



OSN : SUPPORTING CLUBS - PROMOTING PLAY

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Network News.

The Comprehensive Spending Review has now been published and you will no doubt already be considering what this and other policy changes mean for the Out of School and Play sector and how it will impact on you as providers.

Funding to local councils has been cut (reducing each year for the next four years) and although funding for Sure Start will continue, ring fencing of the early years and childcare grant will be removed from April 2011. At the time of writing there is limited guidance from the government, but it appears that funding will be focused on supporting the needs of disadvantaged families. The challenge for the local authority and for providers will be delivering high quality universal services with reduced resources and building affordable, sustainable services as changes to child benefit and childcare tax credits affect families' ability to pay for childcare.

OSN will endeavour to keep you informed and abreast of changes via the news section of our website.

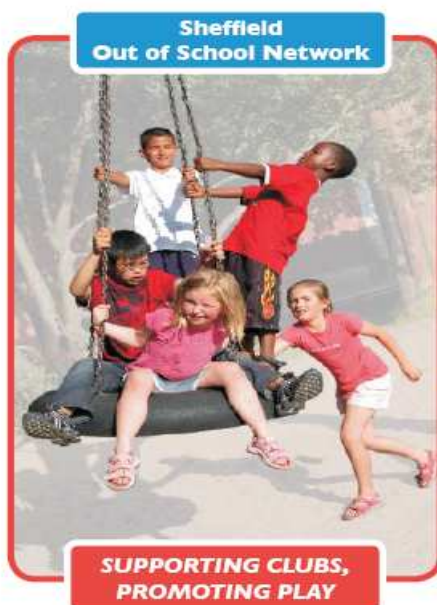
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

- Charter for Quality
- Safeguarding Policy
- Ofsted Updates
- Serious Case Review News
- Safer Recruitment Pack launched
- New Minimum Wage Rates

TRAINING NEWS

- OSN Training dates
- National Play Day Review
- New Qualifications Framework
- Inclusion Training



Providers will recently have been notified via OSN's e-bulletin service of events being held on 8th December and 15th January by Sheffield's Children and Young Peoples Service. These will bring together providers, partners, councillors and senior officers to begin to plan how, in the context of changes in funding and policy, services can best be reshaped to make the most difference for young children across the city. We would urge you to take this opportunity to contribute your views. For more information about these events please see our website or contact the Development Team on 0114 2494941

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

OSN's AGM and Awards Celebration will be held on **Thursday 10th February 2011.**

Watch out for details on our website in the New Year



Charter for Quality—the first Awards are made!

Raising Attainment and Aspirations is a key objective within Sheffield's 0-5 Strategy which recommends the use of the Charter for Quality as a tool to inspire and influence the delivery of the best possible practice for children in Sheffield settings.

The Charter confirms the standards for recognition of 'high quality' within settings in Sheffield, valuing the broad range of provision and celebrating the contribution all different settings make. The Charter for Quality is promoted as Sheffield's Quality Assurance across the full range of provision and different versions have been produced which recognise and reflect the specific requirements for different types of provision, including Out of School provision. A version of the Charter aimed at short break providers is currently being written.



The application process for the Quality Charter Award is straightforward — settings express their interest in undertaking the award and an introductory visit is then arranged to assess the settings readiness. The setting completes a template detailing evidence of their practice which supports their application after which an assessment visit is made to audit, verify and test the information provided. A report, with recommendations, is produced by the lead assessor and goes to a cross-sector moderation panel for scrutiny and a decision as to whether an award can be made or the application should be deferred for re-submission.

The recent moderation panel **awarded the Charter for Quality** to :-

Ann's Grove Primary School,

Darnall Community Nursery

Meersbrook Park ASC

Slinn Street Starters

Westways ASC

4 individual childminders

Well done to all of these providers!

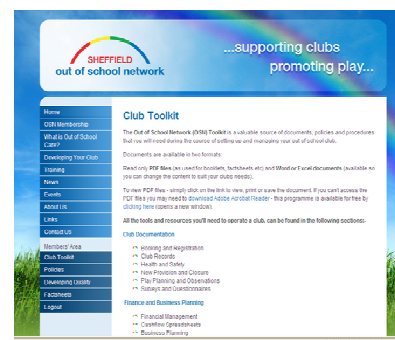
If you wish to undertake the Charter for Quality, please contact the Development Team (Tel: 249 4941) to make an appointment for your initial visit.

