



Croydon Early Learning Team



Autumn Training
Programme 2026



About us and our training

Inclusion

Safeguarding

Curriculum and Teaching

Achievement

Behaviour, Attitudes & Routines

Children's Welfare & Well-being

Leadership and Governance

The Early Learning Team provides support and advice on a wide range of professional development opportunities for support staff in school and practitioners in Croydon's Private, Voluntary and Independent sector, including Childminders and Wraparound Providers. One aspect of our support is to provide training which is accessible for all practitioners working in the London Borough of Croydon.

Our courses are colour coded to demonstrate how they link with the Early Years Inspection Toolkit and you will see the colour codes alongside the relevant courses.

Training

We offer three variations of training: Fully funded, Paid and Bespoke.

We offer both face to face and online training.

Please note we are using a range of venues for face to face sessions this term. Check the session information carefully and ensure your staff team are aware of the locality for the session before they book the training. Practitioners will be emailed the address once the session has been booked.

- **Fully funded training:**

Our fully funded training is free to access and is available only to practitioners working in an early years setting, school or wraparound provision in the London Borough of Croydon.

- **Paid training:**

A selection of our training is priced at a competitive rate. This training is accessible to practitioners who work in the London Borough of Croydon.

- **Bespoke training and consultancy:**

We can offer bespoke training for your setting. In addition to this we offer Consultancy services for Croydon settings.



General Information

Fully funded training:

The majority of our training is fully funded which is offered via a combination of face to face and online sessions. There is a limit of two places per setting for each face to face training session, to enable the maximum number of settings to attend.

Paid training:

For paid training the cost will vary depending on the type of course and length.

All prices will be listed against each individual course.

Bespoke training:

Bespoke training is charged at £75 an hour for Croydon registered settings.

Consultancy services are available at the same rate.



Course Registration



How to book:

Please note that training and events for the Autumn term will be booked through Synergy. Managers should ensure that staff register on MST for each session as soon as the booking is confirmed on Synergy. This will enable staff to receive the session confirmation and link in good time prior to the training. If you have not received confirmation of your place within 3 working days please email early.learning@croydon.gov.uk

Bookings will open on 8th September.

Contact us:

If you have any learning/physical needs which will affect your ability to access the training, please email us in advance to discuss how we can support you.

Cancellation:

Paid training is non-refundable.

Bespoke training is non-refundable but with 4 weeks notice may be rescheduled (subject to availability).

Cancellations for fully funded and paid training should be made by emailing early.learning@croydon.gov.uk

Fully funded ELT training must be cancelled at least 3 working days in advance. Late cancellation or failure to attend training will be charged a penalty of £20 per person for online sessions and £30 per person for face to face training.

This will be taken from the setting's termly funding. Please ensure that all practitioners are aware of this when booking training places. Settings may send a replacement member of staff instead without charge.

Course name	Audience	Course description	Course information
Understanding Behaviour and Establishing Routines 	This session is suitable for all early years practitioners.	This session explores some of the key areas in the updated Behaviour, attitudes and establishing routines evaluation area of the Ofsted toolkit. This includes: effective routines, supporting disadvantaged children, how settings manage behaviour and the importance of attendance.	22nd September 19:00-21:00 Free Online
Enabling Environments 	This session is suitable for all before/after school clubs, wraparound providers and staff working in early years settings.	Delegates will learn what an enabling environment is and why it is important. Develop ways to create and support an enabling environment both indoors and outside. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.	7th October 10:00-14:00 Free Central Croydon venue, address will be confirmed once place is booked
Curriculum Confidence for Managers 	This session is suitable for childminders, early years' managers and leaders responsible for curriculum.	What is your curriculum and how is it delivered in your setting? This workshop seeks to: consider what your curriculum aims are, discuss how your curriculum is implemented, and how it supports you to be confident about your provision.	10th November 19:00-21:00 Free Online

Course name	Audience	Course description	Course information
Supporting Communication Development 	This session is suitable for all early years practitioners.	This session will be delivered by the Speech and Language Therapy team at Croydon. It will explore a number of strategies to support children with communication and language needs in your setting. Maximum two places per setting.	11th November 18:30-20:00 Free Online
Designated Safeguarding Lead DSL for PVIs and Wraparound or Out-of-School care 	This session is suitable for childminders, DSLs and deputy DSLs working in an early years or out-of-school setting.	Delegates will explore the responsibilities of a DSL. Receive updates on safeguarding issues including: thresholds for making referrals, local and national serious case reviews, recording and sharing information. Consider how to support staff and manage allegations against staff. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please note, to be eligible to receive fully funded DSL training, you must have <u>at least one child for wraparound childcare (Reception to Y6) on roll.</u>	14th November 09:30-16:15 £85 per person or fully funded for those working in wraparound provision. Central Croydon venue, address will be confirmed once place is booked
Early Writing 	This session is suitable for all early years practitioners.	This session focuses on the importance of children developing the fine motor skills required to hold a pencil effectively and includes lots of practical and fun activity ideas to try both inside and outside.	18th November 19:00-2100 Free Online

Course name	Audience	Course description	Course information
Inclusive Practice 	This session is suitable for childminders, room leaders, SENCOs, managers, support staff in schools and those working in wraparound provision.	Inclusion and supporting disadvantaged children is an important aspect of Ofsted inspections. Delegates will reflect on how to create an inclusive environment. We will consider groups of vulnerable or disadvantaged families, and how practice, interactions and procedures can support inclusive practice. Tea and coffee will be provided.	21st November 10:00-13:00 Free Central Croydon venue, address will be confirmed once place is booked
Leading Effective Childcare Provision 	This session is suitable for leaders of before and after school clubs, Holiday and HAF providers and managers and leaders of PVI settings.	This session will look at how leaders of early years and/or out-of-school clubs can ensure that their provision is seen as an integral part of the child's experience. We will look practical ways to support and lead a team with clear expectations, strong communication, effective safeguarding, appropriate support for children with additional needs and meaningful oversight of quality. We will explore emerging themes in leadership and governance from recent Ofsted inspection reports and consider what they mean for providers. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.	23rd November 09:30-14:00 Free Central Croydon venue, address will be confirmed once place is booked

