

## **Early Years Foundation Stage 2 Year Old Provision SEND Information for Families**

In addition to the support for all learners on the mainstream campuses the following support is also available at the NCEA Early Years Centres at:

- Thomas Bewick Early Years Centre
- Lynemouth Early Years Centre,
- Robert Stephenson Early Years Centre

### **What the NCEA Early Years Centres setting provide.**

Each of our Early Years Centres provides up to fifteen hours of early years provision for children for three terms following their second birthday. Children who meet the criteria for the two year old funded entitlement will access their place for free. Limited places may be available to fee paying children. The provision is sessional and operates term time only. This consists of three hours per day, five days a week.

We offer a nurturing environment where children will experience exciting opportunities to learn and develop their understanding of their world in a warm and caring environment. All our settings have well qualified staff that recognise the potential of every child and will plan play based activities that will meet their individual needs. We believe every child has the potential to succeed and it is our responsibility to unlock that potential of those who need additional support through outstanding provision. We are committed to the total inclusion of all children and support them and their families to achieve this where ever possible.

We work closely with partners in the Community (Children's Centre) and Health and Social care to help us achieve our aim.

### **What areas do we cover?**

Our Early Years Centres are based on Northumberland Church of England Academy (NCEA) sites and serve the communities of Ashington and Lynemouth. We welcome children both from within NCEA catchment areas and others outside of the area who may wish to access the nurturing provision we offer.

### **Who does our service provide?**

Our Early Years Centres offer fifteen hours of care and early learning per week to children. This will commence the term following their second birthday. This can be for up to three terms or until the child is eligible for a maintained nursery place. Children who meet the criteria for the two year old funded entitlement will access their place for free. Limited places may be available to fee paying children.

### **How can I start using the NCEA Early Years Centres?**

Parents and carers or professionals who are working with the family may contact the Early Years Centres or may make enquiries through the main Academy reception. Each Early Years Centre welcomes visits from parents and professionals. Children

who are eligible for the two year old funded entitlement will be asked for proof of eligibility, but our staff will support you in acquiring this if you are eligible. Children who do not meet the eligibility criteria for funding will be offered a fee paying place if available. Personal budgets can be used to provide support to enhance the provision for the child through funding additional support or appropriate resources to ensure that each child is able to benefit fully from their experiences within the Early Years Centres.

### **How are decisions made about who can use the NCEA Early Years Centres?**

The Northumberland Church of England Academy Early Years Centres are open to all children. Discussions with the wider professional team will determine that we are able to provide the most appropriate learning environment to meet the needs of your child. Parents and carers will be included in all discussions and will be supported in their understanding of how decisions are made.

### **At the NCEA Early Years Centres we have a range of specialist staff who receive specialist training.**

At the NCEA we have a range of specialist staff employed to support learners on the mainstream campuses and this is reflected in our Early Years Centres. Children with additional needs at the NCEA are usually supported by staff who have specialist knowledge, qualifications or experience in the area of their needs. All senior staff have been trained in ELKLAN – an early speech and language support programme as we recognise the importance of supporting children with their communication skills from an early age. We employ a full time speech and language therapist who works with the staff to meet the learning and development needs of the children.

In addition we also work in partnership with external agencies, such as Portage, Health Visitors and the Early Years Inclusion Consultant at Northumberland County Council to meet the wider needs of our learners. In the Early Years Centres we have adopted the Local Authority Northumberland Early Years Inclusion Toolkit policy for inclusion. All staff are trained to use the Toolkit, which is a comprehensive resource to support inclusive practice and provides clear procedures to ensure the child, parents/carers and other professionals are involved in the process.

#### **Julie Beattie**

Early Years Inclusion Consultant  
Northumberland County Council  
Well Being and Community Health Service  
Education and Skills  
Ashington Children's Centre  
Ashington  
NE63 9EF  
Tel:- 01670 841123  
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**Health Visitor:** is a qualified nurse or midwife with post-registration experience who has undertaken further training and education in child health, health promotion, public health and education. Health visitors work as part of a primary healthcare

team, assessing the health needs of individuals, families and the wider community. They aim to promote good health and prevent illness by offering practical help and advice.

**Portage** is a home teaching service for pre-school children with additional needs. It helps parents and carers to support their child's learning. The Northumberland Portage Service works with children birth to five years, where there are significant delays in at least two areas of development.

The role involves working within a community setting, often visiting people in their own homes. It primarily involves supporting new parents and pre-school children. Working as a health visitor may also include tackling the impact of social inequality on health and working closely with at-risk or deprived groups.

### **Who can I contact for further information?**

Should you wish to discuss any concerns about your child you should speak to your child's Key Person in the first instance.

### **Address and contact details:**

Philippa Whynacht – Deputy Manager  
Thomas Bewick Early Years Centre  
Moorhouse lane  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 9LP  
Telephone number 01670 812075

Kirsty Ratnayake – Acting Deputy Manager  
Lynemouth Early Years Centre  
Eden Terrace  
Lynemouth  
Northumberland  
NE61 5DD  
Telephone number 01670 861143

Linzi Dickson-Deputy Manager  
Robert Stephenson Early Years Centre  
Thorntree Gardens  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 9TA  
Telephone number 01670 816111

Support can also be provided by the Deputy of the Early Years Centre, Kirsty Norfolk (SENCo) and Early Years Centre Leader, or Clare Lishman, Early Years Director.

The appropriate member of staff will ensure that any concerns are dealt with in a swift and efficient manner, involving all relevant professionals and in the best interests of the child.

**How we communicate with our service users and how are they involved in decision making/planning?**

Parents, carers and our service users are given regular opportunities to comment on the service provided. This could be through questionnaires, open mornings, parent groups or an anonymous comment box located in each Early Years Centre. Staff will access support and advice on the service that we offer to all children from any other professionals involved in their care in order that we are able to meet the child's individual needs.