OSN launch new Website and Membership Package

OSN's new look website was launched on 3rd September. It's packed full of features to help support the running of your out of school club, including a secure members' only area, giving you easy access to our extensive range of tools, documents and policies.

For more information and a list of members benefits go to www.osn.org.uk

To become an OSN member and access the members' only area and other benefits, including 10% discount on Morton Michel insurance, complete a membership form, which you will find on our website, and return with payment to OSN.



Our membership officer will send you an OSN members' pack including your membership certificate, username and password allowing access to the members' only area and a list of all other benefits.



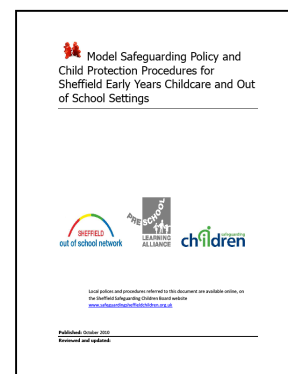
New OSC Safeguarding Policy

On Wednesday 17 November Sheffield Out of School Network was the host for the launch of Sheffield Safeguarding Children's Board's new Model Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Procedures for Early Years Childcare and Out of School Settings. Over 60 people participated in three separate sessions taking place throughout the day. The sessions were facilitated by the Safeguarding Children Advisors (Early Years).

The model policy and procedures was produced in partnership with Sheffield Out of School Network and the Pre-School Learning Alliance and is designed to cover the EYFS Welfare requirements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Due to demand, an additional session is being held on **Tuesday 25th January 2011** at the Sheffield City Council, Moorfoot building on the Moor. The new model policy and procedures is available on OSN's website and at www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org.uk

If you would like help and advice to update your safeguarding children policy and procedures please contact the development team on 0114 249 4941 or email Zoe or Yanina in the Development Team.



Recommendations from the Serious Case Review at 'Nursery Z'

A serious case review was recently published by Plymouth Safeguarding Children Board following abuse by a worker at a nursery in Plymouth. The review looked at the individual and organisational practices of the nursery and made a number of recommendations, both local and national.

Some of the findings of the serious case review include:

- Importance of 1:1 supervision from a trained supervisor
- Need for safer recruitment procedures
- Importance of having clear safeguarding policies and procedures
- Importance of up to date staff training in safeguarding and child protection
- Knowledge and understanding of the responsibilities of management committee members

To enable out of school clubs in Sheffield to have robust systems in place OSN provides guidance on policies and procedures, management of clubs and leadership and management training covering appraisals and 1:1s, know your team and team communication.

For more information or to book onto any of these courses please contact us on 0114 249 4941.

Information on safeguarding training can be found at www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org.uk

Ofsted Updates

Transfer of inspections to a private company

From 1st September 2010 all day-to-day inspection and registration visits have transferred to Tribal Group Plc and Prospect Services Ltd (Prospect will be mainly covering provision in the Sheffield area). The majority of inspectors who carry out the visits will have transferred from Ofsted and have good expertise and strong knowledge of early years, any new inspectors will be expected to be experienced and qualified for the work.

Ofsted will remain the main point of contact for general enquiries about registration, inspection, compliance, enforcement, complaints, fees and all other enquiries.

Ofsted alerts

Ofsted offer a free email alert service to keep you in touch with relevant updates. Emails include alerts about inspection reports, publications, forms and guidance, news and press releases. You can choose which emails you want to receive and their frequency. This is a useful way of keeping up to date with Ofsted requirements and guidance. For further information and to subscribe use the subscribe button on the Ofsted website homepage.

Ofsted factsheets

Ofsted have recently started producing a number of very helpful factsheets, including requirements for risk assessments, are you ready for your inspection and committee run childcare provision. You can access many of these factsheets on our website, new ones are sent via Ofsted alerts and all are available on the Ofsted website www.ofsted.gov.uk

National Play Day 2010



This year the theme for Play Day 2010 was Our Place and thousands of children, parents, friends and families came along to join in the fun at Hillsborough Park on a slightly damp Wednesday in August.

