Independent evaluation of the Early Years Conversation Project (EYCP): A two-armed cluster randomised waitlist-controlled trial

Further Appendices (4/5)

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Durham University

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Cohort 1 endline manager survey (control settings)

Default Question Block



EYCP Evaluation Final Survey 2025 – Nursery Manager: Waitlist Control Setting

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Early Years Conversation Project (EYCP). We would like you to complete this short survey so that we can learn more about your nursery setting and what 'usual practice' looks like regarding staff Continuing Professional Development (CPD). **This survey should be completed by the nursery manager/headteacher and should take around 10 minutes to complete.**

Confidentiality and Data Processing:

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the Privacy Notice and Information Sheet.

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If you have any questions about this survey or the evaluation of the EYCP project, please contact the evaluation team at: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

Nursery name, please state:

Post code, please state:

Background

This section asks about yourself and your setting:

1. Your name, please state:

2. What is your role? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] Nursery Manager
- [ ] Nursery Owner
- [ ] Head Teacher
- [ ] Deputy Head Teacher
- [ ] School EYFS Lead
- [ ] Other, please state

3. How long have you been in this leadership role? (years/months)

4. How long have you been working in education settings? (years/months)

5. How many rooms/classes of 2 year olds does your nursery have?

6. How many 2 year olds does your nursery have?

7. How many teaching staff/practitioners are based in your 2-3 year olds room(s)/class(es)?

CPD

This section asks about your nursery's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity.

8. Since September 2024, has your nursery/setting undertaken any other language and communication area related CPD programmes?

- ○ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including name, length and delivering mode (online, in person, or hybrid)
- ○ No
- ○ Additional Comments (if have)

9. Since September 2024, other than children's language and communication related-CPD, has your nursery/ setting undertaken any other CPD programmes?

- ○ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including names, subjects/areas, length and delivery mode (online, in person, or hybrid)

- ○ No

10. Since September 2024, have teaching staff/practitioners in your 2-3 year olds class/room undertaken any children's language and communication area related CPD programmes?

- ○ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including names, length and delivery mode (online, in person, or hybrid)

- ○ No

11. What, if any, are the main barriers to staff attending/completing CPD within your nursery setting? Please state:

12. Do nursery staff have an allocated time in their workload each month/year for attending CPD?

- ○ Yes; Please indicate the allocated time (days/hours)

- ○ No

- ○ Additional Comments (if have)

13. Does your nursery/setting have an allocated annual budget for staff CPD training for the 2024/25 school year?

- ○ Yes; Approximately how much?
- ○ No
- ○ Prefer not to disclose

14. Will your setting take part in the EYCP training in the 2025/26 school year?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No, please indicate the reason

15. To what extent were the following aspects of the EYCP programme evaluation difficult for your nursery (0 being 'not difficult' and 2 being 'very difficult')?

	0-Not difficult	1-Somewhat difficult	2-Very difficult	Not sure
Recruiting children and parents to the study.	○	○	○	○
Assessment of children by researchers visiting the nursery.	○	○	○	○
Understanding what was going on as part of the project.	○	○	○	○

16. Do you feel the level of contact by the EYCP team (delivery team from Sheringham Nursery and evalution team from Durham University) during the programme was...?

- ○ To much
- ○ Too little
- ○ About right

17. Do you have any further comments on the EYCP programme?

Thank you for completing the endline survey and supporting the EYCP research. Your answers are valuable to help us learn about the EYCP Programme. If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please email: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

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Cohort 1 endline manager survey (intervention setting)

Default Question Block

EYCP Evaluation Final Survey 2025 – Nursery Manager: Intervention Setting

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Early Years Conversation Project (EYCP). As part of the evaluation, we would like you to complete this final survey so that we can learn more about your nursery's experience with EYCP training and implementation in 2-3 year olds classrooms and what 'usual practice' looks like regarding staff Continuing Professional Development (CPD). **This survey should be completed by the nursery manager/headteacher or Early Years (EY) Lead and should take around 10-15 minutes to complete.**

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Nursery name, please state:

Post code, please state:

Background

This section asks about yourself and your setting:

1. Your name, please state:

2. What is your role? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] Nursery Manager
- [ ] Nursery Owner
- [ ] Head Teacher
- [ ] Deputy Head Teacher
- [ ] School EYFS Lead
- [ ] Other, please state

3. How long have you been in this leadership role?

(years/months)

4. How long have you been working in education settings? (years/months)

5. How many rooms/classes of 2 year olds does your nursery have?

6. How many 2 year olds does your nursery have?

7. How many teaching staff/practitioners are based in your 2-3 year olds room(s)/class(es)?

Experience of the EYCP programme

This section asks about your experience with EYCP programme training and implementation.

