

EARLY YEARS ADVISORY TEAM

WHAT'S ON

For Southampton Early Years & Childcare
Providers

AUTUMN TERM - 2025

For the calendar of current courses, please visit:

[Early years and childcare training, networks, meetings and events
calendar \(southampton.gov.uk\)](https://www.southampton.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare-training-networks-meetings-and-events-calendar)

Early Years Advisory Teachers

Start Point Sholing

Wood Close, Sholing

Southampton, SO19 0SG

Tel: 02380 915797



Email: sally.griggs@southampton.gov.uk

[Southampton Early Years Advisory Teachers - Facebook](#)

Updated: June 2025

TRAINING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 2025

Sat 6 th September	Safeguarding Training - Childminders	9.30 – 4	Start Point Sholing	Safeguarding for childminders
16 th September	Profile of Need	1 – 3 pm	Virtual	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
17 th September	SEND Portal EHC Needs Assessment Applications	9.30 – 11 am	Virtual	Booking Form - Early Years Training
19 th September	SEND Surgery	9.30 – 12.30	Phone/Email	n/a
23 rd September	Understanding Restrictive Practices	9.30 – 12.30 pm	Start Point Sholing	Booking Form - Early Years Training
25 th September	Meeting the needs of your new cohort	4 – 6 pm	Virtual / Surgery	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
30 th September	Understanding Restrictive Practices (for SCC/NHS staff)	9.30 – 12.30 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a

October 2025

Dates tba	SENCo Level 2 (Cohort 8) – 3-day course – dates to be advised	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	Expression of Interest - SENCo Level 2 (cohort 8)
2 nd October	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 1	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	Booking Form - SENCo L3 (cohort 8)
6 th & 7 th October & 25 th November	Portage Workshop (2.5 days)	9.15 – 4 pm	Civic Centre	Portage Workshop 2025
8 th October	Welcome to Year R	9.30 – 3 pm	Start Point Sholing	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
9 th October	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 1	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	Developing Aspiring Leaders Programme - 2025-6
14 th October	Introduction to 'Supporting Bilingual Children in Early Years' guidance	7 – 8.30 pm	Virtual	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
16 th October	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 2	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
17 th October	SEND Surgery	9.30 – 12.30 pm	Phone/Email	n/a
20 th October	Through the Eyes of a Child – Understanding ACEs	12.30 – 3.30 pm	Start Point Sholing	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25

November 2025

5 th November	Wellbeing and Early Years Mental Health Forum	10 – 11.30 am	Virtual	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
6 th November	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 3	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
12 th November	Inclusion Network (autumn term)	9.30 – 11.30 am or 12.30 – 3.30 pm	Virtual	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
13 th November	Early Years Provider Briefing	7 – 8.30 pm	Virtual	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25

Saturday 15 th November	Understanding Restrictive Practices – for childminders	9.30 – 12.30 pm	Start Point Sholing	Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25
19 th November	SEND Surgery	9 – 12 noon	Phone/Email	n/a
20 th November	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 4	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
27 th November	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 2	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
Sat 29 th November	Safeguarding Training – Childminders	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	Safeguarding for childminders
December 2025				
4 th December	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 5	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
16 th December	SEND Surgery	11 – 1 pm	Phone/Email	n/a
Spring term 2026				
8 th January	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 6	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
22 nd January	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 7	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
29 th January	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 3	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
5 th February	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 8	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
26 th February	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 9	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
11 th March	Early Years Provider Briefing	7 – 8.30 pm	Virtual	n/a
12 th March	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 10	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
19 th March	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 4	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
26 th March	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 11	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
23 rd April	SENCo Level 3 (cohort 8) – day 12	9.30 – 4 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
14 th May	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 5	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
10 th June	Early Years Provider Briefing	7 – 8.30 pm	Virtual	n/a
25 th June	Developing Aspiring Leaders – part 6	4 – 6 pm	Start Point Sholing	n/a
12 th November	Early Years Provider Briefing	7 – 8.30 pm	Virtual	n/a

Autumn Term 2025

VIRTUAL SEND SURGERY

For Early Years SENDCos/1:1s

Friday 19th September - 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Friday 17th October – 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Wednesday 10th November - 9 am - 12 noon

Tuesday 16th December - 11 am - 1 pm

The SEND Surgeries are an opportunity for SENDCos/1:1 Practitioners/Key Workers to talk through strategies, ideas and concerns regarding individual children with an Early Years Advisory Teacher/Area SENDCo.

