



one and all *onen hag oll*
CORNWALL
COUNCIL

Cornwall Early Years leaders in school

Jan 2026

S Wright

Agenda

9-9.30 coffee and networking

9.30-9.45 Let's talk about outcomes for children Cornwall and the **GLD target!** What do we need to prioritise to close the gap in achievement?

9.45-10.45 The Writing Framework - what does the Writing Framework mean for Reception teachers? Holly Lewis, Co-Lead and a Literacy Specialist for the Kernow English Hub is joining us to share new information about the Framework and a new offer for Reception teachers.

We want to discuss new ideas for some proposed Early Years Moderation hubs and see what you think about this!

10.45-11 Coffee

11-11.30 Jo Knuckey National Literacy Trust. 2026 National Year of Reading

11.30-11.50 Best Start in Life - what's new that we need to know about?

11.50-12.00 Training opportunities coming up in 2026

ELG data- where should our priorities be?

The gap data between Free School Meals and Non FSM pupils is wider than National

2025 gap data for **GLD**

	FSM	Non FSM	Gap
Cornwall	51.6%	73.5%	-21.9PP
National	51.4%	72.5%	-21.1PP

The gap data between Girls and Boys pupils is **wider than National 2025 gap data for GLD**

	Boys	Girls	Gap
Cornwall	63.3%	77.5%	-14.2PP
National	61.5%	75.3%	-13.8PP

The gap data between FSM/Non FSM pupils is **wider than National in Writing which is the lowest scoring ELG 2025 gap data for GLD**

	FSM writing	Non FSM writing	Gap
Cornwall	55.7%	77.2%	-21.5 PP
National	54.8%	75.9%	-21.1PP

LA has identified closing the gap as the way forward for raising the % of children in Cornwall getting GLD

How will your school hope to raise the bar with GLD and particularly help to close the gap?



The Writing Framework

Holly Lewis, Co-Lead and a Literacy Specialist for the Kernow English Hub

Jo Knuckey National Literacy Trust. 2026 National Year of Reading

5 Things You Need To Know About The National Year Of Reading 2026
| National Literacy Trust

LA has identified closing the gap as the way forward for raising the % of children in Cornwall getting GLD

How will your school hope to raise the bar with GLD and particularly help to close the gap?



Updates

Best Start in Life - what's new that we need to know about?

Family Hubs to have a greater focus on 0-5 and be central to the communities for parents to drop-in

- SEND will have a higher focus and each hub to have a SEND lead to support parents through the graduated response
- Interventions around early speech, language and communication will continue
- Higher focus on Home Learning Environment - range of interventions for parents and children
- Focus on Parenting support and access to family help

Some changes happening to Early Support and Family Help - front door from April 26 - These will be communicated across the sectors and communities

Updates

Integrated checks for 2 year olds

- **Why? To identify children earlier who need additional support**
- Mosaic 'sign up' started November 2025 for all group and school settings with 2 year olds.
- Training Tues Jan 20th at 2 pm or 5 pm
- Financial grant to cover admin of attending training, sharing with teams and administering checks

Health visiting - what's new?

- 10-year plan for health
- Greater emphasis on home visits rather than clinics
- Prevention Model
- Joined up services through Best Start in Life/ Family Hubs

Section 23 - Legal process for health to inform the local Authority of a SEND or potential SEND need

- Appointment of a triage team - Health/Portage/Early Years Inclusion
- Identification from birth/ under fives
- Triage Process and 12-week action plan of intervention

To support earlier identification and support best outcomes.

Five to Thrive Training - healthy relationships and brain development

- Training for practitioners
- Training for leaders
- Parent support booklets
- Train the Trainer

Training opportunities

'Play Matters' Conference 6th and 7th March 2026

EYFS49 Play matters - The importance of play across the curriculum for healthy brain development

Aimed at: Early years settings, childminders, reception class teachers, headteachers, early years foundation stage leads in schools.

Keynote - Play matters: Physical development and outdoor learning
Led by **Sue Cowley**, author, consultant and contributor to 'Play Matters'

Part one: Prime for a reason - The importance of play for physical development

Part two: You and your setting - Practical ideas to inspire play

Workshops:

Play and the development of self-regulation

Naturally Learning in the outdoors

Watch me play

An introduction to Ofsted's renewed school inspection toolkit in the early years EYFS83

Ofsted are coming to Cornwall in February 2026 to talk about the **inspection of early years for schools.**

Make the most of this opportunity to speak to colleagues in Ofsted and find out more about the new inspection toolkit.

This is aimed at primary school headteachers, early years leads in trusts and maintained schools, reception and nursery practitioners and teachers in schools.

Please apply online:

Sign up/login to www.earlyyears.cornwall.gov.uk/training click on the 'training' tab and type EYFS83 in the 'quick course search' box.

06 February 2026

St Erme Community Centre, Nr Truro

14.00-15.30

Early Years Writing Conference

Save the date- Monday 22nd June 2026 9am to 4.30pm

Wadebridge Pavillions

Jan Dubiel EY Specialists

Helen Battelley Physical Development Consultant

Aims- to consider;

- what does it mean for children to ‘be ready to write’
- importance of physical foundations for writing
- aspects of ‘composition’ for early years writers
- the ‘writer’s voice’ of children
- curriculum for writing
- strategies for supporting writing in the early years

Armed Forces Children in Cornwall

Phase 2 - Networks

27th Jan - Fibre Hub, Pool

2nd Feb - China Fleet Country Club, Saltash

4th Feb - Venton Conference Centre, Summercourt

[Home - Reading Force](#)

22nd April - Fibre Hub, Pool

23rd April - Venton Conference Centre, Summercourt

30th April - China Fleet Country Club, Saltash

To book a place, sign up/login to www.earlyyears.cornwall.gov.uk/training click on the 'training' tab and type EYFS85 in the 'quick course search' box

19th June - One day event Wadebridge Pavillion

Poster to share with families and to display in schools and settings!

What other training might schools find helpful?

EYFS07 New to Reception training

3 part training

Parts 1 and 2 **20 Jan, 10th March** Venton Conference centre

Part 3 **5th May** (online)

EYFS44 Ready for Phonics training

The course aims to:

- explore the skills that children need to be ready for phonics, keeping in mind where children are starting from and what language support they might need;
- discuss how we can make practice more focused and build on children's skills step by step;
- explore other important skills that support phonics readiness.

27 Jan or 19 May Venton Conference Centre or Westberry Hotel, Bodmin

EYFS35 Talk about two's network meeting

18 March 2026 Indian Queens Primary School Nursery 16.00-17.30

To book a place, sign up/login to www.earlyyears.cornwall.gov.uk/training click on the 'training' tab and type the course code in the 'quick course search' box

Early Years
South West Stronger Practice Hub

National Education Nature Park

Scan to book a place

Climate & Sustainability Conference Cornwall

The Department for Education (DfE) set a target for sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education by the end of 2025, but there's still time to make a start!

- . The plan should cover four key areas: decarbonisation, adaptation and resilience, environment and biodiversity, and climate education and green careers.
- . At this conference listen to experts who will guide you through the steps your setting can take to meet this target; we will provide you with a Climate Action Plan and you will start to draft the content alongside expert advisers.

(Face to Face)
9.00am-1.00pm
27/2/26
tbc near
St Austell

Bring your laptop!

✉ eyswsph@yfps.co.uk
 @earlyyearssouthwest
 Early Years South West Stronger Practice Hub
 @eyswsph