8. Have you attended the 1.5 days face-to-face EYCP PD training?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

9. What other aspects of the EYCP PD training have you attended? If so, how much time did you spend on the training?

- ☐ 6 online modules, please indicate the time you spent
- ☐ 9 hub meetings, please indicate the time you sepnt
- ☐ 5 mentor school visits, please indicate the time you spent
- ☐ None of them

10. Have you accessed EYCP digital resources (e.g., Padlet)? If so, how easy do you feel they were to access?

- ○ Easy to assess
- ○ Hard to access
- ○ Not sure
- ○ No/Not applicable

11. How often do you have meetings with the Champion regarding EYCP implementation?

- ○ Daily
- ○ Weekly
- ○ Monthly
- ○ Rarely
- ○ Not sure
- ○ [ ] Others

12. To what extent have you observed positive changes to the following categories within your setting since starting the EYCP programme in September 2024 (0 being 'no changes' and 3 being 'major changes')?

	0-No changes	1-Minor changes	2-Some changes	3-Major changes	Hard to tell
EYCP champion language and communication related practice	○	○	○	○	○
EYCP champion general practice	○	○	○	○	○
Children's language and communication skills	○	○	○	○	○
Other practitioners' language and communication related practice	○	○	○	○	○
Setting language learning environment	○	○	○	○	○

CPD

This section asks about your nursery's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity.

13. Since September 2024, has your nursery/setting undertaken any other language and communication area related CPD programmes?

☐ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including name, length and delivering mode (online, in person, or hybrid)

☐ No

☐ Additional Comments (if have)

14. Since September 2024, other than children's language and communication related-CPD, has your nursery/ setting undertaken any other CPD programmes?

- ○ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including names, subjects/areas, length and delivery mode (online, in person, or hybrid)

- ○ No

15. Since September 2024, have teaching staff/practitioners in your 2-3 year olds class/room undertaken any children's language and communication area related CPD programmes?

- ○ Yes; Please provide a brief description of the programme(s) including names, length and delivery mode (online, in person, or hybrid)

- ○ No

16. What, if any, are the main barriers to staff attending/completing CPD within your nursery setting? Please state:

17. Do nursery staff have an allocated time in their workload each month/year for attending CPD?

- [ ] Yes; Please indicate the allocated time (days/hours)
- [ ] No
- [ ] Additional Comments (if have)

18. Has your nursery incurred any extra costs in terms of the following elements for implementing EYCP in your nursery? Please detail costs below.

- [ ] Staff cover for EYCP champion cost/time to attend training, to do EYCP specific planning or implement EYCP strategies, please specify what the cost was for? How much the cost was?

- [ ] Travel costs to attend training, please specify what the cost was for? How much the cost was?

- [ ] Additional purchases to implement EYCP strategies or access EYCP training, Yes, please specify what the cost was for? How much the cost was?

- [ ] Any other costs

- [ ] No/Not applicable

19. Does your nursery/setting have an allocated annual budget for staff CPD training for the 2024/25 school year?

- ○ Yes; Approximately how much?

○ No

20. To what extent were the following aspects of the EYCP programme evaluation difficult for your nursery (0 being 'not difficult' and 2 being 'very difficult')?

	0-Not difficult	1-Somewhat difficult	2-Very difficult	Not sure
Recruiting children and parents to the study.	○	○	○	○
Assessment of children by researchers visiting the nursery.	○	○	○	○
Understanding what was going on as part of the project.	○	○	○	○

21. Do you feel the level of contact by the EYCP team (delivery team from Sheringham Nursery and evalution team from Durham University) during the programme was...?

○ To much
○ Too little
○ About right

22. Do you have any further comments on the EYCP programme?

Thank you for completing the endline survey and supporting the EYCP research. Your answers are valuable to help us learn about the EYCP Programme. If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please email: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

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Default Question Block

EYCP Evaluation Final Survey 2025 – Nominated EYCP Champion: Waitlist Control Setting

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Early Years Conversation Project (EYCP). We would like you to complete this final survey so that we can learn more about your nursery experience and what 'usual practice' looks like regarding your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and language teaching to children aged 2-3.

