

# LEARNER NEWS

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*In this issue...*

Have you ever wondered what next?

CPD Opportunities

Blue Monday



## Welcome back!

Busy Bees Education and Training would like to wish each and every one of you a warm welcome back, and a happy New Year for 2025. We hope you enjoyed some time over the festive period to relax, unwind, spend time with loved ones and enjoy the celebrations. We are back, and ready to provide continued support, learning and development opportunities for you to be successful within your apprenticeships.

# Are you ready to learn?

Please look over the information below, to check dates for Early Years Teaching sessions, and functional skills sessions. Remember if you are booked to attend these, they are mandatory to support your learning and development. Please also check OneFile to check your session dates with your development coach.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ONLINE SESSION CALENDAR - JANUARY 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	06/01/2025	07/01/2025	08/01/2025	09/01/2025	10/01/2025
08:30 - 10:00	English Writing: Sentences, Paragraphs, Introductions & Conclusions	Maths: Decimals (1)			Maths: Angles & Bearings (1)
10:15 - 11:45	Maths: Averages & Range (1)	Maths: BIDMAS (1)	English Reading: Comparing Texts	Maths: Interest (1)	
12:00 - 13:30	Maths: Fractions (1)	English Writing: Grammar & Punctuation		Maths: Probability (1)	Maths: Graphs & Tables (1)
13:45 - 15:15	Maths: Non Calculator (1)	Maths: Shapes (Perimeter, Area & Volume) (1)	Maths: Ratio & Scales (1)	English: Preparing for Your Exam	Maths: Preparing for Your Exam
15:30 - 17:00	English Reading: Purpose, Facts, Opinions & Bias	Maths: Units & Measures (1)			
19:00 - 20:30	Maths: Percentages (1)		English Writing: Formatting Texts		

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	13/01/2025	14/01/2025	15/01/2025	16/01/2025	17/01/2025
08:30 - 10:00	Maths: Percentages (2)	English Writing: Formatting Texts			English: Preparing for Your Exam
10:15 - 11:45	English Reading: Comparing Texts	Maths: Nets & Elevations (1)		English Writing: Sentences, Paragraphs, Introductions & Conclusions	
12:00 - 13:30	Maths: Angles & Bearings (2)	Maths: Preparing for Your Exam		Maths: Non Calculator (2)	Maths: Fractions (2)
13:45 - 15:15	Maths: Graphs & Tables (2)	English Writing: Grammar & Punctuation		Maths: Shapes (Perimeter, Area & Volume) (2)	Maths: BIDMAS (2)
15:30 - 17:00	Maths: Probability (2)	Maths: Ratio & Scales (2)			
19:00 - 20:30	English Reading: Purpose, Facts, Opinions & Bias		Maths: Decimals (2)		

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	20/01/2025	21/01/2025	22/01/2025	23/01/2025	24/01/2025
08:30 - 10:00	Maths: Ratio & Scales (3)	Maths: Units & Measures (2)			Maths: Decimals (3)
10:15 - 11:45	Maths: Graphs & Tables (3)	English Reading: Purpose, Facts, Opinions & Bias	Maths: Fractions (3)	English Reading: Comparing Texts	
12:00 - 13:30	Maths: Interest (2)	Maths: Shapes (Perimeter, Area & Volume) (3)		Maths: Probability (3)	Maths: Percentages (3)
13:45 - 15:15	Maths: Preparing for Your Exam	Maths: Non Calculator (3)	Maths: Nets & Elevations (2)	Maths: Averages & Range (3)	English Writing: Grammar & Punctuation
15:30 - 17:00	English Writing: Formatting Texts	English: Preparing for Your Exam			
19:00 - 20:30	Maths: BIDMAS (3)		English Writing: Sentences, Paragraphs, Introductions & Conclusions		

