying Alliance website.

Please get involved in Anti-Bullying week and to view resources available visit www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk



Junior Citizen Scheme

The Junior Citizen Scheme is a partnership initiative aimed at giving children the skills to deal with a wide range of emergency situations. It will enable an encouraging sense of community responsibility through good citizenship.

The scheme aims to improve understanding and awareness of the following areas:

- Community Safety;
- Personal Safety;
- Fear of Crime;
- Drugs and Alcohol;
- First Aid;
- Youth Disorder.

Through practical scenarios, videos and workshops, it will encourage children to think through problems they are confronted with and resolve them successfully.

To view a video of the Junior Citizens Scheme follow the link www.cumbriafire.gov.uk/services/children/Junior_Citizen_Scheme.asp



Enjoy and achieve

Ready for school, enjoying and attending school, achieving personal and social development, enjoying sports, leisure and recreation.



Level 3 Diploma in the Children and Young Peoples Workforce

The Level 3 Diploma is a qualification that is designed to build the knowledge and skills needed when working with children and young people from birth to 19 years. It covers a diverse range of job roles and occupational areas. It is a must have for all practitioners delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage.

It is a one year course that will require you to be in college for 1 day a week and on placement 1 day a week.

Who is it suitable for?

It is suitable for anyone who works or wants to work at a supervisory level in the children and young people's workforce.

What are the entry requirements?

You should be 16 years old and have English or Maths level 2

How is it assessed?

It will be assessed by your tutors or assessors using a range of methods. This could include direct observation in the workplace, a portfolio of evidence, written assignments or a task set by CACHE.

Do you need to be working to take the qualification?

Yes, you will need to be working, volunteering or on practical placement as you need to show competence in both knowledge and skills.

What type of job roles can you apply for on completion:

- Pre-school worker;
- Practitioner in a children's centre;
- Practitioner in day nurseries, nursery schools, or reception classes in primary schools;
- Registered childminders;
- Learning mentors;
- Family support worker.

If you would like to find out more contact any of the following:

Course leader and mentor

Joyce Hird

T: 01768 893425 E: joyce.hird@newtonrigg.ac.uk

Assessor and tutor

Jenny Whiteley

T: 01768 893430 E: jenny.whiteley@newtonrigg.ac.uk

Cathie Jones

T: 01768 893427 E: cathie.jones@newtonrigg.ac.uk

Training courses available free to Penrith businesses

Kendal College, working in partnership with Eden District Council and the Vitality of Penrith project, is now able to offer a range of free training and support that is designed specifically to help businesses in Penrith to improve and stimulate their growth.

How teams can improve productivity	19 October 2012	9.00 – 5.00
Conflict Resolution and De-Escalation skills	4 October 2012	9.00 – 5.00
Tax return for small and medium enterprises	To be confirmed	
A practical introduction to SAFE accounting	To be confirmed	
Hiring and firing and using casual staff	To be confirmed	
Completing risk assessment for business	To be confirmed	

For more information contact Kendal College on **01539 814700** or Eden District Council on **01768 817817**

Bookstart

The national programme encourages all parents and carers to enjoy sharing books with children from a very early age. The Bookstart bags contain good quality picture books and other goodies, along with guidance notes for grown ups.

Babies from 8 to 12 months will receive their Bookstart pack from their Health Visitor. 3 year old children will receive their Bookstart Treasure pack from the childcare provider they attend.

Bookshine is also available for deaf children up to the age of 4. It contains helpful advice about using books as well as two specially chosen picture books and a nursery rhyme placement featuring British Sign Language. To find out more ask your local library for details.

Booktouch is for blind and partially sighted children aged up to 4 years old. In this pack there are touch and feel books and a rhyme time CD, as well as useful information for parents, you will find out more from your local library.

For more information about Bookstart in Cumbria, contact **Deb Holden** on **01768 812104** or email deb.holden@cumbria.gov.uk



bookstart
est. by booktrust 1992



Bookstart Bear Club for Under 5's Join at a library near you



Cumbria Library Service launched Bookstart Bear Club in January 2012. Already hundreds of babies and toddlers have joined across the county. This is a free and fun club, which opens up an exciting world of stories, books and rhymes to share. Regular visits to the library will now bring extra rewards for children.

Each child joining the club will receive a free membership pack including:

- Bear Club membership certificate;
- Doorhanger;
- Bookmark;
- And best of all, their very own Passport.

Every time a child comes to the library, for an event, to borrow books, even to sit and share a book with you, they will get their passport stamped, with a very special secret stamp.