It was a very busy day for OSN staff. We took car loads of sticks, canes, fabric, netting, cardboard boxes and an assortment of loose parts. Out of all this children created a variety of structures. Wigwam tents were very popular but there was also a Tardis and a graffiti wall.



OSN's 'Our Place' was popular with all ages, it was refreshing to see children and adults playing together, building structures. It was good to catch up with playworkers - past and present, as many of you stopped by to say hello.



Now we have all recovered we're looking forward to Play Day 2011!



QUALIFICATIONS UPDATE

2010 saw a huge change in the formal qualifications system (the old NVQ system) with new qualification standards being introduced across all levels. All qualifications now come under the structure of Qualification Credit Framework (QCF) and all courses have credit values and guided learning hours recommendations. The new awards are designed so the learner can build up their qualifications in small chunks from the smallest chunk (an Award), moving onto the middle chunk (a Certificate) and then to the full award (a Diploma).

Everyone Can Play

For playworkers with an understanding of play, who are interested in exploring issues of disability discrimination and developing an inclusive play setting.

The course consists of 5 x 2.5hrs, with 2 courses planned to take place on:-

8th & 15th Feb, 1st, 8th & 15th March
or
9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th June, 7th July

Contact OSN for more details or to book!

At the same time that changes were being made to the qualifications framework, the Learning Skills Council (LSC) which had been funding qualifications, was dissolved and replaced by two organisations - the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) and the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) which now regulates and funds the adult learning sector.

The combined affect of these changes caused some difficulties for Playworker Training organisations and for potential playwork candidates.

The biggest issue for OSN has been how to secure funding for the new playwork qualifications - nationally, colleges and other training organisations were reporting that, with cuts to its budget, Playwork did not appear to be a priority for the SFA. Yorkshire Play, OSN and other

Playwork Training organisations have been campaigning alongside Skills Active to highlight the issues and working together to find a solution.

On a positive note, funding for Apprenticeships is available and again we are working together with Skills Active to make the apprenticeship route more accessible for Playworkers. It is with anticipation we look forward to the next few months where we expect a light at the end of the Playwork training tunnel!

In 2011 we will be enrolling learners onto our playwork training programme, comprising:-

- Level 2 & 3 Diplomas (NVQ) in Playwork
- Level 3 Award in Playwork for Early Years & Childcare Workers
- Level 4 in Playwork

We are also hopeful of securing funding to deliver the new Award at Level 2 and Certificates at Level 2 & 3 in Playwork - watch this space!

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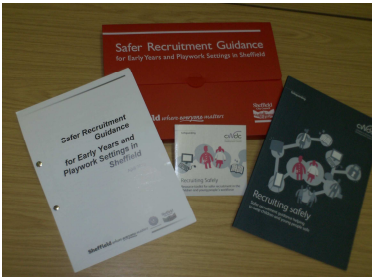
CWDC has confirmed that the new playwork diplomas (NVQ) at both Levels 2 & 3 meet the mandatory 'full and relevant' criteria on the Early Years Qualifications List. This fulfils the Ofsted requirements, enabling holders to work in settings on the Early Years Register. Employers managing settings on the EYR or OCR or those not required to register, will find this an enormous benefit as these qualifications reflect a play-centred approach to the work.

New starters for February 2011, are currently being interviewed and enrolled onto courses - why not contact the Training Team to make an appointment now, to discuss your individual requirement!



SAFER RECRUITMENT PACK UPDATED

The Safer Recruitment Guidance first issued in October 2007 has been updated and is now in a practical box file pack format. The updated pack takes into account all the new safeguarding legislation and good practice. Copies were available at the recent Provider briefing session, with further copies being available for settings through Sheffield Information Link (SIL) on Leopold Street.



Safer recruitment training is also available to enable out of school clubs and early years settings take all possible steps to prevent unsuitable people from working with children. The training will look at best practice approaches, providing practical strategies and tools to help with safer recruitment processes.

The training is free and will be delivered by Sheffield Information Link as part of the Sheffield Early Years Welfare Requirement Training Programme.

Places are limited but there are still some available on the following dates:

Wednesday 19th January 2011 9:30—11.30 or Tuesday 15th February 2011 9.30—11.30

Sheffield Town Hall

Centre in the Park

To book a place please email workforcedevelopment@sheffield.gov.uk

Sheffield City Council is additionally offering accredited Safer Recruitment training provided by Children's Workforce Development Council CWDC.