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	27/01/2025	28/01/2025	29/01/2025	30/01/2025	31/01/2025
08:30 - 10:00	English: Preparing for Your Exam	Maths: Interest (2)			
10:15 - 11:45	Maths: BIDMAS (1)	Maths: Shapes (Perimeter, Area & Volume) (1)	Maths: Non Calculator (1)	English Reading: Purpose, Facts, Opinions & Bias	
12:00 - 13:30	Maths: Angles & Bearings (3)	English Reading: Comparing Texts		Maths: Units & Measures (2)	Maths: Percentages (1)
13:45 - 15:15	Maths: Averages & Range (1)	Maths: Probability (1)	Maths: Decimals (1)	Maths: Ratio & Scales (1)	English Writing: Formatting Texts
15:30 - 17:00	Maths: Preparing for Your Exam	English Writing: Sentences, Paragraphs, Introductions & Conclusions			
19:00 - 20:30	English Writing: Grammar & Punctuation		Maths: Fractions (1)		

**Functional Skills Calendars - Please see details of the sessions taking place within the first 2 weeks of January. If you wish to attend, please contact your Development Coach to arrange to be booked on.**

Early Years Teaching sessions dates for January. Please remember mandatory attendance to these is required if you have been booked by your Development Coach.



# Continued Professional Development (CPD)

Take a look at some CPD opportunities for you below to support with your Off the Job and End Point Assessment preparations. You will see key terminology and buzz words in red italic writing, to support you with use of language and terminology through your apprenticeship.

## EYFS safeguarding and welfare requirements

You may be wondering why we must do the things we do in Early Years, such as following ratios or locking our phone away. In this CPD section we will look over the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements that underpin our practice within Early Years.

**Section 3** of the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory framework sets out the legal requirements all Early Years providers must implement to safeguard children, ensure there are suitable people working with the children, promote good health, support behaviour and maintain records, policies and procedures. So how do we do this in practice?

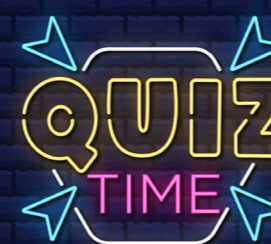
- Every setting must have at least one **designated safeguarding lead** who is overall responsible for safeguarding.
  - Concerns for a child's safety or welfare are paramount and must be shared with the local authority, including under the **Prevent Duty 2015**
  - **Policies** must be clear and outline what action should be taken when there is a safeguarding concern around a child, or staff member and must also address **how mobile phones, cameras and other electronics are used within the setting.**
  - **Safer Recruitment checks** are carried out prior to individuals starting employment, and they must hold relevant qualifications, clear references, full employment history including any gaps, and a clear **DBS check** is carried out.
- **Medication** on the premises, must be stored securely and out of reach of children, including staff medication, **and a policy should be in place for administering medication**, as well as parent consent to administer medication being in place. If a staff member is taking medication that impacts their ability to care for children, they must seek medical advice before doing so. Procedures should be in place for **infectious illness.**
  - **Child Ratio's** are in place to safeguard children, and they must always be in sight and sound of staff. For children under 2 there should be one member of staff for every 3 children, one must be a level 3 and at least half should hold a level 2 qualification, as well as have relevant training to care for babies. For children aged 2 there should be at least one staff member for every 5 children, with at least one staff member holding a level 3 and the remaining holding a level 2. For children aged 3 and over there should be at least one staff member for every 8 children, and at least one to hold a level 3 qualification.
  - **Behaviour** should be supported and understood. Early Years providers are not allowed to use corporal punishment which impacts on child's wellbeing. A behaviour policy will be in place across all providers which outlines the strategies for behaviour.



## Stretch and Challenge

Please scan the QR code below to read the safeguarding and Welfare requirements to update your understanding.

SCAN ME



Take the quiz now you have read the information please complete the below Quiz and share your responses with BBET

<https://forms.office.com/e/fLsgePibcr>

## CPD - PPE in Catering

When preparing food it is vital that you are following the PPE requirements and procedures within your setting. Let's recap on some of the essentials for catering and preparing foods:

**Gloves** - Gloves are an essential part of food handling. Use of disposable gloves are best for tasks with raw meat or poultry. You can also use reuseable gloves for general food preparation.

**Aprons** - Aprons are used to keep clothing clean and ensure food preparation is hygienic. When in the kitchen, you should consider the type of apron you need and what purpose it has.

**Chefs coat and trousers** - These can protect clothing from spills and reduce the risk of cross contamination and should be washed daily.

**Footwear** - footwear should have a good grip, easy to clean and have steel toe caps

**Hair Nets** - Hair nets should be worn when hair is long to prevent hair falling into food. Although not law, it is best practice.



# Blue Monday

As the Christmas trees are taken down and the new year celebrations are well and truly over, and resolutions have been set, returning to normal can feel overwhelming. Blue Monday is said to be the bleakest day of the year, where many people can feel down and overwhelmed.

Blue Monday is always on the third Monday in January, and this year will be Monday 20th January 2025. This name has been given by a UK travel company based on an equation they had completed.

Many people can feel down, have low motivation and lack of energy as we return to our daily lives after the festive period.



## Wellbeing Hints and Tips for Blue Monday

Here are some pointers on how to combat areas to support your own wellbeing not only on blue Monday but every day



**Go for a walk**



**Take a break**



**Limit social media use**



**Exercise**



**Get outdoors for fresh air**



**Practice self-care**



**Do something you enjoy**



**Reflect on failed resolutions and plan to succeed with these this year**



**Talk to family and friends**

If you are feeling low, and this is impacting on your mental health and well being you can access the link below for support from MIND.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/>

# Have you ever wondered what next?

## This month we hear from **Kelly**, a Learner Recruitment Manager and her career path.



Hi, my name is Kelly, and I started working with Busy Bees in 2006 as a Qualified Nursery Nurse before making my way up to Deputy Manager. In my role at the nursery, I was also the Training Mentor, so I supported existing staff who wanted to develop their career and knowledge either through short course's, inhouse training or apprenticeships. I also supported apprentice's that we recruited into the business.

In 2015 I left nursery and took a step in the role of becoming a Development Coach with Busy Bees Education and Training. I really enjoyed going out to both Busy Bees settings and external settings supporting, guiding and nurturing apprentice's meet their full potential and successfully gain their qualification.

A few years later I then moved over to the Training Recruitment Team which is a very fast paced role where we advertise vacancies for apprentices to join Busy Bees also whilst supporting existing staff to develop by completing apprenticeships. Throughout nurturing each applicant, making sure they meet the eligibility and suitability criteria for the apprenticeship.

This includes completing prior learning checks, telephone interviews, reviewing initial assessments, liaising with cross teams, booking interviews, interview feedback, advertising apprenticeships on various job boards, careers events, marketing, providing information advice and guidance to applicants, processing applications, liaising with ADs to discuss the needs of their settings and what training support they need etc. The role requires you to work alongside many different departments to ensure that the learners have the best experience and outcome to help them progress and develop their skills whilst also ensuring the needs of the nurseries and Busy Bees group are met.

The best part of the role is that you get to see applicants that have started their Busy Bee journey on an apprenticeship progress within the company and pursue a career they are passionate about whilst making a difference in their sector.

### We asked Kelly:

What advice would you give to someone who is looking to start a career within Early Years?

" I would honestly research into apprenticeships and what working in Early Years entails. Maybe try and do some volunteer work or work experience prior as this will give you a valuable insight into starting a career in Early Years."

Can you tell me how you keep up to date with any sector changes that could impact on your role?

" It is so important to keep up to date with changes within the sector as this impacts the recruitment of apprentice's, the entry requirements for signing up to an apprenticeship as this impacts on the government funding that we can access."



### What English and Maths skills does Kelly use within her role?

"I use maths daily when it comes to looking at the targets that we are working to monthly, revenue we are generating, KPIs, vacancies we have live.

In terms of English this is the fundamental part of the role from email settings, learners and the wider business. This could include arranging interviews, interview feedback, posting adverts, creating leaflets and marketing materials.

Maths and English are present in my everyday role so I can present team performance and KPIs to management where needed."

# Safeguarding

What's happening in your area?



## North West

Mum warns of drug dealers

<https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2024-12-18/mum-of-13-year-old-addicted-to-ketamine-warns-of-virus-dealers>



## West Midlands

Trial date set for boys who murdered 13-year-old

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx2p9nxx1e4o>

## South West

Dad jailed for murder of daughter

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czr3vygvyy7o>

## Scotland

Rapist jailed

<https://news.stv.tv/scotland/rapist-who-attacked-multiple-women-over-15-year-period-in-aberdeen-glasgow-and-the-highlands-jailed>

Rapist who attacked multiple women over 15-year period jailed

Derek MacKay was convicted of 25 charges including the rape of four victims at an earlier trial.