If you would like to speak to a member of the team during this time, please call on one of the numbers shown below, or email in advance with your name and phone number to request a call back.

The Area SENDCos can be contacted by phone/email during surgery hours:

Rachel Booth: 07834 905 120/07961 971 968 rachel.booth@southampton.gov.uk

Sam Coote: 07917 559 557 sam.coote@southampton.gov.uk

Liz Smith: 07958 063 346 liz.smith@southampton.gov.uk

Becky Riley: 07425 713 505 rebecca.riley@southampton.gov.uk

For specific speech and language queries:

***Michelle Ellis:** michelle.ellis@southampton.gov.uk

**Michelle is unavailable by phone during SEND Surgery hours – please email your contact details to request a call back.*

When emailing, please include your contact details but DO NOT include confidential information or children's names in emails unless you are using the secure/encrypted email facility.

Understanding the needs of babies and young children with SEND – SENCo Level 2 Cohort 8

‘Every practitioner a SEND practitioner ...’

Southampton Early Years Advisory Teachers are pleased to offer an eighth cohort of this exciting, accredited training opportunity for practitioners in PVI settings and childminders working with children under 5.

The aim of this training is to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of Early Years practitioners to ensure that they are capable and confident to effectively support the children and families they work with. A range of professionals and agencies will deliver information throughout the programme, to allow practitioners to have a thorough understanding of how to support children with SEND.

Why attend?

The course will culminate in receiving a level 2 CACHE endorsed unit, alongside knowledge of SEND and best practice gained along the way.

What will it cover?

Delegates will complete module-based assessments, all of which is explained to delegates during their first day.

What does it involve?

The course will require 100% commitment from attendees with full support from their manager. The training will be delivered as 3 full days, 9.30 am – 4 pm, dates and venue to be confirmed. Please complete the expression of interest and you will have the opportunity to confirm or cancel your place once the dates have been confirmed.

Dates for Level 2 (cohort 8) training – autumn term 2025

Day 1	<i>This training will be delivered as a 3-day course.</i>	9.30 am – 4 pm
Day 2	<i>Dates and venue to be confirmed</i>	9.30 am – 4 pm
Day 3		9.30 am – 4 pm

What does it cost?

£50 non- refundable deposit and the rest will be funded by the LA

£250 will need to be paid if the delegate does not complete the course to cover assessor fees

How to apply

Delegates need at least level 2 qualification and have experience of working with children or be new to the role of practitioner working with children, to support the reflective element of the sessions.

Please complete and submit the Expression of Interest form to reserve your place:

[Expression of Interest - Level 2 Accredited Training \(cohort 8\)](#)



Creating Standing Out Early Years

With an Outdoor Learning focus

22nd September 4pm - 5.45pm

**St. Mary's Church of England Primary School
Ascupart Street, Southampton SO14 1LU**

This Creating Standing Out Early Years Course focuses on the vital role outdoor learning plays in early childhood development. This CPD session will explore how modern lifestyles have limited children's access to outdoor experiences and what that means for education as a whole

Outdoor classrooms are always an area for development so what is the process to get your outdoors from good to standing out?

What will the session cover:

- Science backed research to how the outdoor classroom can help your children improve in literacy, maths and PSED
- Assessment tools to evidence progress
- Practical ideas to instantly impact any space and any budget (even a zero £ one!)
- Resources to support the Outdoor Classroom

**This course is essential for
Early Years practitioners wanting to make a
significant impact.**

**Click
here to
book**

**£87 per person (plus VAT)
BUY A PLACE AND BRING A BUDDY FREE.**

**www.spreadthehappiness.co.uk
info@spreadthehappiness.co.uk**



INTRODUCTION TO **SOUTHAMPTON'S PROFILE OF NEED**

- Do you have a clear understanding of how the Profile of Need works to support children with SEND?
- Are you confident in completing Southampton's new Profile of Need?
- Do you understand how the Need scores work?

This training opportunity is designed to further enhance the skills of those working with SEND children to complete Southampton's new Profile of Need.

On completion of the training, you will be able to:

- ❖ Familiarise yourself with the Profile of Need documentation
- ❖ Investigate the role of the Profile of Need in providing a clearer understanding of an individual child's needs
- ❖ Explore using the document to record Needs scores against each area of need and collating the scores to give an indication of the child's primary and secondary need

A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE AWARDED

Tuesday 16th September 2025

1 – 3 pm

£30 per delegate

VIRTUAL – on Teams

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)



INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW SEND PORTAL **For EHC Needs Assessment Applications**

From September 2025, the Southampton SEND service are launching their online SEND Portal, designed to move the EHC needs assessment process online for our settings, professionals, and families.

