



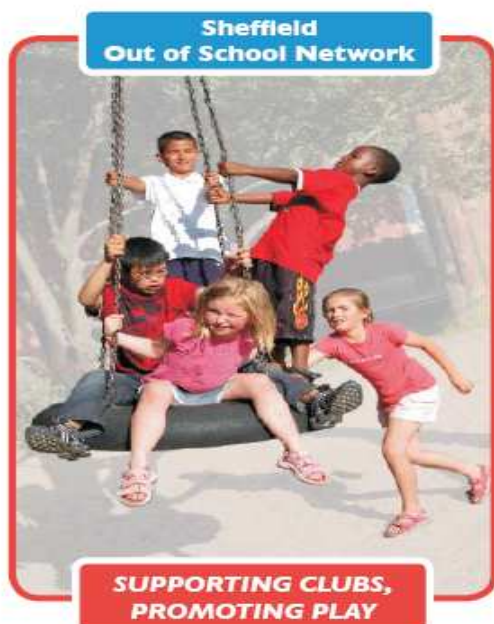
OSN : SUPPORTING CLUBS - PROMOTING PLAY

OSN meets Ed Balls, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families

OSN keeps up to date with current and emerging issues for the sector through membership of, and active participation in, relevant networks and policy groups. This enables us to effectively support the out of school play and playcare sector and to raise the profile of playwork.

As a director on the Board of Yorkshire Play, OSN's Training Manager Lynda Ray recently had the opportunity along with colleagues from Yorkshire Play to meet in Leeds for a discussion with Ed Balls, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families.

Discussion topics ranged from the future of playwork support structures to issues around the children's workforce, particularly around the training of those not working in registered provision, and how the government can encourage schools to take play seriously, whilst fulfilling the Extended Schools agenda.



Following his visit the Secretary of State provided a written response to some of the questions raised and echoed the views of those present that the meeting had been rewarding and a great opportunity to discuss issues relating to play.

.....DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.....

OSN's AGM will be held on **Thursday 5th February 2009** at the **Quaker Meeting House**.

Watch out for details in the New Year on our website

.....DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.....

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Funding Information and advice
Ofsted Complaints procedures
OSN plans a new website!
Food Standards - FAQ's

TRAINING NEWS

Training Course Updates
Winter Craft Share
Playwork training at level 4
Dare to Wear Pink Day!
EYFS Training workshops



Funding information and advice

Many clubs ask us what funding is available for out of school clubs. This isn't always easy to answer as most funding for children's activities is targeted towards addressing disadvantage, poverty and deprivation, often for activities that are free of charge, and many organisations that provide grants directly, state that they do not fund out of school clubs.

Grant funding can be available, in some circumstances, for out of school clubs that are managed by a voluntary management committee.

Smaller grants for **one-off events** or **equipment** are easier to obtain and available from local sources such as a neighbourhood community chest or one of the local charitable trusts based in Sheffield.

Larger grants have a more detailed application and monitoring process. A more structured business planning approach is required and you will need to be certain that your club has the expertise, time and commitment to meet the funders' requirements.

Support, guidance and training to make a good funding application are available for community and voluntary organisations in Sheffield. The OSN business development team can signpost you to organisations that can help.

Other useful sources of information are :

Funding Forum meetings

Usually held from 11am to 1.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, Sheffield (by the Cathedral). Between 10.30am and 11am there is a chance to get a cup of tea and network with other voluntary and community groups.

Funding News is available to download from www.syfab.org.uk

For a paper copy contact Sheffield City Council Voluntary Sector Liaison Team vslt@sheffield.gov.uk / tel. 0114 273 4113.



Sustainability Funding

Robust financial management systems will provide your club with an early warning system to identify potential cash flow shortfalls. You may have had a fall in occupancy or your costs may have increased - whatever the reason, measures need to be put in place to address the situation as soon as possible.

Supporting you to look at your business planning and marketing strategy is a key role for the business development team. The earlier that plans are put in place to ensure the club is financially viable the less likely it will be that the club may close. In some situations short term funding is necessary to ensure the club is able to remain open while work is undertaken to increase occupancy, review expenditure and fee levels.

