

Welcome

This edition of the SEND and Vulnerable Children's Bulletin focuses on welcoming young children with SEND back into their settings. There are a number of resources that I would like to bring to your attention as well as opportunities for free online training. Previous Bulletins with further information can be found at <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/send/send-inclusion-in-early-years/>

Early Years Transition Webcasts



<https://nasen.org.uk/training-and-cpd/early-years/early-years-transition-webcasts.html>

Funded by the DfE, nasen have released three new webcasts with supporting transcripts, for Early Years practitioners, SENCOs and child minders. These resources will support with the transition for all children, particularly those with SEND, returning to their Early Years Setting. The webcasts also focus on how COVID-19 may have impacted the transition for children and provides approaches that practitioners can take to support them. For further information refer to the July Bulletin found on <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/send/send-inclusion-in-early-years/>

EYSEND Partnership



<https://ican.org.uk/eysend-partnership/>

The EYSEND Partnership has launched some free training on the ICAN website entitled **SLCN in Early Years Settings**. There are 2 modules, in the form of webinars, with downloadable participant packs. The webinars cover identification, intervention and adaptation of the environment to support young children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs.

Recommended Resources

contact
For families
with disabled children

Contact

www.contact.org.uk

is a national charity supporting families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. On the website there are some useful parent/carer guides focusing on

Sleep

Feeding and eating

Understanding your child's behaviour

Potty/toilet training

Linked to these guides are free parent/carer online training events

<https://contact.org.uk/about-us/family-workshops/>

Money Matters 29.09.20

Encouraging positive behavior 10.09.20

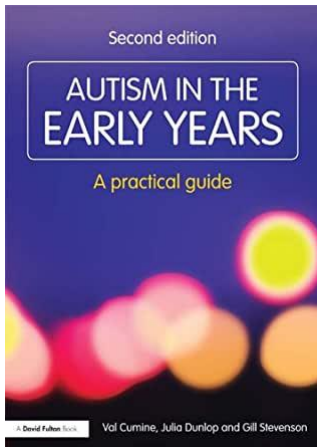
Wellbeing for parents 17.09.20

Helping your young child sleep 16.09.20

Support for Speech and language issues 23.09.20

Autism Resources

Autism in the Early Years – A Practical Guide by Val Cumine, Julia Dunlop & Gill Stevenson.



This comprehensive guide to supporting young children with Autism in the EYFS, is really helpful when looking for ideas for Developing different types of play skills & Differentiating the 7 areas of learning

There is also a clear section detailing the characteristics looked for, when leading to a diagnosis. The book costs between £20 -£25 depending on the retailer.

Right from the Start – a guide to autism in the early years (Ambitious about Autism)



This **free** parent guide is available through the Ambitious about Autism website. It aims to offer 'a one -stop shop' approach to supporting parents with accessing all the information they need to support their child during the early years. There are 6 sections including 'Supporting your child' that has

explanations for practical tools such as a one page profile template, now and next sequence and social stories.

<https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/information-and-advice/early-years/parent-toolkit/download>

Ideas to support anxieties around separation

As we welcome all our young children back into the setting in September, we will need to think about enabling them to separate from key care givers with confidence, especially for the children with a SEND. This is familiar territory for you all and I know that you already put in place a range of steps to achieve children's emotional well-being and independence. However, in the context of some children having extended periods of absence from early years settings, I thought that a short focus on settling children into the setting would be useful. Wendy Usher in 'Let's Talk Behaviour', devotes a section of the resource to settling children and supporting their anxieties. I have listed the suggested key strategies to consider and make your own:

Useful key strategies to support anxieties around separation

From Let's Talk Behaviour 50 inclusive ways to support effective communication and emotional understanding by Wendy Usher

Separation and smell

Providing something for the child that has a familiar smell of the parent e.g. a cardigan, a scarf.

Welcoming the child for the first time

Providing activities and visual aids that lean to the child's special interests

Put 'Mum' in the visual diary

Put a photo of the parent in the visual schedule to represent home time

Using photos at home

Provide parents with photos of the setting and their child playing with activities that have engaged them, to display at home and remind the child of their positive experience

Using a Who is in today? Board

In the entrance way, display photos of the staff members in that day. On welcoming the child, encourage them to put a symbol next to their key adult for the day.

Using a security blanket and reducing reliance

Cut up the blanket to make any of the following that is still accessible to the child and can be used to comfort, steadily reducing the size of the comforter:

- A pillow case
- A pocket
- A bag
- A bracelet