Managers and SENCOs of Southampton Early Years settings are invited to join this free, virtual training session, hosted by the SEND department, which will focus on how to make an EHC needs assessment request using the SEND portal.

The session will also provide an opportunity for us to answer any queries you may have about the SEND portal, going forwards.

Wednesday 17th September 2025
9:30-11:00 am
Virtual

To join this free information session, please reserve your place using the booking form. The Teams link will be forwarded to you nearer the date

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)



UNDERSTANDING RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES IN THE EARLY YEARS

Due to the increase in the number of physical interventions being reported and observed, the Local Authority have developed a tailored 3-hour workshop, specifically for Early Years and Childcare providers.

This training will focus on developing an understanding of:

- statutory requirements with in the EYFS around Restrictive practices.
- physical interventions and supporting delegates to be able to identify restrictive practices.
- behaviour as a form of communication.
- non- restrictive practices to manage behaviour and explore strategies to de-escalate behaviour.
- the use of positive language, including body language, tone, volume, to support positive behaviour.
- The effectiveness of your own setting processes and procedures when a physical intervention has occurred, including reporting and recording.

Early Years & Childcare Providers	Tuesday 23rd September	9.30 – 12.30 pm
Childminders	Saturday 15th November	9.30 – 12.30 pm

We are offering a training date on Saturday 15th November for those who are unable to attend during the week - Childminders will be given priority at this session.

£55 per delegate

Start Point Sholing, Wood Close, Sholing, Southampton, SO19 0SG

This course will explore the guidance and theory around restrictive practices, as well as provide an opportunity to discuss a range of examples and case studies. You will then be given the PowerPoint and resources to repeat the training with your own teams. This training can also be delivered as bespoke training for staff teams.

Please reserve your place using the booking link or QR code:

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)



MEETING THE NEEDS OF YOUR NEW COHORT

FREE DROP-IN SURGERY FOR YR COLLEAGUES

for CHILDREN with SEN

- Do you have children with SEN in your class whose needs you are struggling to meet?
- Could you benefit from talking with colleagues and professionals to plan support for a child with additional needs in your class?
- Would you welcome some additional ideas and strategies to support children with additional needs?

Outline of drop in:

This will be a virtual drop-in session for Year R colleagues with children with SEN in their classes.

This session will be an opportunity to anonymously problem solve with members of the following teams:

- Early Years Advisory Team
- SEN Team
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Springwell School
- Portage

An opportunity for discussion in relation to:

- Sharing expertise
- Sharing interventions and strategies
- Ideas for practice and provision
- Problem Solving

This is suitable for:

- Early Years Foundation Teachers
- SENDCos
- Support Staff

Thursday 25th September 2025
4 – 6 pm (virtual/Teams)



Please let us know you will be joining by completing the booking form: [Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)

Teams Link to join the session: [Join the meeting now](#)

WELCOME TO YEAR R

Training for YR Practitioners & Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs)

- This course will combine formal input, group discussion and provide practical suggestions to develop procedures in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

Training Outcomes:

This training opportunity is designed to further enhance the skills of teachers in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

You will be able to:

- ❖ Familiarise yourself with the EYFS documentation.
- ❖ Explore the importance of play-based curriculum.
- ❖ Explore the roles of the adult in supporting every child's learning and development.
- ❖ Create a learning environment that fosters independence.
- ❖ Explore observation, assessment and planning.

Please have available during the session:

- **Development Matters or Birth to 5 Matters**
- **EYFS Statutory Documentation**

Delegates are welcome to bring a laptop to work on during the session and have an electronic copy available to refer to.

A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE AWARDED

Wednesday 8th October 2025

9.30 am – 3 pm

At Start Point Sholing, Wood Close, SO19 0SG

£105 per delegate

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)



PORTAGE WORKSHOP

A Small Step Approach to Learning for Children with SEND

- This training is aimed at those who work with the 0-5 years age range and are interested in delivering inclusive learning and play activities.
- It will be of particular relevance to those who hold the Early Years SENCo role in the setting, or those who wish to move into this position and those looking to further develop their SEND practice.

This two-and-a-half-day course is the basic qualification certificate in the Portage model of teaching.

