

Edition 5, May 2011

Target audience: All Private, Voluntary and Independent Settings in North Somerset.

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the latest edition of our Early Years e-newsletter.

We hope you all enjoyed the Easter break, the lovely weather and the Royal Wedding.

You should by now be used to receiving the newsletter in this format and we would welcome any articles, celebrations or events that you may be putting on during the forthcoming term for inclusion in future editions. These can also be included on our online directory www.n-somersetcsd.org.uk

The early years team is always here to help, so please feel free to contact us.

With best wishes,

Gill and Anne-Marie

North Somerset Family Information Service

Tel: 01934 426 300

Email: fis@n-somerset.gov.uk

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General articles:-

Childcare Sufficiency –childcare in North Somerset

In late 2010 North Somerset council surveyed parents, childcare providers and employers in North Somerset about the amount, affordability, location and other aspects of various types of childcare.

The aim of this was to provide evidence on which to base our latest Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA). Before being finalised this CSA document is circulated for comments among the public, childcare providers and other interested parties, to make sure that we haven't missed out anything. Details of the consultation can be found on the link below:-

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/csa2011>

Transfer documents and learning diaries

Many of you have already contacted the Family Information Service or Marion Mills in Early Years to order your transfer documents and learning diaries. However, if you still haven't ordered yours then please contact the Family Information Service on 01934 426 300 or email fis@n-somerset.gov.uk

The transfer documents and learning diaries, once ordered, can be collected at schools, children's centres and cluster meetings – please let us know which option you prefer.

North Locality Children's Centres Spring Newsletter



The latest newsletter for Portishead, Clevedon, Crockerne and Long Ashton children's centres can be found by following the link below: -

<http://www.n-somersetcsd.org.uk/Childrens-Centres-newsletters-and-whats-on/NorthCCsSpring%202011Newsletter.pdf>

Toy library - New opening hours and costs

Membership Costs:

Groups	£35.00 per annum
Childminders	£25.00 per annum
Individuals	£ 1.00 per item borrowed
(Individuals join through children's centres)	

Opening times - term time only

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings the Toy Library will be visiting a children's centre (a timetable will follow in future editions)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoons from 1pm till 4pm
general opening at main toy library in Weston-s-Mare
(last Thursday in the month -1pm till 7pm)

Regards

Ed Amphlett

North Somerset Toy Library
Office Suite 6 Locking Road Business Park
110 Locking Road
Weston super Mare
BS23 3HF
Tel: 01934 621162
Mobile 07776 170 053
e-mail ed.amphlett@n-somerset.gov.uk

National Family Week

30 May – 5 June 2011

Lots of fun for the whole family.

www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk



Child Safety Week 2011

Monday 20 June to Sunday 26 June.

www.childsafetyweek.org.uk

National Bookstart Week

6–12 June 2011

www.bookstart.org.uk



bookstart
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First Aid Equipment

REMINDER to check First Aid Equipment as it has 'use by' dates on it. It is recommended that a designated person from your setting is responsible for checking the equipment on a monthly basis to make sure any used First Aid items have been replaced and that all items in the kit are in date.

Open Family Services Directory

Since the closure of the national Family Information Directory (FIDy) at the end of March we have started to upload your records to the new Open Family Services Directory which is the only National Family Information Directory, born from the large taxpayer investment in the original Family Information Directory for the Department for Education and Local Authorities.

OpenFamilyServices
National coverage • Local Family Services

The Open Family Services Directory has now been live for a month and is now fully populated with information about services for families and children across England. Local authorities who have joined are automatically keeping their records updated via a simple change of web address.

A number of improvements have been implemented during the month, with others underway. These include:

- A website to access the directory with a much improved search engine, and a direct link to Ofsted for childcare details. Further advances are planned in response to local authority feedback;
- All of the records that were present in the original FIDy as of 31 March have been uploaded to provide the full breadth and scope of the national Directory;
- This also provides the cross border searching benefits for all Local Authorities and their communities. Cross border, out of area, and national record searching are key and unique features of the Open Family Services Directory;

- All records now contain links to Local Authorities' own websites;
- Information from NHS Choices will shortly be added so people using the OFS Directory can find complementary NHS information through the OFS Directory directly;
- Discussions with a number of leading third sector organisations are taking place with the objective of providing them with a feed from the OFS Directory: This means that OFS and its Directory contents will be available to the public from multiple websites.

Take a look: www.openfamilyservices.org.uk

St Georges pre-school up for sale.

" Thriving pre-school for Sale – St Georges Community Centre, Weston super mare"

Fully booked for September 2011, children also booked for 2012.

Please contact Nina Owen on 07545 445 648 for more details and information.

Important - Children's Scrapstore Bristol needs your vote....

Children's Scrapstore Bristol are thinking of opening a branch in North Somerset. To do this we need to know who is likely to use it and how many of you there might be. The scrapstore would have a shop as well, just like the Bristol store and hopefully bring much needed resources for you to use.

If you think you might use a small local scrapstore (probably based near Weston Super-Mare), please e-mail:

coordinator@childrensscrapstore.co.uk with your details. When we receive a copy of your e-mail we will count it as an interested vote.