Collect 6 stamps and each child will get a Bookstart Bear certificate. There are 10 to collect and they follow your journey through books, stories and rhymes.

Visit www.bookstart.org.uk/bookstartbearclub website, play games and do activities together, find out about more great books and see what is happening in your area. There are monthly competitions to enter for even more rewards.

Want to know more about Bookstart and other events and activities for children at your library visit www.cumbria.gov.uk/libraries or email libraries@cumbria.gov.uk

Libraries

STORY LAB Party

There was a Story Lab celebratory party at Barrow Library on Saturday 22 September 2012 for all children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge.

It ran from 10.00am – 1.00pm, there were crafts, refreshments and from 10.30am – 11.30am Magic Richie entertained everyone.

Children had to be registered for Story Lab at their local library and read 6 books to be able to attend.

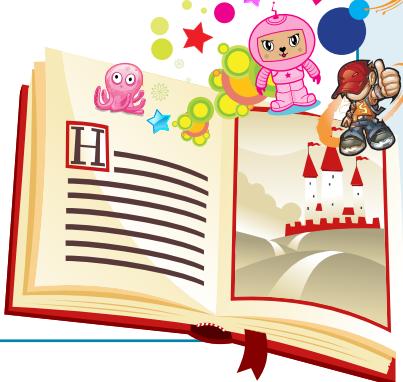


Storytime

Storytime is for under 5's and their grown ups at Dalton Library. We look forward to seeing you on the following Mondays:

- 15 October 2012
- 12 November 2012
- 10 December 2012
- 21 January 2013
- 18 February 2013
- 18 March 2013

Sessions run from 11.00am – 11.30am



Dads Group

A Dads Group started on Saturday 8 September at Penrith Children's Centre. The sessions are running fortnightly from 10.00am – 11.30am. The sessions offer an opportunity to help their children:

- Develop confidence through play;
- Encourage communication through talking and singing;
- Sharing stories and books;
- Play using the senses;
- Promote fun, quality time between dad's and their children;
- Develop routines at home;
- Meet and chat to other dads/carers.

If you know of any dads or male carers who would be interested in joining the group, contact **Gerry Garvey, Family Support Worker, Barnardo's Eden** on **01768 899022** or **0790 005 3655**

Storytots

Stories, songs and rhymes for under 5's and their grown ups at Barrow Library

Come and join us from 1.30pm – 2.15pm on the following Tuesday:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| • 23 October | • 20 November |
| • 30 October | • 27 November |
| • 30 October | • 4 December |
| • 6 November | • 11 December |
| • 13 November | • 18 December |

Teenage Book Club at Barrow Library

For 13 – 18 year olds, come and join us once a month on a Monday from 4.00pm on:

- 15 October 2012
- 12 November 2012
- 10 December 2012

**Believe in
children**
Barnardo's

Sure Start Children's Centre

Early Education Programme 2012/13 – Carlisle and Eden Branch



The British Association of Early Childhood Education (Early Education) is the leading independent national voluntary organisation for early years practitioners and parents. It provides a national voice on matters that relate to early childhood education, advising central and local government and through the media.

Early Education members are supported by a network of national and regional branches throughout the UK. It enables access to regular newsletters and updates.

For more information visit
www.early-education.org.uk

Some dates for your diary:

Thursday 18 October 2012

Felt-Making with Julie Harrison

An opportunity to learn how to make and use felt in various crafting projects suitable for young children.

Also, come along to see Emmy and Roger Sealy's new venture, the brand-new atelier facilities in Holme Head House, Community Atelier, Denton Street, Denton Holme, Carlisle. (formly The Bay) from 7.30pm.

FREE to those who show a valid membership card.
Non-members £5.00. No booking required.

Saturday 1 December 2012

Movement and Learning in the Early Years

Booking forms will be sent to members and schools in the Autumn Term

Speaker: Christine Macintyre

Venue: Tullie House, Carlisle

Time: 10.00 am coffee 10.30am – 12.00noon talk

Cost: Members/students £10.00 Non-members £15.00

Contact: Amanda Wakefield

Tel No: 01228 607560 / 01228 710626

Email: Amanda.blacklab@tiscali.co.uk

Monday 4 February 2013

An introduction to Baby Sensory with Gina Higgin

An opportunity to find out about the Baby Sensory approach to encourage holistic development of babies and toddlers.

Venue: Kingmoor Nursery and Infant School, Hether Drive, Lowry Hill, Carlisle

Time: 7.30pm

Cost: FREE to those who show a valid membership card. Non-members £5.00

Further details will be sent to members, schools and providers in the Spring. No booking required.