On completion of the training, you will be able to:

- ❖ Understand the Portage Principles and model of support
- ❖ Use the basic skills to deliver Portage under supervision
- ❖ Apply Portage skills in your own workplace
- ❖ Understand the history and local development of Portage
- ❖ Understand the range of materials and resources
- ❖ Develop confidence in working together using the Portage Model
- ❖ Demonstrate awareness of the National Portage Association

Course dates: Delegates must attend all dates to complete the course.

Session one	Monday 6 October 2025	9.15am-4pm	Civic Centre
Session two	Tuesday 7 October 2025	9.15am-4pm	Civic Centre
Session three	Tuesday 25 November 2025	9.30-11am	Online session

Cost:

Early Bird prices (booking 2 calendar months before the start date):

Southampton maintained schools, private, voluntary & independent early years and childcare providers - **£110**
Academies, free schools and other organisations - **£140**

Standard prices:

Southampton maintained schools, private, voluntary & independent early years and childcare providers - **£120**
Academies, free schools and other organisations - **£150**

For more details and to book your place/s, please scan the QR code or click here:

[Portage Workshop: A small step approach to learning for children with SEND - 2025](#)



Southampton Early Years and Childcare providers may be eligible for Inclusion Support Funding to cover the cost of places at the Portage training. Click here to apply: [Inclusion Support Fund](#)

Developing Aspiring Leaders Programme

Starting Autumn Term 2025

Developing future leaders is crucial for a setting's success

This programme of twilights will support aspiring leaders to develop their leadership skills. The programme offers practical learning opportunities in the setting, reading and reflection, and 1:1 facilitated learning, alongside the twilight sessions.

The course will help delegates to develop an understanding of:

- 1) Their type of **LEADING!**
- 2) **LEADING** by example
- 3) **LEADING** communication
- 4) **LEADING** teams
- 5) **LEADING** change
- 6) **LEADING** celebration

6-part Leadership course for middle managers, delivered as two sessions per term throughout the year

at Start Point Sholing, Wood Close, SO19 0SG

4 – 6 pm on Thursdays:

9th October 2025	29th January 2026	14th May 2026
27th November 2025	19th March 2026	25th June 2026

This course is for practitioners who have recently moved into leaderships roles or are about to, for example newly appointed room leads or setting deputies.

Cost: £210 per delegate - to include 6 twilights and 1:1 facilitated learning

Expression of interest:

[Developing Aspiring Leaders Programme - 2025-6](#)



SUPPORTING BILINGUAL CHILDREN IN THE EARLY YEARS

Introduction to Southampton's NEW guidance

**This is a new guide for practitioners to celebrate
bilingual children in their settings**

**This session is designed to familiarise practitioners with the
new guidance and to explore it's aims:**

- To support practitioners in welcoming children with EAL into their Early Years settings.
- To develop understanding of strategies to support children's overall language and communication skills.
- To provide guidance on the developmental stages of the acquisition of English.
- To support partnership working between parents / carers and EY practitioners.

Tuesday 14th October 2025

7 – 8.30 pm

Virtual

£30 per delegate

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)



THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD:

Understanding ACEs in Early Years

“Every behaviour tells a story. Let’s learn to listen”

- Do you know what ACEs are and why they matter?
- Are you aware of what early trauma may look like in young children?
- Do you know how trauma affects brain development, self-regulation, and behaviour?
- Are you able to identify which children may be most vulnerable in your setting?
- Do you want to develop your tool kit of practical strategies to support healing, resilience, and emotional safety?

Who is this training for?

Early Years practitioners who want to better understand trauma, develop their understanding of ACES, identify at-risk children and confidently support their development and wellbeing.

This half day training will focus on:

- ✓ Understand the lasting effects of trauma
- ✓ Build trauma-informed responses
- ✓ Develop confidence in supporting affected children
- ✓ Reflect on your role as a key person
- ✓ Make a difference early, when it matters most

A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE AWARDED

Monday 20th October 2025

1 – 4 pm at Start Point Sholing

£55 per delegate



[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)

WELLBEING AND EARLY YEARS **MENTAL HEALTH FORUM**

- What do you as EY practitioners need in order to fully meet the emotional needs of children?
- How do you ensure your stress levels are managed?
- How are you helping children in managing their own feelings and behaviours?
- Could you benefit from some practical ideas to help and support you?
- What types of support do you need?

This forum will be an opportunity for you to discuss any issues or challenges that are occurring in your setting around early years mental health.

This is designed to be a safe place to talk about pertinent issues and, importantly, a chance to take time to focus on you and practice some self-care.