This survey should be completed by your setting's **nominated champion** for the EYCP programme. **It has two parts, part one takes around 10-15 minutes, part two take 5-10 minutes to complete. You can save and complete the survey at different time points. As a thank you for your time, we will offer a £15 voucher for your participation.**

Confidentiality and Data Processing:

Further information about what will happen to the data we (the evaluation team based at Durham University) collect as part of this brief survey can be found in the Information Sheet and Privacy Notice. By completing this survey, you agree to your data being used as outlined in the Privacy Notice and Information Sheet. All information collected in this survey will be treated with strict confidentiality and in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. In any reports and publications arising from the evaluation, all data will be presented anonymously with no individuals or schools identified.

If you have any questions about this survey or the evaluation of the EYCP project, please contact the evaluation team on: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

Please enter your nursery name:

Please enter your name:

Are you the nominated EYCP Champion for this project?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Part 1 OLP - Observing Language Pedagogy

In this section, you are invited to watch two short clips of a practitioner interacting with children and reflect on the strategies being used to support children's language development. Please complete the activity on your own rather than together as a team. You can watch the videos more than once and refer to the transcript if you need to (click here: Transcripts) – although we recommend that you watch without the transcript the first time.

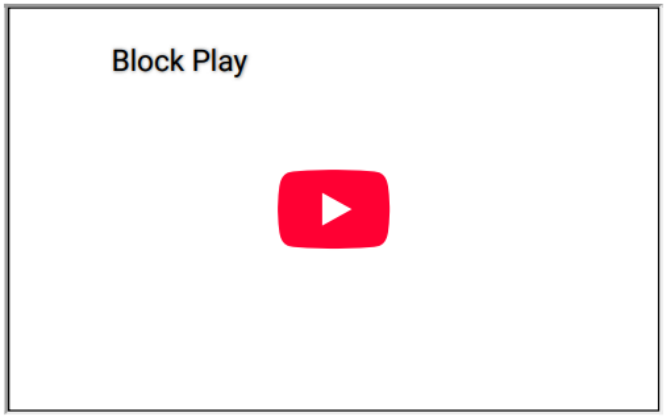
VIDEO 1: BLOCK PLAY

This clip shows a practitioner supporting child-initiated block play. Consider what the adult is doing to support

the children's oral language development. In the box below, record the aspects of the interaction which you think are ***most important*** *for supporting oral language in this context (i.e. will be most powerful in developing the children's oral language, such as communication, vocabulary, grammar and/or narrative skills).*

Give as much detail as you can: please try to record ***at least five distinct strategies*** *or reflections in your response and* ***be specific*** *(e.g. give examples from the video to illustrate what you mean).*

Please press play and write your answer in the box below.



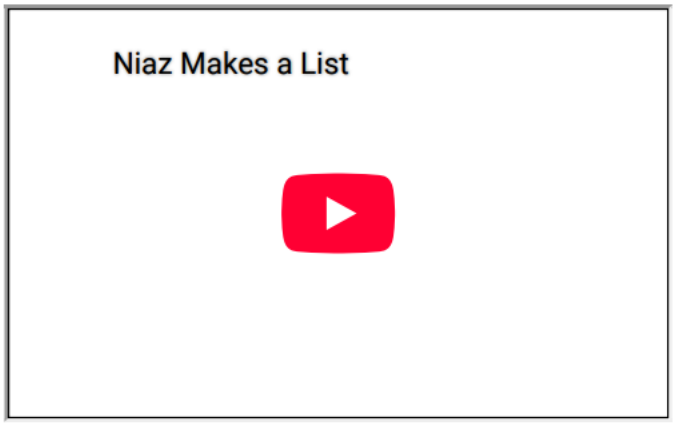
Source: Bradford Nursery Schools (Bradford/A + Education DVD)

VIDEO 2: NIAZ MAKES A LIST

This clip shows a practitioner supporting Niaz to create a shopping list. Consider what the adult is doing to support the children's oral language development. In the box below, record the aspects of the interaction which you think are ***most important*** *for supporting oral language in this context (i.e. will be most powerful in developing the children's oral language, such as communication, vocabulary, grammar and/or narrative skills).*

Give as much detail as you can: please try to record ***at least five distinct strategies*** *or reflections in your response and* ***be specific*** *(e.g. give examples from the video to illustrate what you mean).*

Please press play and write your answer in the box below.