Saturday 9 March 2013

Annual Cumbria Conference – Inspiration and Motivation

Speakers: Di Chilvers and Alistair Bryce-Clegg

Venue: Stoneybeck Inn Conference Centre, Bowscar, Penrith

Further details and booking forms will be sent to members and schools in the Spring.

Thursday 23 May 2013

Gardening with Children – Explore, Investigate and Enjoy

A session with the education / events officer at Dobbies who will offer advice and support to your setting if you are setting up or developing your outdoor area.

Venue: Dobbies Garden Centre, Orton Grange, Carlisle

Time: 7.00pm you can browse the store, 8.00pm question and answers session

Cost: FREE to those who show a valid membership card. Non-members £5.00

Further details and booking forms will be sent to members and schools after Easter.

Saturday 22 June 2013

Day Trip – Cowgate Nursery School, Edinburgh

For those who heard Lynn McNair speak about the development of the nursery outdoor provision at our conference this year, this is an opportunity to see it for yourself – not to be missed!

Further details from Helen Mitchell nearer the time.

For more information contact:

Amanda Wakefield (Secretary)

Tel: 01228 607560 / 01228 710626

Email: Amanda.blacklab@tiscali.co.uk

Jan Massey (Conferences)

Tel: 01228 523731

Anne Renwick (Chair)

Email: Anne.Renwick@cumbria.ac.uk



Make a positive contribution

Engage in law-abiding behaviour in and out of school, develop **self-confidence, take part in decision-making and support the community**, develop positive relationships with other people.

Wider Family Learning

Family Learning offers a wide range of courses which usually run in your local school, children's centre or other local venue. All courses are free.

Family Learning is about showing you ideas, games and activities to support children in learning and development in language, play and number skills. It also helps you brush up your own skills, including:

- Language;
- Literacy;
- Numeracy;
- Money Management;
- Computing;
- Art and Craft;
- First Aid.

The courses will build confidence, skills and knowledge as well as having fun and making new friends.

Wider Family Learning Courses are between 10 and 15 hours, with each session running for about 2 hours. Listed below are some of the courses we run:

- Keeping up with Numeracy;
- Keeping up with Literacy;
- Settling in at school;
- Healthy Finances;
- Working the web;
- Story Sack making;
- Art and Craft together;
- Healthy Living – Healthy Eating;
- Healthy Living – Being Active;
- Healthy Living – First Aid.



If you are interested in finding out more about these courses visit www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/educationandlearning/adulteducation/default.asp

Or contacts in your areas are:

South - Judith Keely
0777 211 2837 judith.keely@cumbria.gov.uk

North - Tim Westward
0774 756 8403 tim.westwood@cumbria.gov.uk

West - Jo-Anne Hendren
0782 534 0478 joanne.hendren@cumbria.gov.uk

East - Emma Brown
0796 664 1329 emma.brown@cumbria.gov.uk

Courses through the Children's Workforce Development Team, Children's Services in Cumbria

For information about the latest learning opportunities in our team's brochure please go to either the Cumbria County Council website at www.cumbria.gov.uk

(Click on the Schools and Learning Tab at the top of the page – followed by Children's Workforce Development link on the right of the screen.

It is also on the Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children's Board at www.cumbrialscb.com/

(Click on the Training tab at the top of the page). This site also includes more information relating to Safeguarding Children in Cumbria. If you have any queries regarding any of our courses please email cwfd@cumbria.gov.uk

Please note that the contact within the team for Early Years has changed and is now Hilary Peatfield, email hilary.peatfield@cumbria.gov.uk



Age is no Barrier - you can be an Apprentice whatever your age



If you are looking to develop your skills to gain employment or progress in your current role **OR** if you are an employer thinking of recruiting or up skilling your workforce then Cumbria Adult Education can help.

Learners

Would you like to: earn while you learn, improve your skills, gain qualifications and improve your career prospects?

Employers

- Are you looking for a cost effective staffing solution?
- Are you thinking about up skilling your existing employees?
- Do you want loyal and committed staff that can grow with your business?

Cumbria Adult Education offer the following Apprenticeship programmes to adults aged 19 and over in:

- Business and Administration;
- Customer Service;
- Team Leading;
- Management;
- Support Teaching and Learning in Schools.

Our professional experienced tutors will work alongside you to support and deliver on and off job training.