All welcome.

This forum will be virtual (on Teams) to enable more people to access the session, so please get yourself a drink, find a quiet space and click on the link to join the conversation: [Join the meeting now](#)

Wednesday 5th November 2025

10 – 11.30 am – Virtual (free of charge)



Please let us know if you would like to join the forum using the booking link, or QR code below, or you are welcome to just drop in on the day.



[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)

INCLUSION NETWORK

FOR EARLY YEARS SENDCoS

Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 12th November 2025
9.30 – 11.30 am OR 12.30 – 2.30 pm

The Inclusion Networks will be virtual.

The agenda will include:

- A specific SEND focus
- SEND updates
- Training element
 - Exploring the sensory side of eating and drinking led by the Specialist Health Visiting Team
 - The mechanics of swallowing led by SALT

To confirm your attendance at this free session, please complete the booking form:

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)

or scan the QR code below:



The Teams link will be forwarded nearer the time.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING **for Childminders**

Southampton City Council are pleased offer Safeguarding DSL training to childminders. This training will outline the role and responsibilities of safeguarding in a childminder's capacity.

The session will cover

- Legal and procedural safeguarding updates
- Best practice when dealing with a disclosure
- Record keeping and sharing information
- Local updates
- Understanding child exploitation and harmful practices
- Internet safety
- ... and more

There will be opportunities for discussion with Southampton City Council professionals and other childminders.

You will also have an opportunity to peer discuss your safeguarding self-evaluation and complete with Southampton City Council Early Years providing staff available to support.

Training dates available:

Saturday 6th September 2025 – 9.30 – 4 pm

Saturday 29th November 2025 – 9.30 – 4 pm

£40 per delegate

The training will be held at Start Point Sholing, Wood Close, Sholing, SO19 0SG

For more information and booking link, please visit the website:

[Safeguarding for childminders](#)



EARLY YEARS & CHILDCARE Provider Briefing

Thursday 13th November 2025

7 – 8.30 pm - Virtual on Teams

The Early Years Provider Briefing will provide updates and information from across the sector.

Please reserve your place using the booking link.

[Booking Form - EY Training Autumn 25](#)

or scan the QR code below:



The Teams link will be forwarded nearer the time.

Dates for your diary for 2026 Early Years & Childcare Briefings:

- Spring 2026 – Wednesday 11th March
- Summer 2026 – Wednesday 10th June
- Autumn 2026 – Thursday 12th November

TRAINING & SUPPORT CHARGES – 2025-2026

UPDATED APRIL 2025

SUPPORT TO PVI and OUT OF SCHOOL (including groups of Childminders)

These services are also available to purchase on an ad-hoc basis	£55 per hour
--	--------------

BESPOKE TRAINING for PVI / OUT OF SCHOOL (including groups of Childminders)

Bespoke Full price: (The price is inclusive of preparation time)	Hourly Rate £75
Ofsted - Requires Improvement:	*20% reduction
Ofsted - Inadequate:	*FREE

*If identified in Ofsted actions and agreed in advance

TRAINING COURSES

Twilight/Bitesize (1.5 hours)	£30 per person
2.5 hour session	£40 per person
Half Day (3 hours)	£55 per person
Full Day (6 hours)	£105 per person

For more information on the Early Years & Childcare Services for Schools, please visit the website: [Services for schools: Early Years Advisory Teachers](#)

BOOKINGS: To reserve your place/s at any of the sessions advertised in this brochure, please use the relevant electronic booking form/QR code or email: sally.griggs@southampton.gov.uk

TERMS & CONDITIONS: [Southampton City Council Course Bookings - T&Cs](#)

CHARGES: Reduction in cost for settings/schools with an Ofsted less than 'good' if the training need is identified in Ofsted actions and agreed in advance.

CANCELLATIONS: To cancel a booking, please email: sally.griggs@southampton.gov.uk

Cancellations and non-attendance will be charged at full price unless we are advised of the cancellation at least 48 hours in advance. Please let us know in advance if you are unable to attend any booked training course, including those that are free to attend.

IMPORTANT: Start Point Sholing is a **nut free** zone. Please do not bring any food or products containing nuts into the building when visiting or attending training/information sessions.

PARKING: Parking at Start Point Sholing is available on the surrounding roads. The Car Park at Start Point Sholing is for staff only.

PRIVACY: Detailed information about the Council's handling of your personal data can be found in its privacy policy, available online (<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/privacy>), or on request.