Source: Siren Films

Part 2 EYCP training and implementation

Section 1

This section asks how confident you feel as an early year's practitioner aiming to support children's language development. **There are no right or wrong answers and practitioners vary a great deal in their confidence.** Please read the statements below and rate

your confidence level in your knowledge and teaching skills.

On a scale of 0-4 (0 being 'not at all' and 4 being 'very much') to what extent are you confident in your knowledge and skills in each of the following:

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
1. Helping **typically developing children** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
2. Helping **children with language delay** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
3. Helping children **learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
4. Crafting good **questions** for your children	○	○	○	○	○

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
5. Enabling children to **ask their own questions**	○	○	○	○	○
6. Supporting children to **be good listeners**	○	○	○	○	○
7. **Suggesting activities that families can do** to support children's language development	○	○	○	○	○
8. Supporting children to **be confident** in communicating their wishes and ideas	○	○	○	○	○
9. **Motivating children** to want to communicate more with peers and adults	○	○	○	○	○
10. **Assessing children's** language to identify their need for support	○	○	○	○	○

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
11. **Engaging other early years staff in changes** to language practice	○	○	○	○	○
12. **Making referrals** for extra support for a child with language difficulties	○	○	○	○	○

Section 2

This section asks you about your teaching and usual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) practice in your nursery.

13. How many 2 year olds do you have in your class/room?

14. Do you work full time or part time? If part-time, how many hours do you work in a week?

○ Full time

○ _____ Part time

15. How many practitioners are working with you in your 2-3 years old class?

_____

16. What is your highest early years qualification?

- ○ Level 3 (Related A level, Related level 3 NVQ, Early Years Educator)
- ○ Level 4 (Related Level 4 NVQ e.g. Early Years Advanced Practitioner)
- ○ Level 5 (Related Level 5 NVQ e.g., Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services, or related foundation degree)
- ○ Level 6 (Related Honours degree, Early Years Teacher, Qualified Teacher Status)
- ○ Level 7 (Related Master's degree, Postgraduate Certificate of Education, National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination)
- ○ Level 8 (Related Doctorate)
- ○ Any other please mention in the space below

_____

- ○ Prefer not to disclose/not applicable

17. How long have you been working in early years settings? (years)

- ○ This is my first year
- ○ 1-2 years
- ○ 3-5 years
- ○ 6-10 years
- ○ 11-15 years
- ○ 16-20 years
- ○ More than 20 years

18. Are you allocated to a certain amount of time per yea for doing CPD?

- ○ _____ Yes, how many days?
- ○ No

19. Have you undertaken any CPD for developing children's language and communication since September 2024? If yes, please indicate below:

20. What CPD other than training for developing children's language and communication have you had since September 2024?

21. Do you feel the level of contact by the EYCP teams (delivery team from Sheringham Nursery and evaluation team from Durham University) during the 2024/2025 school year was...?

- ○ Too much
- ○ Too little
- ○ About right

22. Do you have any further comments about the EYCP P programme and/or the evaluation study? If so, please leave your comments below:

Thank you for completing the endline survey and supporting the EYCP research. Your answers are valuable to help us learn about the EYCP Programme. If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please email: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

Please leave your email address for us to send a £15 voucher as a thank you for your time and participation:

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Default Question Block

EYCP Evaluation Final Survey 2025 – EYCP Champion: Intervention Setting

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Early Years Conversation Project (EYCP). As part of the evaluation, we would like you to complete this final survey so that we can learn more about your experience with EYCP training and implementation in your nursery and what 'usual practice' looks like regarding your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and teaching language to children aged 2-3.

This survey should be completed by your **setting's champion** for the EYCP programme. **The survey has two parts, part one may take around 15 minutes, part two may take 10-15 minutes to complete. You can save and complete the survey at different time points. As a thank you for your time, we will offer a £15 voucher for your participation.**

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If you have any questions about this survey or the evaluation of the EYCP project, please contact the evaluation team on: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

Nursery name, please state:

Your name, please state:

Are you the current EYCP Champion working with 2–3-year-olds in your nursery?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Part 1 OLP - Observing Language Pedagogy

In this section, you are invited to watch two short clips of a practitioner interacting with children and reflect on the strategies being used to support children's language development. Please complete the activity on your own rather than together as a team. You can watch the videos more than once and refer to the transcript if you need to (click here: Transcripts) – although we recommend that you watch without the transcript the first time.