For further information or an informal chat please call Sarah Fowler 0782 789 5804 or email sarah.fowler@cumbria.gov.uk or for more information visit www.cumbria.gov.uk

ADHD West Cumbria events



ADHD West Cumbria raises Awareness of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and provides information and support when needed. We want people to know that they are not on their own and can get involved at anytime.

In September the informal drop in sessions start again, these are held once a month and are a place for parents to come have a cuppa and feel at ease to discuss issues. They occasionally have professionals come to give advice, but its usually about supporting each other.

Dates:

Thursday 25 October	12.30pm – 2.30pm
Thursday 29 November	12.30pm – 2.30pm

Venue:

Minto Centre, Westfield, Workington

Tea and coffee provided

After further fundraising the group hopes to hold more activities and events for the children, trips, Christmas parties and cinema visits etc.

For further information please contact **Marie Steele** on **0789 902 7727** or email marie@adhdwestcumbria.org.uk

You can also visit

www.adhdwestcumbria.org.uk or

www.facebook.com/groups/adhdwestcumbria

Unique Kidz and Co



Unique Kidz and Co is now a registered charity and is the brainchild of two mums of children with special needs, which provides specialist services for disabled children and their families.

When Jane Halpin and Denise Armer were unable to find suitable childcare to allow them to return to work or go to college, and with a clear demand from other parents for the service, they decided to try and make a difference and open a childcare facility for disabled children themselves.

Over 18 months of challenging research, legalities, training and business planning, Denise and Jane established Unique Kidz and Co. Neither had any previous experience in setting up or running a charity or in childcare but with the expertise of a charity, childcare and special needs experts across the country, the support of other parents, and through their own sheer determination, they succeeded in July 2009.

Unique Kidz and Co has gone from strength to strength which offers specialised and flexible services to meet the individual needs of disabled children and their families. The holiday and after school clubs has grown to accommodate children coming from across Lancashire and Cumbria to experience what's on offer.

In 2010 Unique Kidz and Co was rated 'Outstanding' in its first Ofsted inspection and has since become a 'Lead Practitioner' for the county. It is also one of the few organisations in the region to attract significant Children in Need funding.

Unique Kidz and Co run a range of services which develop and change regularly to meet the needs of children and their families. Current services include:

- Saturday Trips – assisting disabled young people aged 10 – 18 to develop life skills;
- Siblings Groups – a range of activities for siblings of disabled children who use our services;
- Coffee and cake parents groups;
- Consultation workshops for children and parents who use the services.

An 'Inclusive Play' one day course and bespoke training in areas such as Managing Challenging Behaviour, Communication Skills and Working with Autistic Children in play settings. The course supports staff to develop truly inclusive childcare settings. The training covers barriers to inclusion, models of disability, practical approaches to adapting activities and the development of implementation plans.

For further information contact: info@uniquekidzandco.org.uk or telephone **01524 874047**





Achieve economic well-being

Take part in further education and training on leaving school, be ready for employment, live in households free from low-income in decent homes in sustainable communities.

Cumbria CVS Training

Cumbria CVS runs a training programme, and can take many forms from a network meeting to a workshop to a formal training course. We are particularly committed to building the capacity of smaller organisations.

Some of the training happening during the autumn term is listed below:

Coaching and Mentoring – How to perform well when everything is changing

This introductory session is for people with leadership, managerial and/or supervisory responsibilities.

Date: Monday 29 October 2012

Time: 9.15am - 12.30pm

Venue: Penrith Parish Centre, St Andrews Place, Penrith, CA11 9XX

Cost: Free for members of Chartered Management Institute (membership number required). £30.00 for third sector organisations
£50.00 for statutory organisations / businesses

Social Media

During this one day interactive training course you will:

- Discover the world of social media, what it is exactly, why you should use it and how to get maximum benefit;
- Learn about social media monitoring tools and how to use them;
- Learn how to effectively use Twitter and Facebook;
- Learn the do's and don'ts of using blogs, micro blogging sites and social networks;
- Discover the power of social media.

Date: Wednesday 24 October 2012

Time: 9.30am – 4.30pm

Venue: Lakes College West Cumbria,
Hallwood Road, Workington, CA14 4JN

Cost: £60.00 third sector organisations

£100.00 statutory organisations

Includes lunch and refreshments

This course is part funded by Volunteering Works.

To book any of these courses contact Cumbria CVS on **01768 800350** or email training@cumbriacvs.org.uk

Please note cancellations must be made at least 2 weeks before the course date or full payment will be due.

Online Tools available for childcare Providers

The Planning and Commissioning (0-5) team have developed a range of online tools and resources specifically aimed at Managers, Voluntary Management Committees and Owners of childcare. These are available free of charge to download and print.