If you are concerned about your financial viability please contact the OSN business development team for more information about what you can do to improve your cash flow and if necessary how to apply for sustainability funding.

Changes to the National Minimum Wage

Have you updated your workers pay rates?



The new rates of the National Minimum Wage from 1 October 2008 are:

- £5.73 per hour for workers aged 22 years and older
- £4.77 per hour for workers aged 18-21 inclusive
- £3.53 per hour for workers under the age of 18, who are no longer of compulsory school age

For more about the minimum wage contact the Business Development Team on 0114 2494941.

Changes to Ofsted's Complaints Procedure

If a parent or carer makes a formal, written complaint that relates to the registration requirements.

Childcare providers on the **EY Register** must:

- carry out an investigation **and**
- provide an account of the findings within **28 days**

Childcare providers on the **Childcare Register**, both Compulsory and Voluntary parts, must:

- carry out an investigation **and**
- provide an account of the findings within **20 days**

Ofsted say that providers who are on more than one register, should follow the timescale relevant to the age of the child in question.

OSN recommends that clubs check their complaints policy and amend them in line with the regulations.



OSN News.....

OSN will close for Christmas at the end of Tuesday 23rd December and will open again for business on Monday 5th January 2009. **Seasons greetings to you all, from all at OSN.**

OSN welcomed Phil Eddyshaw to our Development team on 3rd November. Phil will be working part-time as a Business Development Officer to cover Jenny Cannon's maternity leave, initially until March 2008.



It's a Girl! Congratulations to Jenny Cannon from our Development team on the birth of Eleanor Mary, who was born on 13th October and weighed a healthy 9lb 4oz.

BBC Children In Need Funding - New deadlines

At a recent Funding Forum meeting attended by OSN Business Development Officer Yanina Koszalinski, Elaine James from BBC Children in Need highlighted some forthcoming changes. The new-style BBC Children in Need website provides much more detailed information and guidance to assist you with your application. It's well worth a look before making an application and you can also complete your form and apply online at www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants



There are now **4 deadlines a year**. The timescales are:

| Submission Date: | Awarded By: |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 15 January | End of April |
| 15 April | End of July |
| 15 July | End of October |
| 15 October | End of January |

Please note: For organisations with an income of £5k or more a year you **must** be a registered charity or in the process of becoming one.

EYFS Update and Ofsted Inspections

Following the introduction of the EYFS in September 2008, out of school providers are working to the new framework and OFSTED have begun their new cycle of inspections.

We know of 4 clubs to date who have been inspected. Of these, 3 have received 'Good' outcomes and 1 has received a 'Satisfactory' outcome.

OSN's rolling programme of EYFS training has been well received by the many out of school providers who have already accessed it, and workshops to support providers to adapt their existing good practice to the requirements of the new framework are continuing into the new year.

See page 7 for details of workshop dates and to find out more just give us a call.

Developing a new OSN website!

OSN is currently developing a new website which we hope to launch soon.

The new website will retain all the current features that you use and enjoy, but in an updated format. It will also include new features such as a **password protected members area** which will enable you to access all the latest tools and resources at the touch of a button.

Watch out for news of the launch in the new year.



School food trust standards - Frequently asked questions

From **September 2008** the new food standards came into force. The standards cover all food sold or served in primary schools.

Further information, including the lists of restricted and unrestricted foods, can be found on the School Food Trust website www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk or by phoning **0844 800 9048**.



Below are answers to some of your **FAQ's**, sourced from school food trust website and Michael Bullock from the School Food Trust.

- **Do after school clubs run by private providers have to comply with the standards?**

If an after school club and/or breakfast club is on **school** premises and operates on a normal school day before 6 pm, they **must** comply with the standards. The standards do **not** apply to holiday clubs, even those located on school premises.

- **Why aren't processed fruit bars allowed, especially as they can provide one of the 5 a day?**

Usually the physical form of the fruit has changed, so it is worse for teeth and does not contain many of the nutrients that fruit does (e.g. fibre). We want to encourage children to eat fruit in its natural form.