## Yorkshire and the Humber

Pair jailed over county lines drugs operation

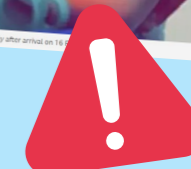
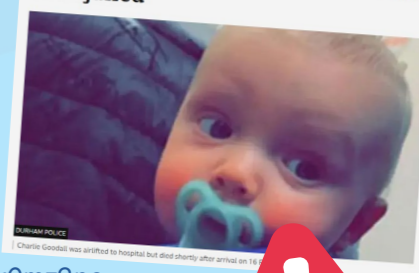
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4nvd3923dgo>

## North East

Mum jailed after baby drowned being left unsupervised in bath

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c99xgv0mz9no>

Mother whose baby son drowned in bath jailed



## East Midlands

Boy, aged 5 unlawfully killed

<https://hellorayo.co.uk/greatest-hits/east-midlands/news/boy-unlawfully-killed-inquest-leicester/>

## East of England

Police officer barred for sexual abuse towards colleagues

<https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2024-12-18/decorated-police-officer-bared-for-horrific-sexual-abuse-of-colleague>

## London

County lines crack down

<https://www.cityoflondon.police.uk/news/city-of-london/news/2024/december/arrests-drugs-and-cash-seized-in-city-county-lines-crackdown/>



## South East

Women arrested on suspicion of murder

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cm2e08mvx3vo>

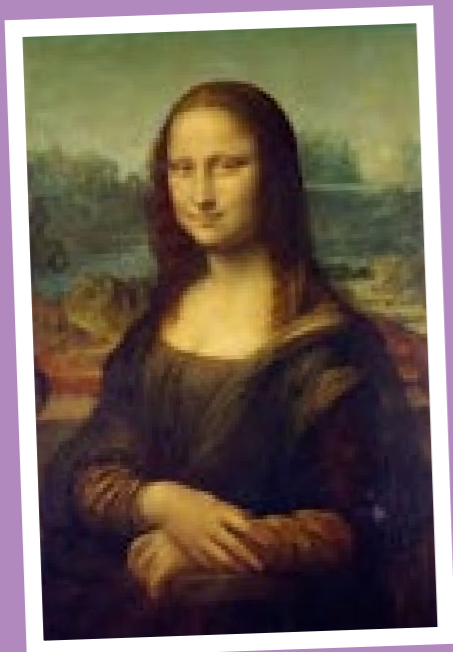
# Did you know?



The world record for the longest time a person has slept without waking up is 8 consecutive days! Peter Powers completed this world record in 1959



The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows! Have a look at this link for further information  
<https://www.leonardodavinci.net/the-mona-lisa.jsp>



The fastest goal was scored within 2 seconds of a football match starting. Nawaf Al Abed scored this goal in a match played in 2009. Watch the you tube clip of the video below

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oXldu08ykU>



# What's going on in January?



1st  
January

## News years Day Parade

Every year across London, since 1987 a New Years Day Parade takes place on 1st January to mark the start of the New Year. This sees hundreds of thousands of people tuning in on TV and on the streets of London to celebrate the New year. The parade starts at Picadilly and will work its way down through central London to Westminster, and sees a variety of floats, dancers, cheer leaders from America and Aston Martin and Mini car club owners participate in the parade. More information can be found on the event using the website below -

<https://lndp.com/parade-location-timing/>



25th  
January

## Burns Night

In Scotland, Burn's Night is celebrated where people come together with families and friends, sharing haggis, neeps and tatties, to celebrate Scotland's legacy of creativity. The famous Poet Robert Burns is also celebrated and his words are echoed during the celebrations. Take a look at the below link to see one of Burns poems called Address to A Haggis

<https://www.scotland.org/events/burns-night/the-poetry-of-robert-burns/address-to-a-haggis>



25th  
January

## Chinese (Luna) New Year

Chinese New Year is always between late January to mid-February. This year, it falls on 29th January. During this time families and friends come together to celebrate the year, which is the year of the Earth Snake for 2025. Take a look at the information below on Chinese Luna New Year and how this is celebrated -

<https://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/festivals/when-chinese-new-year.htm>

**We would love to hear your ideas and suggestion of content you would like to be included in our future editions. Please scan the QR code to share your thoughts and ideas:**

