

AUTUMN TERM 2026

CROYDON

Early Years SEND Team Training and Events

Training calendar for Croydon early years settings

Practical SEND training, workshops and locality support for nurseries, pre-schools and childminders.



WELCOME

CROYDON

Autumn Term 2026

About the programme

The Early Years Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (EYSEND) Team provides support and advice to Croydon nurseries, pre-schools and childminders. We work with early years settings to promote high-quality inclusive practice and help meet the needs of children with SEND. Our central training programme runs alongside support from your locality SEND inclusion practitioners.

Who can attend? Our free training is for practitioners working in early years settings in the London Borough of Croydon.

General information

- Most central training is delivered online via Microsoft Teams unless a session is specifically confirmed as in person.
- If you would like to discuss INSET training, please speak with the Locality Lead for your setting.
- If you have accessibility requirements for online training, contact the team in advance so that support can be discussed.

Booking and cancellations

- Booking links for Autumn 2026 courses can be found within the training calendar in this document.
- Training is currently free so that as many practitioners as possible can access it.
- Failure to attend, or late cancellation, may result in a £20 penalty per person for online sessions, taken from the setting's termly funding.
- A replacement member of staff may attend instead without charge.
- If you can no longer attend, cancel your place through Eventbrite or contact the Early Years SEND Team.

Team contact EarlyYearsSENDTeam@Croydon.gov.uk | 0208 604 7263

COURSE DETAILS

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Making Sense of Autism in the Early Years

Suitable for: All staff in early years settings, including childminders, nursery and pre-school staff, lunchtime staff, managers and office staff.

Gain a better understanding and awareness of autism and how autistic differences may present in early years settings. Autumn 2026 training is listed under the Neuro-Inclusive Education Network (previously the Autism Education Trust).

Good Autism Practice in Early Years

Suitable for: Practitioners working directly with children, including childminders, nursery practitioners, early years educators, teachers and SENCOs.

Develop practical knowledge, tools and approaches to support autistic children and children on the pathway to diagnosis. The Autumn 2026 dates document identifies this under the Neuro-Inclusive Education Network (previously the Autism Education Trust).

Supporting Behaviour for Children with SEND

Suitable for: All staff in early years settings, including childminders, nursery and pre-school staff, lunchtime staff, managers and office staff.

Explore theories and functions of behaviour to understand and support the behavioural needs of children with SEND in your setting. The course covers strategies and tools to provide practical support for children and guidance on behaviour policies and duties under the SEND Code of Practice.

Makaton Taster Sessions

Suitable for: Early years practitioners who would benefit from an introductory Makaton session.

A short introduction to Makaton, exploring how signs and symbols can support communication, language development and inclusion for all children.

Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment Workshop

Suitable for: Early years SENCOs and professionals preparing to request an EHC needs assessment for a child in their setting.

Practical guidance on preparing a request and understanding the legal timelines and process for an Education, Health and Care needs assessment in the Croydon borough.

Implementing the Graduated Approach - Guidance on Using the SEND Support File

Suitable for: Early years professionals supporting children with emerging SEND and disabilities.

Understand the key documents within the SEND Support File, how they sit within the graduated approach, and how to use them to support children with SEND in the setting.

Practical Guidance to the Role of SENCO

Suitable for: Early years SENCOs who are new to the role or would benefit from a refresher.

A practical session covering the SENCO role, the graduated response, supporting colleagues, working with parents and professionals, and understanding Croydon pathways and processes.