Events



Event	Audience	Event description	Event information
Managers Forum	This session is suitable for all managers and deputies working in Early Years group provision.	An informative networking event for those working in a managerial position in group settings based in Croydon such as day nurseries and pre-schools. Managers will be receive current and relevant updates both nationally and locally from the local authority, as well as raise questions and discuss important topics shared by managers. Liz Swaniker-Noi will be sharing updates about the new advice clinics for early years settings run by the Speech and Language Therapy team at Croydon and there will be information about a new level seven coaching course.	30th September 10:00-12:00 Free Online
Safeguarding Forum	This session is suitable for all childminders, DSL's and deputy DSL's for Early Years and Wraparound provision.	Receive updates about issues relating to safeguarding both locally and nationally and hear from the LADO and the DBS service. Consider safeguarding issues identified during inspections.	20th October 19:00—21:00 Free Online
Wraparound Forum	This session is suitable for all before/after school clubs, and wraparound providers and staff.	An informative networking event for those working in a wraparound provision, such as before and after school clubs, holiday clubs and wraparound providers. Attendees will be able to receive current and relevant updates both national and locally from the local authority, as well as raise questions and discuss important topics shared by out-of-school providers.	3rd November 10:00-12:00 Free Online

Training provided by other organisations



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Event	Audience	Event description	Event information
SLT Advice Clinic	This session is suitable for childminders, SENCOs, managers, key persons and support staff in schools.	This session offers the opportunity to speak to a speech therapist for advice on how to support one of your children or discuss a specific theme which is a concern in your setting. Come along to the Managers Forum to find out more about this new online SLT advice clinic or email early.learning@croydon.gov.uk to register your interest in booking a slot. This session will be organised and run by the SLT team at Croydon.	13th October 13:00-14:30 Free Online
Supporting Communication Development	This session is suitable for all early years practitioners.	This session will be delivered by the Speech and Language Therapy team at Croydon. It will explore a number of strategies to support children with communication and language needs in your setting. Maximum two places per setting.	11th November 18:30—20:00 Free Online
Online bite sized videos	These videos are suitable for all early years practitioners.	The Early Years SLT team are excited to announce they are currently developing bite sized videos on different aspects of supporting communication and language development for 0-5 year olds. These pre-recorded bite sized videos will be available through their website. Updates on the launch of the videos will be included in the ELT weekly bulletin.	Coming soon!

Event	Audience	Event description	Event information
HENRY Core Training	For any practitioner who supports parents with children aged 0-7 within the Borough of Croydon.	Strengthen your practice with HENRY Core Training, an evidence-informed programme designed to support professionals working with parents and carers of babies and children. This training builds confidence and practical strategies for promoting healthy family routines and wellbeing. Why attend? Recognised and respected across the UK Aligned with best practice and early intervention priorities Free professional development opportunity for Croydon's early years and health workforce Places are free but limited– secure your spot today HENRY Training Interest Form	You must attend both days to receive certification Both days 09:15-16:30 30th September & 7th October TBXH, Sunley House, Croydon or 9th & 10th December TBXH, Sunley House, Croydon Free
Henry Healthy Start in Childcare	For any Early Years practitioners (including EY settings, nurseries, childminders, day care staff, creche workers) within the Borough of Croydon.	Childcare settings play a vital role in enabling a healthy start in life. This course is over three evenings and provides practical information about nutrition and activity for young children, plus tools to manage behaviour for emotional wellbeing. Practitioners will: develop knowledge about healthy meals, snacks and portion sizes for young children, understand the value of active play for a healthy start and adopt new ideas to encourage it. Manage children's behaviour whilst building their self-esteem, so children start school emotionally ready to learn. Model a healthy lifestyle for young children in their care. Practitioners must be available to attend all three sessions. Please visit www.henry.org.uk/croydon to book this HENRY training, clearly stating which training you wish to attend.	You must attend all three sessions to receive certification 18:30– 21:00 each session 5th, 12th and 19th November Online Free

Free DfE Training



The Department for Education (DfE) is offering free online Child Development training.

Child development training

This online training provides an overview of the most important aspects of child development in the early years, including reception and gives practical advice for supporting the development of children in your setting. The course has 8 modules and each module should take between one and two hours to complete. Modules include: Understanding child development and the EYFS, Brain development and how children learn, Supporting PSED, Maths, Language development, Physical development, Curriculum and Assessment and Supporting individual differences and needs.

Further information is available using the link below:

<https://child-development-training.education.gov.uk/about-training>



Department
for Education

Booking on to training



Early Years Providers:

Training and events (unless otherwise stated) are bookable via the Provider Portal.

Bookings will open on 8th September 2026.

A guide on how to book on to training can be found by clicking the links below.

Wraparound Providers:

Training and events (unless otherwise stated) are bookable via the Provider Portal.

Bookings will open on 8th September 2026. Please email early.learning@croydon.gov.uk if you have any difficulties.

To access the fully-funded training, you must have at least one child YR to Y6 on roll.

[Guide on how to add staff to provider portal.pdf](#)

Contact Us



The Early Learning and Sufficiency Team

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child.care@croydon.gov.uk