



SPRING TERM 2026

Early Years SEND Team Training and Events



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Introduction

The Early Years Special Education Needs and Disabilities (EYSEND) Team provides support and advice to Croydon's nurseries, pre-schools, and childminders.

We work with the range of Early Years Settings to promote quality inclusion practice to meet the needs of children with SEND.

Our support includes a central training programme that runs alongside the locality SEND inclusion practitioners support in your setting.

General Information

Our free training is available only for practitioners working in an early year's setting in the London Borough of Croydon

All our training takes place online via MS Teams to allow for more attendees and to offer more training opportunities.

If you would like to discuss inset training, please speak with the Locality Lead for your setting.

Course Registration

The links to book places online are detailed under each course date.

Bookings open Tuesday 2nd January 2026

If you have any questions regarding accessibility for online training, please email or telephone us in advance to discuss how we can support you.

Cancellations

Our training at this time is free so that we can support as many practitioners as possible.

Please note that failure to attend the training or late cancellation will be charged a penalty of £20 per person for online sessions.

This will be taken from the settings termly funding.

Please ensure that all practitioners are aware of this when booking training places. You may send a replacement member of staff instead without charge.

If you are unable to attend, please contact the team on the details below

Team Contact Details

Tel: 0208 604 7263

Email: EarlyYearsSendTeam@Croydon.gov.uk

COURSE DETAILS

Autism (Social and Communication Differences)

Early Years Making Sense of Autism Module 1

Suitable for all staff in early years settings, this includes childminders, nursery staff, Pre-School, lunchtime, management, and office staff.

Course Description:

Gain a better understanding and awareness of autism and the way it affects children in early years' settings.

Autism Education Trust certificate is available on completion.

Early Years Good Autism Practice Module 2

Suitable for practitioners working directly with children, this includes childminders, nursery nurses/assistants, early year's educators, teachers and SENCOS.

Course Description:

Gain practical knowledge and discover tools and techniques to support children with autism or on the pathway to a diagnosis in your setting.

Develop professional competencies and standards in your setting using the Autism Education Trust framework tools.

Autism Education Trust certificate is available on completion.

Behaviour – SEND related

Understanding and Supporting Behaviour for Children with SEND

Suitable for all staff in early years settings, this includes
childminders, nursery staff, pre-School, lunchtime.
management and office staff.

Course Description:

What is behaviour?
Theories and function of behaviour.
Meltdown versus Tantrum
Strategies to support a child and Behaviour policies.

Education, Health, and Care Needs Assessment Workshop

Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment

Suitable for early years SENCOs and professionals applying for an EHC for a
child in their care.

Course Description:

Practical guidance on writing a request and understanding the legal timelines.
These workshops are for early years SENCO's and professionals who are applying
for an education, health and care needs assessment for a child/child in their
setting.

Implementing the Graduated Response

Using the SEND Support File

Suitable for all EY professionals who are supporting children with emerging SEND and disabilities in their setting.

Course Includes:

Understand the key documents from 'My SEND Support File' and how they sit within the graduated approach to supporting children with SEND

Learn how to use these documents to support children with SEND in the setting

SENCO Training

Practice Guidance for EY SENCOs

Suitable for all EY SENCO's who are new to the role or who have not accessed training for some time and require a refresher.

Course Includes:

This is a very practical course covering your role as a SENCO, including:
Understanding the graduated response, how to support colleagues in your setting,
Working with parents and other professionals,
Understanding some of Croydon's pathways and processes.

This session will be delivered by a member of the Early Years SEND team – please see the date for details of the trainer

EVENTS

SENCO Forum

This session is suitable for all EY SENCOs.

The SENCO Forum is an opportunity for SENCOs to network and share good practice.

Develop your knowledge and experience as a setting SENCO and gather a range of information on SEND funding, training, initiatives and practice and provision to take back to your setting.

What to expect:

The Early Years SEND Team will facilitate and lead these forums, sharing important updates for SEND and Inclusion with the sector from local and national strategies and initiatives.

Guest Speakers from a range of relevant professionals and agencies providing advice and information related to topics that the sector may find beneficial and interesting.

Spring Term Senco Forum -

Date: Tuesday 10th March 2026
4:30pm-6:00pm

All early years nurseries and childminders will receive an email with the MS Teams invitation link for the above session in the Spring Term.

January 2026	
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SEND Course Name	Date and time
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Practical Guidance to the Role of SENCO	Thursday 22nd January 2026
Trainers: Daisy Frampton and Kasia Staniszevska	Time – 9.30am – 3.30pm
To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978570634028?aff=oddtcreator	

Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment	Friday 23rd January – 10am
Trainer: Terri Watts	Time – 10:00am- 11:30am
To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978411046698?aff=oddtcreator	

Neuro-Inclusive Education Network - Early Years Making Sense of Autism	Monday 26th January – 9.30am
Trainer – Kerry Collier	Time – 9:30am- 12:00pm
To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978411914293?aff=oddtcreator	

Implementing the Graduated Approach- Guidance on Using the SEND File

Trainer: Kasia Staniszewska

Wednesday 28th January – 9.30am

Time – 9:30am- 12:30pm

To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978580843565?aff=oddtcreator>

Supporting Behaviour for Children with SEND

Trainer: Terri Watts

Wednesday 18th February – 9.30am

Time – 9:30am- 1:00pm

To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978582470431?aff=oddtcreator>

Neuro-Inclusive Education Network– Early Years Good Autism Practice

Trainer – Kerry Collier

Thursday 26th February – 9.30am

Time – 9:30am- 1:30pm

To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978584707121?aff=oddtcreator>

Implementing the Graduated Approach- Guidance on Using the SEND File Trainer: Dipti Mohanty	Friday 13th March– 9.30am Time – 9:30am- 12:30pm
<p>To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978585963880?aff=oddtcreator</p>	

Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment Trainer: Terri Watts	Wednesday 18th March – 10am Time – 10:00am- 11:30am
<p>To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978587202585?aff=oddtcreator</p>	

Practical Guidance to the Role of SENCO Trainers: Anya Odartey and Dipti Mohanty	Friday 20th March 2026 Time – 9.30am – 3.30pm
<p>To book this course, please click on the following link or cut and paste into your browser:</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1978588118324?aff=oddtcreator</p>	

Locality Workshops run by your Locality Inclusion Lead will be advertised separately.

ONLINE EVENTS

SENCO Forum	Tuesday 10 th March 2026
Free	4:30pm-6:00pm
<p>You are not required to book a space for this session. All settings will be emailed the invitation to the SENCO forum – please contact your locality lead if you have not received this by the 4th March 2026 to ensure we have the correct email address.</p>	

EYSEND TEAM CONTACTS

Team Email: EarlyYearsSENDETeam@Croydon.gov.uk	General SEND Enquiries: 0208 604 7263
Central Locality (1): Katarzyna.Staniszevska@croydon.gov.uk	Central Locality (2): Dipti.Mohanty@croydon.gov.uk
North Locality: Anya.Odartey@Croydon.gov.uk	South Locality: Daisy.Frampton@croydon.gov.uk
Portage Team: Helena.Nikiel-Dabrowska@croydon.gov.uk Fiona.Unwin@croydon.gov.uk	Senior Inclusion Practitioners: Kerry.Collier@croydon.gov.uk Rachel.Smith@croydon.gov.uk Terri.Watts@croydon.gov.uk
SEND Team Manager: Pam.Sokhi@croydon.gov.uk	

RECEIVING YOUR MS TEAMS WORKSHOP INVITATION

The training sessions are delivered online via Microsoft Teams.

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 email link from the EYSEND Team the week before your training date, then a follow up reminder the working day before the event and on the day .

The MS TEAMS Link email will include instructions on how to join prior to the event.

Please note that our training courses are popular and therefore if you are no longer able to attend, please cancel your place. You can do this through your **Eventbrite account > Tickets > Cancel.**

Or you can email the Early Years SEND team on EarlyyearsSENDteam@Croydon.gov.uk

Repeated failures to attend events may result in the Early Years SEND team. refusing future bookings for events.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MAKATON TRAINER AVAILABLE IN THE TEAM FOR THE SPRING TERM. PLEASE CONTACT THE MAKATON CHARITY DIRECT FOR YOUR NEAREST TRAINING.

<https://makaton.org/>