



# ECCC News

## June 2022 – Term 6

### 'A sense of belonging, not just fitting in.'

Introducing the new roles within our senior management structure:



#### **Lucy Jefferies – Director**

Lucy has worked at ECCC for over 10 years, most recently as Practice Manager. Lucy works Mon-Wed.



#### **Sally Williamson – Business and Operations Manager**

Sally joins us from a background in finance and operational management. Sally works Mon-Fri.

#### **Izzy Ruddick – Centre Manager**

Izzy has taken on the role of Centre Manager, previously Inclusion Manager. Izzy works Mon-Fri.



#### **Centre Values**

Our Centre has 6 values which underpin every experience that we provide for the children. Each term we cast a spotlight onto one of the values which this term is **Emotional Well-being – 'THE Foundation for Learning.'** Our core story links to the term's value which is **Ravi's Roar** by Tom Percival. We hope that you enjoy it as much as we did when we explored its themes at a recent staff meeting!



#### **School Leavers**

If your child is leaving for school this year, please return the slip to confirm whether you require childcare once the funding has ceased and whether you are planning to be absent from the Centre at all over the summer period. Thank you.

#### **Asthma Inhalers**

If your child uses an asthma inhaler please provide a clearly named inhaler and spacer for them to keep at nursery. You will also need to complete and sign a medication form, available from your child's room, giving us consent for us to administer it.

#### **Approach to Behaviour**

Our Centre target for the next year is to fully embed our approach to behaviour. We recognise that all behaviour is communication so our approach is much more than just a strategy to use in times of conflict. The aims of our approach are explained through SESAME and will be a focus for our team meetings, staff supervisions and general practice:

|   |              |   |
|---|--------------|---|
| S | Skills       | Developing life-long skills such as problem solving   |
| E | Emotion      | Validating emotions, perceiving them positively   |
| S | Self         | Self-respect, self-motivation, self-esteem  |
| A | Attachment   | Core need of attachment, time in rather than time out   |
| M | Messages     | Being consistent and direct, giving positive instruction  |
| E | Expectations | Age and stage related, giving the security of consistent routines and clear rules and boundaries. |

#### **Time away from the Centre**

Please be mindful of spending time away from the Centre when your child is transitioning to their next room. It really helps the children settle when there is consistency with their visits.

#### **Head lice**

Although we want everyone to feel a sense of belonging at our Centre, unfortunately head lice have taken up this invitation too! Although they are very common and cannot be prevented, please stop them spreading by wet or dry combing your child's hair regularly.

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Kate, Laura and Chantelle who are leaving ECCC to take on new opportunities outside of the early years sector. Please join us in wishing them well for the future. We have been active in advertising for new practitioners and hope to bring you an update very soon.

### **Mask wearing**

Please continue to wear a mask when entering the building. By asking you to do this we are helping infection levels to stay low. We are also reducing the likelihood of an outbreak within the setting which could mean that we would need to temporarily close or reduce the number of sessions due to staff shortages.



### **Make us your nominated charity!**

There are thousands of incredible charities and community groups doing amazing work locally and nationally. But if your place of work has a "nominated charity" that staff can propose, please consider nominating Easton Community Children's Centre!

As a registered charity, every penny we receive is reinvested into making your child's experience even better. Recent investments have included the Forest School activities and equipment; relaunching Stay and Play at the allotment; and our trips to Grimsbury Farm and Weston Super Mare.

Becoming the nominated charity for a business means we can keep building up our cultural events and celebrate the diversity of our community. Whether it's through fundraising support, donations, or volunteers sharing their time and skills – everything helps go towards making our Centre better and better!

## **Trustees Wanted!**

Do you have some skills and spare time to give to a good cause? We are looking for trustees to join our Management Committee, overseeing the governance of the nursery and helping us plot the best possible course through these tough financial times. ECCC trustees meet for a couple of hours in the evening every 8 weeks or so. They help make big decisions about the nursery and make sure the parent voice is represented.

We are looking for new members to join, especially if you have professional experience in HR, recruitment or fundraising but even if you're just an interested parent who wants to get more involved in the issues affecting their children's care. Email our Chair of Trustees, Rosie Wild, on [wildrosie@hotmail.com](mailto:wildrosie@hotmail.com) for more information or speak to Lucy, [ljefferies@eastonccc.org.uk](mailto:ljefferies@eastonccc.org.uk) Thanks!

### **A note from the Trustees**

Please note that our fees will be increasing from September 2022.

|  | 8am-9am | 9am-12:50pm | 1pm-4:50pm | 5pm-5:50pm |
|--|---------|-------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Under 2s</b> (Tiny Stars & Tiny Tots) | £7.85   | £36.40      | £36.40     | £7.85      |
| <b>2-3 Years</b> (Sunshine)              | £7.50   | £35.00      | £35.00     | £7.50      |
| <b>3-4 Years</b> (Rainbow)               | £7.25   | £34.15      | £34.15     | £7.25      |

### **Why have our fees increased?**

While we appreciate the increased cost of living is creating additional pressures for all, these costs are also being felt by the Centre, and our number one priority is a sustainable and top-quality experience for your children.

We have seen further increases to the minimum wage (6.6%), our own significant jump in energy bills (175%!) and the overall raised costs of other general goods and services (5.1%). However, funding provided via Bristol City Council has decreased again this year. We now receive just £4.93 per hour, per child, the lowest the rate has ever been.

We cannot absorb these increased costs without increasing fees for private sessions. Meanwhile, please be assured the senior management team are investigating every possible avenue to ensure fees can be affordable for local families.

Please speak to the office if you have any queries about funding or private fees.

Thank you for your support, understanding, feedback and commitment to ECCC. You, your family and our staff team make it a very special place to be.

Lucy and the ECCC Team