Early Years Noticeboard: 15 March 2018

1. Message from Jill Crosbie, Acting Assistant Director SEND

Hello everyone

Welcome to the Early Years Noticeboard. After the ‘Beast from the East’ and snow closures it does finally feel like spring may be round the corner.

Our work continues and the model for Early Years and Wellbeing is bedding in and I hope that it is working effectively in your area. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have concerns.

Please make sure you participate in the consultation on the future of the Council run day nurseries. This is at https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/council-run-day-nurseries/ and closes on 23 March.

Best wishes

Jill

Jill Crosbie
Acting Assistant Director SEND
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2. Update on the proposal to decommission Early Years Services

You may recall being informed in a previous Early Years Noticeboard (11 January 2018) that a number of contracts would come to their scheduled end on 31 March 2018. Following on from this notification, Early Years have been engaging with these organisations to develop exit strategies to address the mitigation of these services:

- **Access to universal services for pre-school children with SEND, delivered by Preschool Learning Alliance (PLA)** - Exit strategy meetings have been held between Early Years and PLA and discussions are on-going with the Area Senco team to discuss future support for children with special educational needs and disabilities in settings. We acknowledge the loss of this service will leave a gap in provision and we working hard to mitigate this. Further information will be made available in due to course.

- **Supporting behaviour in early years and out of school childcare settings, delivered by National Day Nursery Association (NDNA)** - Early Years are working with the NDNA to support them in advertising their training on the Find it in Birmingham website (https://www.finditinbirmingham.com/). You will be able to purchase training directly from NDNA through FinditinBirmingham.

- **Medical Needs in Early Years, delivered by Birmingham Community Health Care Trust (BCHC)** - Discussions are being finalised with our partners in Health who are developing plans to continue to provide training as a traded service. This would potentially
result in a cost to settings that require the training of which would be made available in due course. With the Medical Needs in Early Years contract ending on 31st March 2018, we are working hard with BCHC to ensure services can be made available as soon possible in April 2018.

Once we have finalised exit strategies and agreed mitigation, we will communicate the outcome to you to inform what you should do to access support in the future, some of which will involve a cost.

We acknowledge the concerns that you may have and want to assure you that we will keep you updated at each stage of the process. Please send any queries you may have to eyduty@birmingham.gov.uk