The course is designed to support you in creating a safer culture by helping you deter and identify unsuitable applicants, as well as looking at ways to create a culture in which safeguarding is embedded into the day-to-day life of your out of school club or nursery.

The course will look at:

- Offender behaviour and how to recognise potential warning signs earlier.
- Key stages of recruitment and how to deter unsuitable applicants at the very beginning of any process.
- Your current policies and practices and how to ensure these are robust, transparent and available to all.
- How to ensure your organisation is a safer place for all your children .

The fee for this course is £150 per delegate. This covers course delivery from two CWDC accredited trainers, lunch, refreshments and all course materials. For further information, please contact Scott Glover on 0114 293 0924 or email scott.glover@sheffield.gov.uk.

New National Minimum Wage from October 2010

The government has extended the adult minimum wage rate to 21-year-olds from October 2010.

National Minimum Wage hourly rates have increased from:

£5.80 to £5.93	aged 21 and over
£4.83 to £4.92	aged 18 - 20 years
£3.57 to £3.64	aged 16 - 17 years

Training for Inclusive Play

The **Special Needs Inclusion Playcare Service** is running a series of training workshops during **January – March 2011**. The training is free of charge and refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to book places on any of the workshops, or would like further information please contact SNIPS, Heather Ede on 273 4017 or e-mail at heather.ede@sheffield.gov.uk

Children's Participation—Getting to Know Me

Thursday 13 January and Thursday 10 March
10 am—11.30am

Producing Getting to Know Me information is a positive way to receive information about a child's interests, likes and dislikes, and aspirations

Care and Support to Individual Children and Young People—Working With Me Documents

Wednesday 26 January
10am—12 noon or 6pm—8pm
Monday 7 February or Friday 4 March
10am—12noon

Using Visual Communication Aids

Thursday 10 February
10am—12noon

Working with Children with Autism or ADHD in a play environment

Wednesday 9 March
10am—12 noon or 6pm—8pm

Siblings of Children with Disabilities—Awareness Raising

Saturday 12 March and Tuesday 15 March
10am—12 noon

Team Teach Training

Thursday 13 and Friday 14 January
9.30am—4.30pm
Applicants must be able to attend on both days

Behaviour Management Training Levels 1 and 2

Monday 10 and Monday 17 January
6pm—9pm

Leadership and Management 1 day courses

Free training for managers and co-ordinators, using the Continuous Professional Development Toolkit. We have one free copy of the toolkit available for individual clubs.

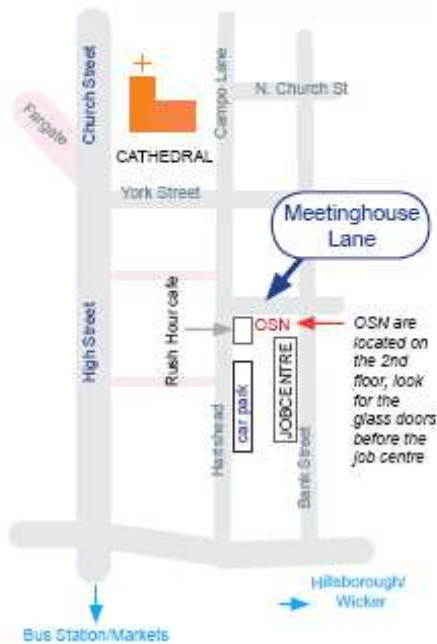
All sessions are at OSN

Appraisals & 1:1s:	Friday 4 March 2011 10am - 2pm
Know your team:	Friday 11 March 2011 10am - 2pm
Team Communication:	Friday 18 March 2011 10am—12.30 pm NEW!



Map

Address: 6-8 Meetinghouse Lane
Sheffield S1 2DP



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Creating More Balance	www.cmb.org.uk	
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Special Needs Inclusion Project (SNIP)		0114 273 4017
Activity Sheffield (casual staff cover)	www.sheffield.gov.uk	0114 273 5314
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Awards For All	www.awardsforall.org.uk	0113 224 5345
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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
Sheff. Safeguarding Children Board	www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org.uk	0114 273 4450