

Waltham Forest Early Years Festival 2021

Creativity and Recovery in the Early Years

Monday 24th – Thursday 27th May

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Welcome message from Elisha Brett, Deputy Head of Early Years

4.00pm – 4.15pm

Treasure Baskets with Georgina Lowin, Early Years Advisory Teacher

4.20pm – 5.00pm

Explore the delights of the treasure baskets and the benefits it brings to babies.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- Explore concepts behind the treasure basket and how it supports babies learning and development
- Consider the role of the adult at the treasure basket
- Develop observation skills, tuning into babies' interests, characteristics of effective learning and emerging schematic play
- Share ideas when creating your own treasure basket

Drawing on your creativity with Groundswell Arts

5.10pm - 6.00pm

Using sound, music and short Sound Mapping practical exercises, participants will explore a variety of ways the arts can be used during and after the pandemic to support the experiences of children and their families.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- To consider the benefits of personalised songwriting within early years through a brief Introduction to the Sing Our Story* programme.
- To explore practical exercises, drawing to sounds, and creating small scores to provide practical tools for music making within EY settings.

* ['Sing Our Story'](#), is a parental engagement programme, currently being delivered through the EYSS training package.

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Tuesday 25th May

Magic Behaviour Management with Katie L'Aimable & Marie Gentles - Co- Founders

4.00 – 4.40pm

Magic Behaviour Management created the ABC theory, for until you know how to physically and emotionally contain a child or young person, you won't be able to understand their behaviour as communication and in order to do both, an attachment has to be formed. Therefore, until you can understand how and why they communicate in the way they do, only then will you successfully be able to implement behaviour management strategies that measure impact and continued success. Alongside this we will provide opportunities to share useful strategies that can be used in your home or setting as well as allowing time to answer any questions.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- To understand the importance of physical and emotional containment, that behaviour is a language of communication and the need for secure attachments when working with children and young people.
- To learn new strategies that can be used in your home or setting.

Home Learning with Sue Grace, Early Years Advisory Teacher

4.45pm – 5.25pm

This session will focus on supporting home learning for families with a focus on the outdoors and developing C&L and PD. We will be looking at how we can ensure responsive interactions and share our strategies/ideas to support settings to get outside as much as possible and support families further with home learning.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- To share ideas to support responsive interactions
- Explore ideas and resources to support home learning with a focus on developing Communication and Language and Physical Development.
- Consider emotional well-being and ways to support settings to support families during this difficult time.

Early Help with Nicki Papadaki, Early Help Co-ordinator

5.30 – 6.00pm

This session will support practitioners to understand Early Help and their role within it.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- Explore Waltham Forest's tier system and levels of needs
- Develop their professional skills to have 'quality conversations' using Think Family principles.



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Wednesday 26th May

Tales Toolkit with Kate Shelley from Tales Toolkit and Helen Currie, Headteacher of Church Hill Nursery.

4.00 – 4.40pm

Tales Toolkit develops many areas of learning, skills and characteristics of effective learning including language, literacy, social skills, creativity, confidence, empathy, boys writing, problem solving, maths and lots more.

Practitioners will have opportunities to;

- Find out more about the Tales Toolkit programme
- Hear how one setting is using Tales Toolkit to support their children's learning, development and well-being.
- Find out about the [Waltham Forest Tales Toolkit funding offer](#)

Sensory Learning with Angela Lenton, Early Years Advisory Teacher

4.45pm – 5.25pm

This session will explore what sensory learning is and look at the positive impact sensory learning experiences can have on all children's development and behaviour, including those with SEND. This session will give early years practitioners the opportunity to explore practical sensorial learning activities, which can be recreated in settings.

As well as looking at the benefits of sensory learning, this session will also explore some of the sensory processing difficulties children experience and ways to support these.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- Explore sensory learning and the benefits it has on children's development.
- Explore practical ideas of activities to support sensory learning that can be recreated in settings.
- Gain an understanding of how sensory learning can support children with SEND.
- Support practitioners with understanding sensory processing difficulties children may have and top tips to support them

Delivering Interventions for Language and Communication with All Talk- Speech and Language Therapists Helen Malique and Sian Rees

5.30pm- 6.00pm

This talk will cover language and communication delay and the importance of early identification. We will explore strategies and interventions to support children with speech, language and communication needs

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- Hear about the impact of speech, language and communication difficulties and early identification
- Consider the importance of adult-child interaction on speech, language and communication skill development
- Identify positive interaction strategies and interventions to support the development of children's language and communication skills



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Thursday 27th May

EYFS Profile – Expressive Arts and Design with Susan Hodgson EYFSP Moderation Manager 10.00 – 11.00am, 1.30pm – 2.30pm, 4.00- 5.00pm

[Book on to workshop here](#)

The workshop will provide practitioners with an opportunity to develop a better understanding on how to gather evidence to support assessment judgements for expressive arts and design.

The workshop will include:

- Principles and processes of the EYFS profile for evidence gathering
- An opportunity to explore how the learning environment can be organised to support evidence gathering for EAD

Practitioners will:

- Have a shared understanding of the Understanding the world and Expressive arts and design early learning goals
- Be confident to make accurate judgements relating to the development stages for Understanding the world and Expressive arts and design early learning goals
- Develop a focus on pedagogy to support children to be creative learners

Practitioner Wellbeing with Educational Psychologist Felicity Wallace

5.05 – 5.50pm

The session will give an overview of staff wellbeing in the context of Early Years. It will then introduce and use models of wellbeing to give you an opportunity to reflect upon your current wellbeing and plan for ways in which you might improve it.

Practitioners will have opportunities to:

- To understand wellbeing in the Early Years and what it means to you.
- To use a model of wellbeing to reflect upon your personal current state.
- To have the opportunity to plan for ways in which you could improve your wellbeing.

Closing message with Georgina Lowin, Early Years Advisory Teacher

Take a moment to reflect on the festival's key messages and hear about future information and training opportunities from the Waltham Forest Early Years Team.

5.50 – 6.00pm