



Images courtesy of the Department for Education

## Welcome...

Issue 3 - May 2011

...to 'From Infancy to Beyond!' from Wiltshire's Early Years and Childcare team. Compiled and sent out by [Emily Wood](#) (tel 01225 757966) on behalf of the information subgroup who will welcome all feedback on this communication.

### Invitation from the Head of Early Years and Childcare - Gill Hanlan

In recent years providers and multi-agency staff have come together to discuss developments and share local knowledge about the needs of the children in their local area. These formed part of the WEYDCP (Wiltshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership). In the last year there has been the re-organisation of a variety of teams and there has been a major re-commissioning exercise of children's centre management. The time seems right to re-establish meetings with those people involved in the early years and childcare sector and so four meetings have been organised in the four hub areas of the county.

The purpose of these meetings is to engage and consult with providers and multi-agency staff and to provide an information exchange. Gill Hanlan will be chairing the sessions and the theme of the first round will be funding for two year olds. If you would like to attend, please email [Dawn Gayfer](#) with your name and chosen meeting venue in order to ensure that you're guaranteed a seat and a cup of tea/coffee on arrival!

**EAST**  
Fri 10 June: 10-11:30  
[Devizes Sports Centre](#)  
London Road  
**SN10 2DL**

**SOUTH**  
Mon 13 June: 10-11:30  
[Diocesan Education Centre](#)  
Devizes Rd, Salisbury  
**SP2 9LY**

**NORTH**  
Thurs 16 June: 1:30 -3:00  
[Malmesbury Town Hall](#)  
Cross Hayes, Malmesbury  
**SN16 9BZ**

**WEST**  
Tues 21 June: 2:00-3:30  
[St John's Parish Centre](#)  
Wingfield Rd, Trowbridge  
**BA14 9EA**

### Council recognition for Childcare Officers

In April the Childcare Officers won 'Team of the Month' in recognition for their involvement with the Play Partner Party scheme. The brain child of Childcare Coordinator Naomi Defriend, these parties provide the opportunity for young disabled people to make friends and gain in confidence.

The team volunteer at weekends to get communities involved. At their presentation they were recognised for their 'can-do' attitude and care for people who are less able to help themselves.



Cllr Laura Mayes, Andrew Kerr, [Naomi Defriend](#) and Cllr Allison Bucknell

Naomi was highly commended in the Employee of the Month category.

If you would like to learn more about these parties, please contact [Naomi](#).



From left to right: Cllr Laura Mayes, Angela Brennan, Jo Giles, Ann Parkes (just!), Sarah Clover, Andrew Kerr, Sarah Jackson, Amy Trigwell, Lucy-Anne Bryant, Sue West, Naomi Defriend and Cllr Allison Bucknell

### Do you work with families where a child or young person has a disability?

Have they registered with The Key – Wiltshire's Disabled Children's Information Database?

The Key is a secure register where information provided can help shape services for Wiltshire's disabled children and their families.

#### Why register?

- It's free and voluntary
- Families receive regular newsletters and news updates
- Families receive a 'passport' entitling them to discounts on certain goods and services

In order to register, an application form needs to be completed, available at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/key](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/key) or ringing The Key Co-ordinator on 0800 066 5068 or The Family Information Service on 08457 585072

Over 300 children and young people are already registered so please pass the message on to relevant families you know or work with. The Key is fully supported by [Wiltshire's Parent Carer Council](#).



### Information from ask

Summer holiday childcare and activities will all be advertised on the website from Wednesday 18 May so families can search for local provision for their 0 – 16 year olds. All primary pupils should have received a flyer about this from their school.

A new section for Step Families is now on the website with useful sections on building bonds, sibling rivalry, money issues and involving extended family and friends – look in [Family Issues section](#).