- **Are after school clubs allowed to serve homemade cookies, flapjacks or croissants?**

These are classed as either cakes or biscuits and can only be provided at lunchtime. They are not permitted at any other time of the school day.

- **Can children at an after school club still take part in cooking/baking activities, even if they include food that is restricted or no longer allowed?**

Yes, however it is recommended that, if the food does not meet the standards, it should be taken home to be eaten. Although it is good practice to allow children the experience of cooking a variety of items, it is recommended that children are given the opportunity to learn how to cook healthier items.

- **Can children bring in their own snack and eat it during the after school club, even if it is an item that is listed in the food standards as no longer allowed?**

If a parent provides food and drink for their own child it does not have to meet the standards. However, the after school club, breakfast club or the school may insist that such food and drink follows the standards and so become part of a consistent approach to healthy eating.

- **We understand that diluted squash and cordial drinks are no longer allowed, what kind of drinks can we provide instead?**

Fresh drinking water should be available at all times in the after school club. Other drinks that can be provided are skimmed and semi skimmed milk, fruit and vegetable juices, plain yogurt, sparkling or still water. These can be used in combination so long as the fruit or vegetable juice content is at least 50% and contains no added natural or artificial sweeteners or additives.

- **Can we celebrate festivals and special occasions with traditional food and refreshments?**

Yes, parties or celebrations to mark religious or cultural occasions such as Christmas, Diwali, Hanukah and Eid are exempt.



Playwork Training - Calling all Playworkers!

The OSN training team are now interviewing prospective students for enrolment onto the **January 2009** intake of our qualifications programme.

We deliver a varied **Playwork training** programme at all levels and whether you are a Playworker, a Club Co-ordinator or a Deputy we have the right course to meet the needs of your role and to suit your personal preferences!

For those who currently hold a Level 3 Childcare Qualification we offer the **Transition Award from Early Years and Childcare to Playwork**, enabling you to extend your knowledge and skills and

achieve an award in Playwork at level 3 within one year.

We offer the **NVQ in Playwork** at levels 2, 3 and 4 and **Diplomas and Certificates in Playwork** at Levels 2 and 3.

NVQs are assessed through direct observation within a play setting combined with evidence such as written reflections, whereas Certificates and Diplomas are assignment based and offer a great alternative for those who prefer this way of learning.

Whichever route you decide to take, your OSN Assessor will guide you along the way.

For an informal interview/ further information about any of our courses, please contact Lynda Ray or Sandra Jessop on 2494941.

OSN Winter Craft Share

Come along to our 'Open Forum' with a difference!.

Call in and enjoy coffee and mince pies and share or try ideas for winter crafts and activities.

This will be a great opportunity to do a bit of informal networking with people from other out of school clubs and to talk to OSN staff about issues that matter to you as a playworker or a club manager.

Drop in between 10 and 12 noon on Thursday 11th December, at OSN offices on Meetinghouse Lane.





Club Managers - FREE NVQ Level 4 training!

Anyone who manages an after school club would benefit from undertaking an NVQ at Level 4 in Playwork. We are currently in a position to access funding for this award for those who meet certain criteria.

The Level 4 qualification is suitable for anyone in a management, senior practitioner, or quality development role within the play sector, such as, after school club managers, and youth group leaders.

The next course starts in January and places are booking up fast. So if you are interested in undertaking the Level 4 award, please contact OSN on 2494941 for further details.

OSN 'Dare to Wear Pink' day

On Monday 3rd November OSN participated in the Dare to Wear Pink Day, when OSN staff and students dressed in pink, donated towards a raffle and sold pink buns to raise £90 for breast cancer research.



We would like to say a big thank you to all the staff and students who took part and made the event a success. Extra special thanks go to OSN's Daniel Clark for organising the event.

