



Hello and welcome to The EY Circle, PACEY's monthly newsletter, bringing the early years sector closer together.

The upcoming UK general election is now less than a week away, offering a key opportunity for you to vote to choose your government leader to represent the public.

As early years and childcare professionals you are likely to be interested in the plans from the next government to shape the early years and childcare sector and give children the best start in life.

In this issue of The EY Circle, we run through each political party's manifestos and what they are promising for the early years and childcare sector, how you can find your local candidates and vote. It is also a good time to remind ourselves of the talent and passion that is so abundant in the sector, those same people who will be hugely impacted by these results, as well as bring our focus back to early childhood development because children are at the heart of everything we do.

As always, PACEY is keen to work with organisations and individuals from across the sector to bring those passionate about childcare and early years with the latest news, policy updates, research, training, resources and so much more.

### News roundup (non-general election related)



Coram survey reveals continued decrease in the availability of childcare in England



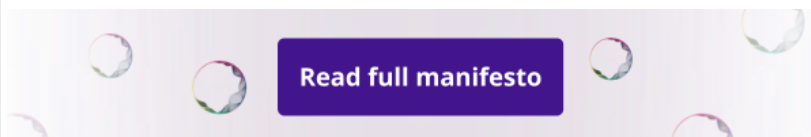
Response to the Professional Registration of the childcare and playwork workforce in Wales consultation

### Political party manifestos

Are you aware of what each party is pledging in their manifestos in relation to the childcare and early years sector? Do you have all the details to make an informed decision? We've highlighted the pledges and promises of each party below to help you. The rest is up to you...

#### Conservative Manifesto

- Continue funded entitlement rollout with eligible parents of children aged nine months and over to get 15 hours of childcare from September 2024, increasing to 30 hours from September 2025
- Increase the hourly funding rate over the next two years by £500 million "helping the sector, including childminders, to hire more staff, create more places and spend less time on paperwork"
- Deliver a Family Hub to every local authority in England



#### Labour Manifesto

- 100,000 additional early years and childcare places for children nine months and over, through the creation of over 3,000 new nurseries within primary schools
- Committed to the expansion of funded entitlements to help more parents get back to work
- Free breakfast club in every primary school



[Read full manifesto](#)

### Liberal Democrat Manifesto

- “Restore childminding as a valued part of the early years system” with changes to regulations and implement a workforce strategy for nursery staff
- Fund an additional 5 extra hours for disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-olds (extending to disadvantaged 2-year-olds when public funds allow)
- Reform Ofsted and remove single word judgements



[Read full manifesto](#)

### Other Manifestos

There was no specific mention of childcare or early education in the [Green Party manifesto](#) or the [Reform UK party manifesto](#).

### Find your local candidates

There's still time to find out who your local parliamentary candidates are and ask them how they are going to support early years and childcare in your area.

[Find my candidates](#)

### When voting

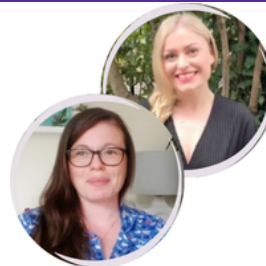
Find details of your polling station: <https://wheredoivote.co.uk/>

REMEMBER you'll need a valid form of photo ID to vote at your polling station. <https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote>

**Because children are at the heart of everything we do**

### High quality interactions in the early years. The ShREC approach explained

We know that children's communication and language skills are fundamental to their success and lay the foundations for cognitive development. Evidence tells us that we should prioritise the development of children's communication and language through socially meaningful interactions “When done well, high quality interactions often look effortless, but they are not easy to do well.” (EEF Guidance Report, Preparing for Literacy).

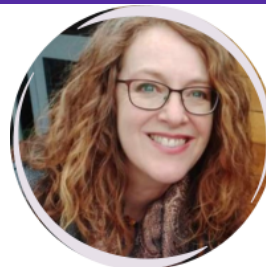


**Melissa Prendergast**, Deputy Headteacher at Sheringham Nursery School and Children's Centre and Strategic Lead for East London Research School and A Brighter Start: East London's Stronger Practice Hub and **Floss James**, Director of East London Research School and Assistant Headteacher, explain how the ShREC approach provides practitioners with a simple and memorable set of specific, evidence-informed strategies which can be embedded into everyday practice. Practitioners can use these strategies with every child, every day.

[Watch back the webinar](#)

### Making waves in the sector

Tracy Graham has had a glittering and varied career to date and one that has allowed her to transfer her commercial skills to build a successful childcare business. Prior to becoming a Childminder in 2012, Tracy worked in the engineering sector in both general manager and managing director roles. She took a career break in 2007 to start a family and in 2010 started to work for the NHS as a freelance support worker whilst volunteering as a Chairperson at Play Pitch Preschool which she subsequently started managing. Like many childminders, Tracy started childminding because of the flexibility it offered around her own children. Over the years she has scaled up her business where possible and been brave enough to scale down her business when necessary.



Tracy has built up a wonderful network of fellow childminders and is passionate about supporting them and other early years providers. So much so, that she is just about to embark on a new role as Early Years Advisory at Northeast Somerset Council which will allow her to use her experience as a childminder to improve the support given to those in her area.

**Resource and guidance highlights**



[Early maths spotlight](#)



[Changing the narrative article](#)



[Grains of imagination article](#)



[Anxiety in children and young people](#)



[\(Un\)comfortable conversations](#)

## Coming together | Events for the sector

02.07

[Early Years Conference- Doncaster](#)

03.07

[Transitions webinar from Dingley's Promise](#)

03.07

[Childminder Forum \(Wales\)](#)

08.07

[Inclusion lunch for local authority leads](#)

09.07

[LightBulb SEMH Conference 2024](#)

## PACEY is here to support

### The childcare and early years conference by PACEY

This month, PACEY launched early bird tickets for our childcare and early years conference on Saturday 26 October. With ticket types for all early years remits and support to bring your employees, we hope it will be a day to unite the early years sector.

Join us for a full day of talks from industry experts on early childhood development, workshops to support you in your practice, a drinks reception to say, 'Thank you' and so much more...



#### Join us for...

- A full day of inspiring talks from early years professionals
- Workshops to support your practice
- Networking with your peers
- Meet new suppliers and service providers
- A celebratory drinks reception to say 'THANK YOU!'



The childcare and early years conference by



Uniting the early years sector to improve child development knowledge and support providers

Saturday 26 October 2024

9am - 5.15pm

Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH

Readers of The EY Circle can receive 10% off the early bird ticket price by using code 'EYCIRCLE10'. We can't wait to see you there!

[See more and book ticket](#)



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