### Inclusion matters

The draft [Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Commissioning Strategy](#) is now available for consultation until the middle of July 2011. Also, the SEN Disability Green Paper: [Children And Young People With Special Educational Needs And Disabilities](#) is out for consultation. Amongst other things, the Green Paper proposes to change the assessment process by introducing a combined Education, Health and Care Plan and the option of personal budgets by 2014, greater independence to the assessment of children's needs and to give families a real choice of school - either mainstream or special. [Please follow the links provided by clicking on the underlined titles to find out more.](#)

### Workforce Development

There are plenty of training opportunities this summer so please look in the news bulletins or on-line at [www.childcarejobs.co.uk](http://www.childcarejobs.co.uk) for letters and sounds, health and safety, equality and diversity, cookery courses and much more. Coming up in the autumn will be further Forest Schools training and an Institute of Leadership and Management course for room leaders, team leaders and aspiring leaders.

### Are you considering your business options?

Yes, then assessing your market demand is critical. The [Childcare Sufficiency Report](#) is hot off the press! Not only does this report document an overview of Wiltshire's childcare provision against demographics and other useful data, there are also 18 local Childcare Plans which drill down to community area level. This information can be found on the [Wiltshire Council Web](#) or ask your Childcare Officer.

### Forest School Newsletter

If you haven't already, check out the latest [Forest Schools and Outdoor Play Newsletter](#). Remember [Ella](#) and [Niki](#), Play Advisers are willing and able to help you get the most from your Outdoor play space - book by dropping them an email - you'll find a link to their addresses by clicking on their underlined names!



### Early Years Conference

4 and 5 November, Devizes

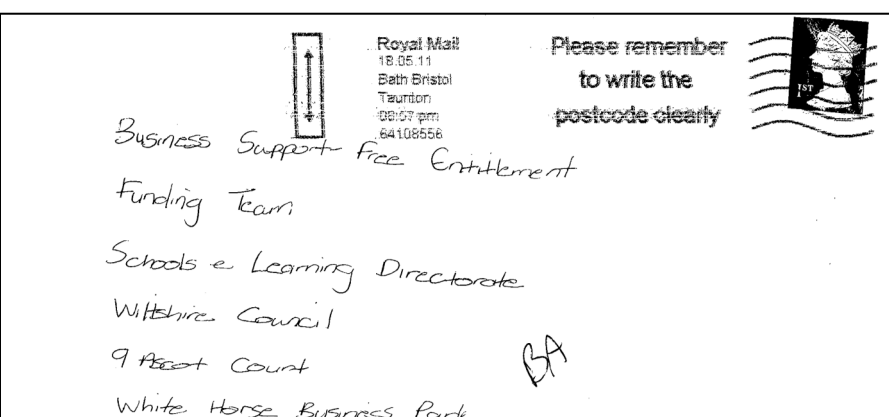
Nationally recognised childcare expert Jennie Lindon will be there on both days. And with other talks, workshops on art, gardening activities and outdoor learning, ideas for numeracy, music workshops and much more this promises to be a conference not to be missed. Booking information from Bright Horizons to follow. Put these dates in your diary now!



### Are you are Childminder? Can you help?

Wiltshire College are looking for childminders who would welcome a Level 3 Childcare student into their homes for one of their placement experiences. The opportunity for students to be in a home-based setting would be very advantageous to their students who need to participate in daily routines, observe and assess development, plan and prepare activities and generally apply their knowledge to a practical setting. The childminder will be encouraged to give support and guidance and complete interim and final reports whilst enabling the student to 'shadow' and learn in a relaxed and friendly environment for two days a week, for approximately one term.

If you would like to know more about this please contact [Lynn O'Pray](#) at Trowbridge College 01225 756437, [Morag Johnson](#) at Chippenham College 01249 465393 or [Sue Deacon](#) at Salisbury College 01722 344255.



### Calling all Free Entitlement Providers

Do you recognise your writing on this envelope? Sadly this envelope arrived at Ascot Court empty, with the back flap unstuck as if not sealed. An accompanying Royal Mail letter stated that they regret that the contents may have been lost. As the contents were probably connected to funding, please check that the Free Entitlement team have all the information they require to pay your setting the right amount. Thank you.

Three months to go before this year's Playday. This national annual occasion will be marked by many events around the country with Wiltshire participating too. If you want to join in the fun, remember to log your event and download the free resources from the Playday website - click on this logo:

