

Funded by



Department
for Education

Early Years

Professional Development Programme



A guide for Early Years Practitioners

**High quality, evidence-informed
professional development for
early years practitioners**

The Early Years Professional Development Programme (EYPDP) supports practitioners working with early years children, helping them to develop their practice and improve outcomes in Communication and Language, Early Mathematics and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED).



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Department
for Education

Delivered by



Education
Development
Trust

In partnership with

**Speech and
Language UK** 
Changing young lives.



Anna Freud
National Centre for
Children and Families



About the programme

Delivered by **Education Development Trust**, the EYPDP is a high-quality, evidence-informed professional development programme which forms part of the government's £180 million Early Years Education Recovery Plan. This plan aims to address the continued effects of the pandemic on young children.

Up to 10,000 eligible practitioners from all participating Local Authorities in England are invited to access the CPD (continuous professional development) opportunity, which will support them to improve school readiness outcomes.

10k

Professional development places available for 10,000 eligible EYPs in England.

152

The EYPDP has been made available to all 152 Local Authorities across England.

8

A blended mix of eLearning and facilitated webinars which takes around 8 months and 60 hours to complete.

Investing in your professional development, because what you do and how you do it, matters

The DfE recognise that it is important to invest in CPD across the early years sector to equip staff with the right skills and training to lead high quality interactions with children.

Building on the successful delivery of the first two phases of the Early Years Professional Development Programme, between 2019 and 2022, this new training opportunity, starting in February 2023, will provide training to 10,000 early years practitioners to improve practice and enhance outcomes.





What does the training programme entail?



The programme consists of online self-study eLearning and regular facilitated webinars, in which you as practitioners will meet with your Programme Trainer and other EYPs on a regular basis.



There will be a total of 4 cohorts of learners, with staggered start dates across the 2023/2025 period (programme start dates are shown on page 6).



It is expected to take a total of 60 hours of study (including group webinars) to complete the programme, over an 8-month period.



The training will be broken down into modules for:

- Communication and Language
- Early Mathematics
- PSED

With an action planning session at the end of each module.

Eligibility criteria

Pre-reception practitioners and childminders from schools and private, voluntary and independent settings (PVI) who offer childcare to children between 2 and 4 years are eligible, with priority given to applications from settings that meet **at least two** of the following criteria:

- Provide to at least one child with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Disability Access Fund indicator
- Provide to at least one child in receipt of Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
- Provide to at least one child taking up the disadvantaged two-year-old offer

EY providers which do not meet the above criteria but where local intelligence suggests disadvantaged children would benefit from their practitioners receiving additional CPD support, may also be eligible.

Additionally, participating practitioners must:

- Be qualified to at least level 3
- Be currently working with 2-4 year olds (e.g. a manager who does not spend any time with the children is not eligible)
- Not have completed a previous version of the Early Years Professional Development Programme delivered by Education Development Trust.



Course content



Communication and Language

Total of 24.5hrs of learning

1. Understanding typical language development
2. Creating communication supportive environments
3. Achieving high quality interactions
4. Measuring progress, identifying needs
5. How language supports behaviour and wellbeing
6. Building partnership with parents
7. Embedding good communication and language in your setting

For each unit, you will be expected to complete:

- 2hrs online self-study
- A total of seven 1.5hr facilitated webinars



Early Mathematics

Total of 13.5hrs of learning

1. Counting
2. Cardinality
3. Measurement
4. Pattern
5. Shape
6. Space

For each unit, you will be expected to complete:

- 1.5 hrs online self-study
- A total of three 1.5hr facilitated webinars



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Total of 17.5hrs of learning

1. Setting the scene
2. Supporting PSED in the setting
3. Disruptions to PSED and what can help
4. Working with parents and carers
5. Staff wellbeing

For each unit, you will be expected to complete:

- 2hrs online self-study
- A total of five 1.5hr facilitated webinars

Action planning

Total of 4.5hrs of learning

At the end of each module, you will participate in a webinar with your Programme Trainer to discuss how you will implement what you have learnt.