TRAINING CALENDAR

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Autumn Term 2026

October 2026

Course / event	Date & time	Lead	Booking Link
Making Sense of Autism in the Early Years	Mon 5 Oct 1:00-4:00pm	Kerry	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000257071747?aff=oddttdtcreator
Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment Workshop	Fri 9 Oct 10:00-11:30am	Daisy	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000257424803?aff=oddttdtcreator
Makaton Taster Session	Wed 14 Oct 1:00-3:00pm	TBC	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/makaton-taster-session-tickets-2000257680568?aff=oddttdtcreator
Practical Guidance to the Role of SENCO	Fri 16 Oct 9.30-3.30pm	Dipti	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-guidance-to-the-role-of-senco-tickets-2000390138754?aff=oddttdtcreator
Implementing the Graduated Approach - Using the SEND Support File	Thu 22 Oct 9:30-12.30pm	Anya	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000390506855?aff=oddttdtcreator

November 2026

Course / event	Date & time	Lead	Booking / delivery
Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment Workshop	Wed 4 Nov 10:00-11:30am	Anya	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000390710464?aff=oddttdtcreator
Good Autism Practice in Early Years	Mon 9 Nov 9:30am-1:30pm	Kerry	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000390873953?aff=oddttdtcreator

Course / event	Date & time	Lead	Booking / delivery
Implementing the Graduated Approach - Using the SEND Support File	Thu 19 Nov 9:30-12:30pm	Dipti	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000391182877?aff=oddtcreator
Supporting Behaviour for Children with SEND	Fri 20 Nov 9:30am-12:30pm	Terri	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000391337339?aff=oddtcreator
Makaton Taster Session	Mon 30 Nov 10:00am-12:00pm	TBC	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000391449675?aff=oddtcreator

December 2026

Course / event	Date & time	Lead	Booking / delivery
Practical Guidance to the Role of SENCO	Wed 9 Dec 9:30-3:30pm	Daisy and Anya	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2000391573044?aff=oddtcreator

SENCO Forum October 2026

Course / event	Date & time	Lead	Booking / delivery
Early Years SENCO Forum	Tue 10 Nov 4:30-6:00pm	EY SEND Team	https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/389408303828111?p=x0urUsRBAxTHJ0qnTa

LOCALITY SUPPORT

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Catch-up sessions and setting support

Locality Support Forums

The Autumn 2026 dates document includes two one-hour catch-up sessions for each locality. These provide an additional opportunity to connect with your Locality Lead alongside the central training programme.

Locality Support Forum dates

Course / event	Date & time	Booking / delivery
South locality - Session 1 Daisy Frampton	Wed 21 Oct 10- 11:00am	MS Teams Link for this session will be shared with settings by their Locality Lead one week prior to the session.
South locality - Session 2 Daisy Frampton	Wed 9 Dec 10-11:00am	
North locality - Session 1 Anya Odartey	Fri 23 Oct 10-11:00am	
North locality - Session 2 Anya Odartey	Tue 17 Nov 10-11:00am	
Central locality - Session 1 Dipti Mohanty	Fri 16 Oct 10-11:00am	
Central locality - Session 2 Dipti Mohanty	Fri 4 Dec 10-11:00am	
Maintained Nursery Schools- Session 1 Mel Farris	Thu 15 Oct 9.30-10.30am	
Maintained Nursery Schools- Session 2 Mel Farris	Thu 10 Dec 9.30-10.30am	

Need setting-specific support? Speak with the Locality Lead for your setting if you would like to discuss SEND inclusion support or INSET training.

JOINING YOUR TRAINING

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Booking, Microsoft Teams and attendance

Receiving your Microsoft Teams invitation

- Once you have registered your place on the EVENTBRITE booking link, you will receive an email to confirm your registration.
- You will then receive your MS TEAMS Invitation via EVENTBRITE the week before your training date.
- A follow up reminder will be sent the working day before the event and on the day.

If you can no longer attend

Please note that our training courses are popular and therefore if you are no longer able to attend, please cancel your place.

- Please cancel your place through your Eventbrite account: Tickets > Cancel.
- Alternatively, email EarlyYearsSENDTeam@Croydon.gov.uk.
- Repeated non-attendance may affect future bookings for events.

Contact the Early Years SEND Team

Email	EarlyYearsSENDTeam@Croydon.gov.uk
General SEND enquiries	0208 604 7263

