

Education Mile

July 2025

Early Years news, advice and guidance for Square Mile families and settings

Hello...

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

Our aim is to share regular local and national information for families in the City.

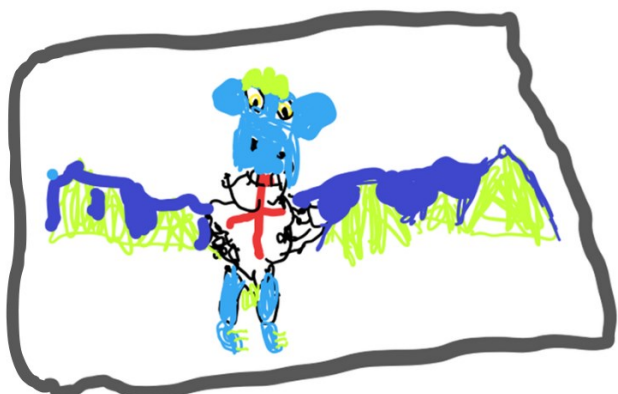
If you would like to find out anything further on any items or would like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.

EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Coltale And Home Learning

Thank you to Elijah aged 5 who did this creative and wonderful drawing of Coltale! Find out more about Coltale the Dragon here!

[Coltale's Weekly Top Tips - City of London Family Information Service](#)



Easy Tips For Making Books With Your Child

Children love stories about themselves and turning those stories into homemade books is a fun, meaningful way to build early literacy skills and a love of reading. Why not make a book with your child using the photos on your phone!



Include pictures of your child, family, pets, and favourite places to make the story feel real and exciting.

Let your child be the author and encourage them to help tell the story. Write down their words to boost storytelling skills and confidence.

Create stories based on your child's real-life experiences like going to the park, starting school, or a favourite routine.

Revisit the book often! Rereading builds language skills and makes story time a joyful, shared routine.

Find more tips here:

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/eight-tips-creating-homemade-books>

Championing Early Years

Huge congratulations to our City Early Years Professional, Danielle Trollope, who has successfully completed the Early Years Professional Development Programme.



Danielle's dedication and commitment to professional development embodies the very spirit of the programme. We are proud of her achievement and the positive impact she continues to make with her class and with the children she supports.

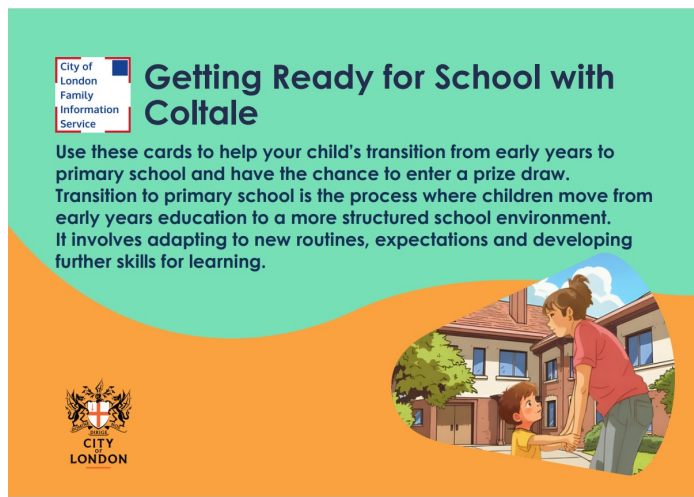
The Early Years Professional Development Programme has had a wide reaching impact across Early Years and most importantly, on the lives of young children. The training includes development of communication and language skills to embedding confidence in early mathematics and supporting emotional wellbeing.

Danielle is pictured at the Early Years profile moderation event with Isabelle Dennie (City of London Lead Early Years Advisor)

Getting Ready for school!

Our Early Years transition cards will soon be available to collect from your child's City early years setting or community library.

Use these cards to help your child's transition from early years to primary school and have the chance to enter a prize draw.



The cards are aimed to support all children, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Transition to primary school is the process where children move from early years education to a more structured school environment. It involves adapting to new routines, expectations and developing further skills for learning. There are key skills that schools expect children to be learning before their first day.

Practising these will make your child's journey to Reception as positive as possible and support your child's emotional growth and confidence as they start their school journey. Collect the cards from your local library or early years setting soon.

You can find more information about preparing your child for school here: [COLTALE programme and home learning - City of London Family Information Service](#)



Hendrick Joins The City Police Force!

Hendrick the Dragon is getting involved in protecting the City by supporting neighbourhood Policing! Rosamund Sweet MBE, City of London Police Community Support Officer says: "He has proven to be very popular! We will be getting stickers made up for officers to help with engagement when out on patrol! And we will be using the stickers and colouring sheet at schools and other events. Thank you to our family support service for supporting this great collaboration and true partnership working!"

Give and Take Day X Tech-Takeback



Looking to declutter or find new treasures this summer? Join the City of London's Recycling Team for our next **Give and Take Day** on Saturday 12th July at St Giles' Cripplegate, Church, Fore Street, Barbican, EC2Y 8DA!

The day is split into two parts - the 'Give' where you can come and donate your unwanted items. There is no limit to the number of items we will accept. These items will be sorted and displayed ready for the 'Take' part of the day which will happen later, where you are welcome to select items you'd like to bring home with you. There is no limit on the number of items you can take home, but we ask that people take only what they need so that others in the community get a chance to participate.

Give: 10 am – 12 pm Donate quality items you no longer need -including clothes, toys, kitchenware, books, DVDs, bric-a-brac, furniture and small electricals. Help others and keep useful items out of the bin.

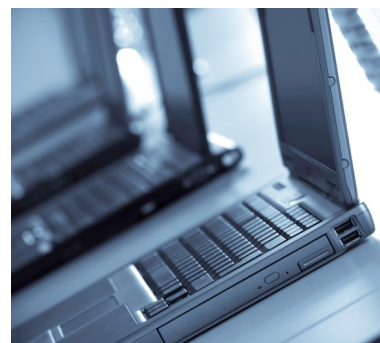
Take: 1 – 3 pm Return in the afternoon to pick up pre-loved treasures for free!

- 1 – 2 pm: City residents only (bring proof of address)
- 2 – 3 pm: Open to everyone

Tech-Takeback (10 am - 12 pm, 1 – 3 pm) Drop off your old personal laptops, phones, tablets and more - they will be securely data-erased and reused or recycled.

Full details here:

[Give and Take Day X Tech-Takeback | 12 July - City of London](#)



If you would like to find out anything further on any items or you would like more advice or information, please contact the City of London Family Information Service.

020 7332 1002 | EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk | www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk

