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Mapping local provision

Family Action Project Leaders have been engaging in a detailed mapping exercise with and for all their target settings in the North, Midlands and South of England.



The mapping process

This ongoing process has involved a number of different steps so far, such as:

- researching online local childcare provision for 0-5s operating on a school site (providers, services, venues, facilities, advertising methods etc)
- using the media and local contacts to find out about local developments and national policies that might affect provision in the area (eg plans for a new housing estate)
- contacting settings (by phone/email/visits) to find out more about how they support children with SEND, engage with parents, and their future plans to develop inclusion further (eg local offer, accessibility plans, feedback from parents)
- liaising with local agencies to find out more about local support available for children with SEND (eg family information services, local authority).

This mapping process has helped the Childcare in Schools team to identify:

- examples of good practice in the local area to share with other settings and via the Learning Exchange (eg engaging with parents of children with SEND)
- possible peer mentors to support other local early years settings
- providers that may be interested in our regional training events, or in linking up with other local providers to share training and other costs
- examples of good SEND Local Offer descriptions online, and of settings that have effective marketing material for parents of children with SEND

- useful inclusion documents, templates, resources and support agencies
- funding sources (eg for specific resources and equipment).

Further information

- Family Action is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) to support school-based childcare providers with developing high-quality and inclusive childcare for 0-5s with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Find out more about the project, and download a wide range of free resources from: www.learning-exchange.org.uk
- Our Learning Exchange Facebook page gives links to events, suppliers, equipment, training and venues that might be of interest to school-based childcare providers: www.facebook.com/pages/Learning-Exchange/904749822892733?sk=timeline

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