When does training take place?

- The eLearning will need to be completed prior to attending the online facilitated webinars but can be completed at a time that works for you.
- You will have roughly one week to complete each unit.
- When you login to the Learning Portal you will be asked to sign up to a webinar group. There will be a variety of morning, afternoon and twilight groups for you to choose from. Once you have chosen the most convenient time for you, this will become the regular group that you join.

In addition to the training package

Each practitioner will be provided with a comprehensive set of electronic training materials to support your learning.

Links to follow up reading and research on evidence-based approaches will also be made available.

All participants will gain:

- A comprehensive package of professional development that is based on current early years pedagogy.
- The skills and knowledge to enhance the quality of adult-child interactions.
- Support to engage with parents and carers to support the home learning environment.
- The skills to identify children in need of communication and language support.
- An understanding of the theory of child development in Early Mathematics.
- The skills to support children's self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviours.

Upon the successful completion of the programme, you will receive an OCN London endorsed certificate.





Who will deliver the training?

Education Development Trust in collaboration with Speech and Language UK, will deliver the training, with content for the PSED and Early Mathematics modules developed in partnership with the Anna Freud Centre and early years maths experts Dr Sue Gifford and Dr Catherine Gripton.



Education Development Trust is an international not-for-profit organisation that transforms lives around the world by improving education and delivering careers and employability services. We have been working with governments, schools, teachers and leaders to embed sustainable change for 50 years. Our specialist knowledge and our active programme of respected and authoritative research means our methods are evidence-informed, rigorous and robust. As part of our charitable mission, we invest annually in a programme of research which is available for free download on our website.

Find out more: www.edt.org



The Communication and Language content for the EYPDP has been developed in partnership with Speech and Language UK who believe that every child who is facing challenges with talking and understanding words should face the future with confidence. They create tools for schools and nurseries, give advice and guidance to families and campaign for change.

As part of the programme delivery, Speech and Language UK will provide 147 skilled and experienced trainers across England to deliver the facilitated webinars.

Find out more: www.speechandlanguage.org.uk



The increased importance of helping children to develop socially and emotionally, especially in the wake of the pandemic, is why the EYPDP includes a module on PSED with content developed in partnership with world leading mental health charity the Anna Freud Centre.

Find out more: www.annafreud.org



Early Mathematics content from Dr Sue Gifford and Dr Catherine Gripton

The aim of the Early Maths module is to improve practitioners' knowledge, skills and confidence in planning and implementing more opportunities for introducing mathematics in their settings on an everyday day basis. The materials for the Early Mathematics module were written by experts in the field, Dr Sue Gifford and Dr Catherine Gripton, and align with the Early Years Foundation Stage Overarching Principles.



The role of your Local Authority

- The role of your Local Authority is to identify which settings in their area are eligible to receive the training, based on the DfE's eligibility criteria.
- It is the EYPDP team's responsibility to share further information with you about the programme and to invite you to register your interest to be a part of the programme.
- The successful delivery of the programme is the responsibility of the EYPDP team at Education Development Trust.
- It is your Local Authority's responsibility to manage the budget for backfill, including distributing funding appropriately to settings in a timely manner.
- If you have any issues or concerns about the programme, your Local Authority will be expected to inform both the EYPDP team and the DfE.

How to register

In order to sign up for the programme, your Setting Manager (or you if you are a Childminder), will need to register your interest on the EYPDP website. If you meet the eligibility criteria, we will be in touch to complete your registration.

Please note that based on the DfE's criteria, each Local Authority region has a specific number of training places available. Once these places have been filled, remaining places will be released on a first come first served basis.

Here to support you

The Early Years Professional Development Team are here to help. If you have any questions about the programme or would like to share your feedback with us, you can get in touch with the details below:

Email: earlyyearsdpdp@edt.org

Website: www.earlyyearsdpdp.com



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“This course is altering the way I connect with the children in my care so much. I look forward to the learning part and interaction with my group every week.”

Early Years Practitioner, Reading, EYPDP
– Building on Success

”

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