To find out more about Children's Scrapstore Bristol please see our website: <http://www.childrensscrapstore.co.uk>

Jeff Hill
CEO, Children's Scrapstore, Bristol.



Forthcoming meetings, training, networks and events:-

Inter Agency Child Protection: Professional Perpetrators

Monday 20th June 2011 9.30am - 12.45pm at The Winter Gardens, Weston-s-Mare.

It is suitable for leaders and managers of organisations. Booking is via CPD online <http://cyps-nsomersetcpd.webbased.co.uk>

This half day workshop is part of North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board's (NSSCB) Inter Agency Training programme, and is designed for leaders from all agencies who have a responsibility for Child Protection.

This workshop is designed to assist managers or leaders of organisations, designated and head teachers, to safeguard children. It is suitable ONLY for those who have management responsibility for the behaviour of staff in respect of safeguarding children in the setting.

The workshop will be facilitated by Mike Reay, Service Manager & Local Authority Designated Officer and Sarah Taylor, Multi Agency Safeguarding Training and Support Officer.

Event Outcomes: By the end of the event participants should:

- Consider research findings about professional perpetrators
- Be aware of national and local statistics
- Consider the nature of professional perpetrators and how this impacts on a manager's role
- Develop an action plan specific to the setting that will help mitigate against the behaviour of professional perpetrators

For additional information please call 01934 42 6349 or email sarah.taylor@n-somerset.gov.uk

Elklan training course for Early Years Practitioners



In partnership with

Weston Area Health



NHS Trust

Every Child A talker

As part of the Every Child a Talker programme we are offering the following training:

Speech & Language Support for Under 5s A two day Elklan training course for Early Years Practitioners

This course will provide opportunities for you to develop knowledge and practical ideas to promote the communication skills of all young children but particularly those with speech and language difficulties. It is an **intense** course. Participants will receive the 'Early Language Builders' book to accompany the course.

When & where?

Monday & Tuesday 20 & 21st June 2011 at the Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

09.00 for 09.15 start to 16.30

How much?

There is **no charge** for this course and the cost of supply will be paid on receipt of signed CPD register

To apply for a place:

Please book on via North Somerset CPD online (cpd.n-somerset.gov.uk).

Topics covered:

- Starting to communicate.
- Attention and listening.
- Adult-child interaction.
- Helping children understand spoken language.
- Helping children to develop verbal reasoning ability.
- Helping children develop their expressive language.
- Developing vocabulary.
- Helping children develop their social skills.
- Helping children with unclear speech.
- Developing phonological awareness.

For more information please contact Joy Rondet, Speech and Language Therapist on 01934 624799 or via email: joy.rondet@nhs.net

Other training opportunities and support may be available on request. Please contact Joy Rondet as above

Foundation degree in Education: Early Years

We have been advised that there are still a few places left on the foundation degree at Weston College for next year. This will be the last year at the 'old' fees as next year the fees are going to be substantially higher in all Higher Education establishments.

If anyone wants to find out more please contact Mark Wilkins, Programme Leader, on the number below, or they can apply directly through UCAS.

Mark Wilkins
Programme leader, Foundation degree in Education: Early Years
Weston College
Tel: 01934 411 322
Web: www.weston.ac.uk

Supportive Parents



[Supportive Parents](#) offer information and support by means of a telephone information and support line, monthly support group meetings for parents and professionals and face-to-face support at meetings and help with written information, to enable parents of children with special educational needs to play a more active and informed role in their child's education.

On Thursday this week, **12th May, 7.30 pm at the Folk Hall, Portishead High Street**, Kath Fryer from Cerebra will be coming to the support group meeting to talk to parents about their work.

[Cerebra](#) are a UK wide charity dedicated to providing practical help, information and support to parents and carers of children up to the age of 16 who have a brain related disability. Conditions that they class as 'brain related' are wide ranging and include genetic, congenital conditions, neuromotor conditions, cerebral palsy, stroke, ADHD, EMB conditions, conditions on the autistic spectrum, aquired brain injury, epilepsy, global developmental delay, learning difficulties, ME/CFS (Chronic fatigue syndrom), and neurodegenerative conditions.

Supportive Parents can be contacted on their Information & Support Line: 0117 9897725

Childminder seminar

Are drawing pins really banned? Do children really have to wear goggles to play conkers? And how do I avoid bird flu?

These are just some of the myths and questions that our food and safety team are going to address to almost one hundred childminders in May.

Childminders have been invited to one of three seminars at the Town Hall and Castlewood in Clevedon for an update on food safety, health and safety and infection control.

Chris Gwenlan, our public health manager, said: "The response has been very good and we are looking forward to meeting with a group of people that would take a long time to get round to individually. The intention is to raise awareness on how to operate in a safe and legal way by giving simple and effective help."

The seminars are to be held at the Town Hall in Weston-super-Mare on 10 May from 6 to 8pm and at Castlewood in Tickenham Rd, Clevedon between 6 and 8pm on Thursday 12 and 10am to noon Saturday 14 May.

If you are a childminder and would like to attend one of these seminars contact our lead officer for food safety, Peter Hardman, on 01934 634 603 or email peter.hardman@n-somerset.gov.uk

And to answer the questions..... drawing pins have not been banned and neither have conkers!