We aim to continually update and increase what is available so please check back regularly.

If anyone has any ideas of what else would be useful do let us know by emailing the Children and Families Information Service at childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk

You can access the page if you click on the logo below:

[Click Here for advice on Managing Childcare](#)

Workplace Pensions

DWP Department for Work and Pensions

From October 2012, all employers will start to enrol their workers into a workplace pension if they're not already in one. The government is getting employers to enrol their workers automatically into a pension to make it easier for people to start saving for their retirement and have another income on top of the State Pension. Workers will be phased in over time and be informed when they will be enrolled by their employer.

Employers will contribute to workers' pension and the government will also contribute through tax relief. Unlike other ways of saving, being in a workplace pension means that people are not the only ones putting money in!

Very large employers are doing it first, in late 2012 and early 2013. Other employers will follow sometime after this, over several years.

What does this mean for Employers?

Employers are responsible for choosing a work-based pension scheme for your employees. It is important that you have a good relationship with your scheme trustees and scheme provider, and also that you can help employees who might have questions about the scheme.

To help you prepare for the changes interactive tools and guidance that explain how to comply with the new law to automatically enrol all eligible workers into a workplace pension, these can be found at: www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/employers.aspx



Childcare Vouchers

Childcare Vouchers are now widely accepted as one of the most practical, cost effective ways an employer can support staff with family responsibilities.

Take up for Childcare Vouchers continues to grow at a pace, as experience shows employers supporting staff with childcare responsibilities makes sound business sense.

With more working parents than ever in the UK, finding affordable, reliable childcare is becoming even more important.

As a provider of quality childcare, **you help parents find the right life/work balance.** Accepting childcare vouchers can help you continue to do this – and could even give your business a boost.

Childcare vouchers offer parents significant savings (about £1,000 per year), and are **easy to redeem.** Accepting vouchers could help providers attract more working parents and best of all, the scheme is free to join.

If you would like to find out more about the Childcare Voucher scheme call **0800 247 1233** or visit www.childcarevouchers.co.uk



National Minimum Wage

There are different levels of National Minimum Wage depending on the person's age or whether there is an apprentice working.

The rates are changing from 1 October 2012 and will be:

- £6.19 the main rate for worker aged 21 and over;
- £4.98 the rate for 18 – 20 year olds;
- £3.68 16 – 17 year old rate for workers above school leaving age but under 18;
- £2.65 the apprentice rate, under 19 or 19 years or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship.

Entitlement to the National Minimum Wage

Most workers in the UK over school leaving age are legally entitled to be paid at least the NMW and all employers have to pay it if a person is entitled to it. It makes no difference if:

- Paid weekly or monthly, by cheque, in cash or in another way;
- Work full time, part time or any other working pattern;
- Work at employer's own premises or elsewhere;
- What size the employer is;
- Where work is in the UK.

Staff are entitled to the NMW even if they sign a contract agreeing to be paid at a lower rate. This is regardless of whether they sign it of their own free will or because the employer persuades or makes them. The contract will have no legal effect and staff must still be paid at the proper rate.

For confidential help and advice on the National Minimum Wage call **0800 917 2368.**



Care to Learn

Care to Learn could pay up to £160 per child towards childcare and travel costs while the parent is in learning.

Who can claim?

To get Care to Learn, the parent must be under 20 years old on the day the course or learning programme begins. Care to Learn will contribute towards your childcare costs until the course has finished.

What learning qualifies?

To receive Care to Learn parents must be in, or considering starting, learning that has some public funding.

Learning options include:

- Courses in schools, sixth forms, sixth form colleges, other colleges and learning providers;
- Entry to Employment programmes;
- Work based learning programmes (non-employed status);
- Courses in your community, for example at Children's Centres, or some other form of community learning.

University and higher education courses are not covered by Care to Learn.

For more information about Care to Learn or to request an application call Learner Support Helpline on **0800 121 8989**.

Employment news for young disabled people



From July 2012 a new incentive scheme was available for young disabled people. It is a wage incentive plan that offers employers up to £2,275 for employing young disabled people through Work Choice.

What is Work Choice?

Work Choice is a specialist disability employment programme that provides tailored support to help disabled people who have complex support needs.

The flexible programme is individually tailored and helps young people who wish to work 16 hours a week, to reach their full potential. They can then move into independent, unsupported employment.

If you would like to know more about helping young disabled people into work visit the Department for Work and Pensions at www.dwp.gov.uk