EYFS Training Dates at OSN - The next round of workshops are:-

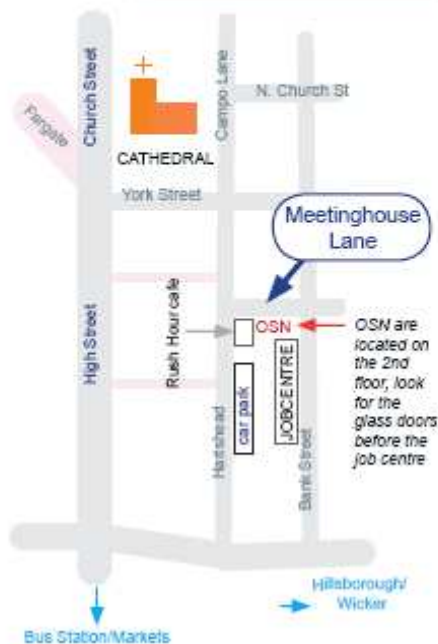
| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Unique Child | 13 Jan 09 | Unique Child | 18 Mar 09 |
| R U Ready for your EYFS Inspection | 22 Jan 09 | Positive Relationships | 31 Mar 09 |
| Enabling Environments | 29 Jan 09 | Enabling Environments | 24 Apr 09 |
| Completing your Ofsted SEF | 3 Feb 09 | Learning & Development | 7 May 09 |
| Positive Relationships | 11 Feb 09 | | |
| Completing your Ofsted SEF | 26 Feb 09 | | |
| Learning & Development | 6 Mar 09 | | |
| R U Ready for your EYFS Inspection | 12 Mar 09 | | |

Workshops are FREE
to book a place call Danny on
0114 2494941



Map

Address: 6-8 Meetinghouse Lane
Sheffield S1 2DP



Disclaimer

No representation is being made as to the timeliness of the information contained within this newsletter, nor that it will be error free.

OSN makes reasonable efforts to include up-to-date and accurate information but makes no representations, warranties, or assurances as to the accuracy or completeness of the information provided.

OSN shall not be liable for damages or injury resulting from any reliance on any information provided.

Views are expressed in a personal capacity and not necessarily those of the editor or OSN itself.

Credits

OSN is supported by:



| | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| Sheffield Out of School Network | www.osn.org.uk | 0114 249 4941 |
| Sheffield Information Link | www.sheffinfolink.org.uk | 0114 275 6699 |
| Creating More Balance | www.cmb.org.uk | |
| Voluntary Action Sheffield (VAS) | www.vas.org.uk | 0114 249 3360 |
| Special Needs Inclusion Project (SNIP) | | 0114 273 4017 |
| Activity Sheffield (casual staff cover) | www.sheffield.gov.uk | 0114 273 5314 |
| South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB) | www.syfab.org.uk | 0114 249 4343 |
| Awards For All | www.awardsforall.org.uk | 0113 224 5345 |
| Big Lottery | www.biglotteryfund.org.uk | 0845 410 2030 |
| Sheffield City Council Small Grants | www.sheffield.gov.uk | 0114 273 4113 |
| South Yorkshire Community Foundation | www.sycf.org.uk | 0114 242 4294 |
| OFSTED Helpline | www.ofsted.gov.uk | 0845 6 404040 |
| OFSTED Complaints Helpline | | 0845 6 404040 |
| Working Tax Credit Helpline | www.hmrc.gov.uk | 0845 300 3900 |
| ACAS Helpline | www.acas.org.uk | 0845 747 4747 |
| Charity Commission | www.charity-commission.gov.uk | 0845 300 0218 |
| Companies House Contact Centre | www.companieshouse.gov.uk | 0870 333 3636 |
| Inland Revenue (new employers) | www.hmrc.gov.uk | 0845 607 0143 |
| Children's Hospital | www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk | 0114 271 7000 |
| Royal Hallamshire Hospital | www.sth.nhs.uk | 0114 271 1900 |
| Northern General Hospital | www.sth.nhs.uk | 0114 243 4343 |
| Jessop Wing | www.sth.nhs.uk | 0114 271 1900 |
| Charles Clifford Dental Hospital | www.sth.nhs.uk | 0114 271 7800 |
| ChildLine | www.childline.org.uk | 0800 1111 |
| NSPCC | www.nspcc.org.uk | 0808 800 5000 |
| Social Services & Child Protection Referrals | www.sheffield.gov.uk | 0114 273 4855 |
| Safety Net | www.sheffieldsafetynet.gov.uk | 0114 273 5029 |

