



Annual Review
2010

Early Years & Childcare Partnership



An independent Jersey body that helps agencies, individuals and States departments work together on early years, play and childcare issues in the best interest of the Island's children.



Looking after the Future

The Early Years and Childcare Partnership



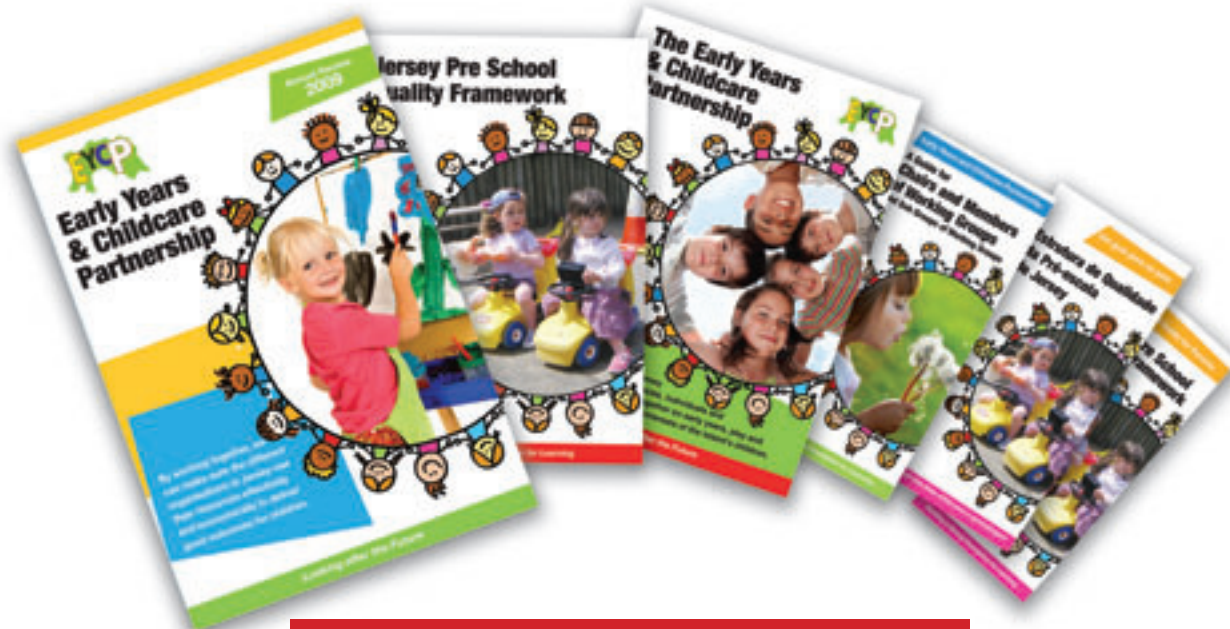
The work of the EYCP is carried out by Working Groups who meet to identify the most important priorities for improving early years and childcare services in Jersey.

The members are professionals, parents and voluntary workers who serve on 6 different Working Groups. They consult widely with parents, children and other relevant groups to make sure any recommendations are supported.

The EYCP is an independent organisation that aims to bring everyone together. We have an independent chair, Nicky Road, who is an early years and childcare expert based in the UK.



“It's very exciting to be a part of something that can make such a big difference for our children, after all they are the future.”



For more information you can pick up one of our leaflets or download them from our website www.gov.je/EarlyYearsChildcarePartnership

- Early Years** - Children's learning and development until they reach primary school
- Childcare** - A service for children under 12 and their parents either in their home or elsewhere
- Partnership** - The groups and agencies in Jersey that work together in the best interests of children and families

The work of the EYCP is carried out by the Working Groups of the Partnership.

WORKING GROUP 1a

Working Group 1(a)

Getting the quality right for over 3s
Producing a Pre School Quality Framework (PSQF) for children in Jersey.



“This is the best thing that has happened, we are working together to produce the pre school quality framework which is best practice for all pre school children in the island.”

“We are more confident about each other's work and we respect the differences.”

“We have so much in common, we want to do the best for all our children.”

Working Group 1(b) - Getting the quality right for under 3s

By producing a quality framework that everyone involved in the child's life signs up to.

Parents views on experiences in the prenatal phase

“The service at the Bridge was excellent the main reasons are that the service was very personal there was always an available midwife or you were able to leave a message and were called back promptly and or it was possible to see a midwife at short notice.”

Parents views on the postnatal stage

“The community midwife service was excellent you didn't need to worry about getting anywhere for an appointment and if you needed them you could pick up the phone.”

WORKING GROUP 1b



WORKING GROUP 2

Working Group 2 - Qualifications Framework

Producing a qualifications' framework for adults working with children up to the age of 12 years in Jersey.



“As a manager I find it difficult to access further courses that are relevant to me.”

Do you consider there is enough training/CPD for inclusion in Jersey?

“If there is I am not sure where? Maybe it's not publicised enough.”

“Jersey does well compared to many areas in the UK, but we do need to concentrate more on Inclusion and there is always scope for improvement.”

“I believe that Jersey should have a children's work force strategy as they do in the UK.”

WORKING GROUP 3

Working Group 3 - Social Inclusion

In all aspects of early years and childcare in Jersey, and the workings of the EYCP.



T is a 3 year old girl who attends a mainstream private day nursery. She receives individualised support from a Support Worker to enable her to access the learning environment.

“It was so important to us that T was able to attend a mainstream nursery of our choice and her Support Worker makes this possible. The other children in her nursery have learnt a lot of things from playing alongside her, they try and include her in their games and show real caring towards her.”

WORKING GROUP 4

Working Group 4 - Quality Play and Care and Developing a Play Strategy

For school age children under 12. We will make recommendations for a play strategy for the Island.



We carried out a consultation to primary school age children about how safe they feel when getting to and from places they play.

‘I only feel unsafe when I am cycling because there aren't many cycle paths.’

‘I have to cross a main road to get to the nearest play area.’

‘At my home it is not safe because of the cars outside the building.’

The cars when they think there are no children around and they go faster than the speed limit.

‘I have a lot of roads to cross that are busy.’

‘When I go to parks because they are a long way away from my house.’

Working Group 5 Monitoring the Nursery Education Fund

Working Group 5 is monitoring how the Nursery Education Fund (NEF) works in practice, and its effect on pre school education in Jersey.

Response to the NEF preparing children for school

‘I'm not sure I like the phrase 'preparing your child for school' – I just want early years care that suits my child's present needs and gives her the confidence to try new things. I believe I am best placed to prepare her for school.’

Response to the flexibility of the NEF in supporting working parents.

‘Should be 30 hours a week, as it would be easier to find a job with those hours’

‘We both work full time and had to pay the additional money to cover the hours we need’

WORKING GROUP 5



“Since becoming a member of an EYCP Working Group I can see how important it is that parents are involved, we have a say in what is being done for our children.”

Looking after the Future

Message from the Chair

In completing our second year I think you will see that we have achieved much in that time.

We have established a strong partnership between the private, voluntary and state sectors, working to achieve the best outcomes for Jersey children and their families. You will see from the different reports of the working groups what has been achieved by each of them.

We are pleased that the Nursery Education Fund initiative is becoming well known to parents so enabling them to make choices about which provision best suits their needs. The recent news that States' nurseries will be offering 20 hours a week as well, whilst this represents a reduction in free nursery provision for some children, means that the NEF offer is fairer in that parents will have a genuine choice between providers.

We are delighted by the strong collaborative work that went into the production of the Pre school Quality Framework. Working together to produce this framework has ensured a strong ownership and commitment to its implementation. It has been rolled out during the year and monitoring is in place to measure the impact it is having.

We have also developed our work around the under 3s, staff qualifications and training and social inclusion so we will be able to report back on these next year. We have undertaken extensive consultations, particularly around play and this will feed into the development of the play strategy.

The focus on children will be raised even more during 2011 with the publication of the Children and Young People's Plan. We very much welcome this development as it will create the chance to review all services, whether those specifically for children or those that impact on children like housing and planning, to see how child-friendly they can become.

Our main focus for the coming year will be to try to create stronger parent representation and partnership in all our work, to improve our skills in and experience of listening to young children, to ensure that their views are represented in the developments that take place, and to try to get better data collection in place. This will enable all of us working with children to monitor the impact of what is being offered to ensure that they have the best start in life.

We hope you will enjoy learning more about the work of the EYCP and we always welcome your feedback and comment.

Nicky Road

Nicky Road

EYCP Members

- Chair of the Partnership
- Education Sport and Culture
- Jersey Association of Child Carers
- Jersey Child Care Trust
- Jersey Early Years Association
- Jersey Association of Playworkers
- Play Safety Forum for Jersey
- Parenting Services
- Parents for Children
- Youth Service
- Health and Social Services
- Children's Service
- Social Security and Tax Departments
- Economic Development Skills Jersey
- Family Nursing and Home Care (Health Visitors)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- ESC Psychology Service
- Jersey Child Protection Committee
- Primary Heads Association
- Highlands College
- Representatives of employers and employees
- Representatives of voluntary organisations for children and families



**Please contact
us with your
feedback.**

If you would like to get involved please contact



Early Years and Childcare Partnership

Tel: 449490 Fax: 449334 Email: eycp@gov.je

Or visit our website: www.gov.je/EarlyYearsChildcarePartnership