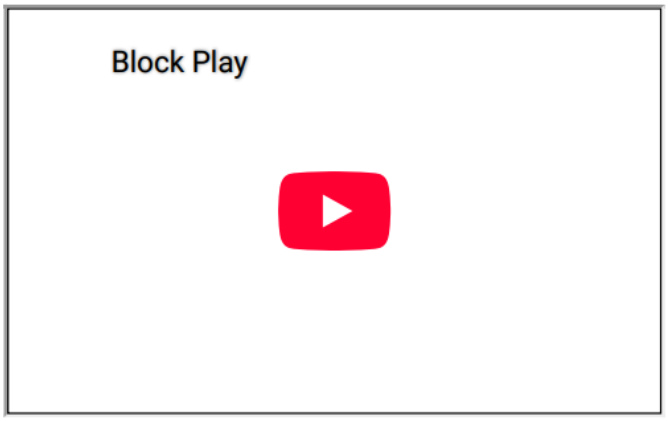
VIDEO 1: BLOCK PLAY

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block play. Consider what the adult is doing to support the children's oral language development. In the box below, record the aspects of the interaction which you think are ***most important*** *for supporting oral language in this context (i.e. will be most powerful in developing the children's oral language, such as communication, vocabulary, grammar and/or narrative skills).*

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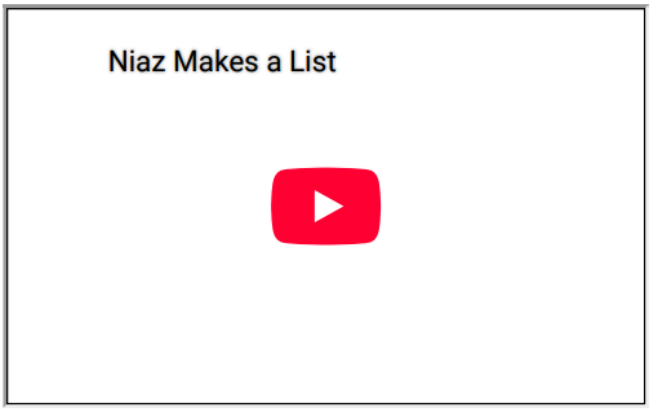
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Source: Siren Films

Part 2 EYCP training and implementation

Section 1

This section asks how confident you feel as an early year's practitioner aiming to support children's language development. **There are no right or wrong answers and practitioners vary a great deal in their confidence.** Please read the statements below and rate

your confidence level in your knowledge and teaching skills.

On a scale of 0-4 (0 being 'not at all' and 4 being 'very much') to what extent are you confident in your knowledge and skills in each of the following:

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
1. Helping **typically developing children** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
2. Helping **children with language delay** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
3. Helping children **learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)** make good progress in their language skills	○	○	○	○	○
4. Crafting good **questions** for your children	○	○	○	○	○

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
5. Enabling children to **ask their own questions**	○	○	○	○	○
6. Supporting children to **be good listeners**	○	○	○	○	○
7. **Suggesting activities that families can do** to support children's language development	○	○	○	○	○
8. Supporting children to **be confident** in communicating their wishes and ideas	○	○	○	○	○
9. **Motivating children** to want to communicate more with peers and adults	○	○	○	○	○
10. **Assessing children's** language to identify their need for support	○	○	○	○	○

	0-Not at all	1-Slightly	2-Somewhat	3-Fairly	4-Very much
11. **Engaging other early years staff in changes** to language practice	○	○	○	○	○
12. **Making referrals** for extra support for a child with language difficulties	○	○	○	○	○

Section 2

This section asks about your experience with EYCP programme training and implementation.

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement (0 being 'completely disagree' and 4 being 'completely agree')?

The EYCP PD training (6 online modules & 1.5 days face to face session) ...

	0-Completely disagree	1-Disagree	2-Neither agree nor disagree	3-Agree	4-Completely agree
...was delivered at the right level for me	○	○	○	○	○

	0- Completely disagree	1-Disagree	2-Neither agree nor disagree	3-Agree	4- Completely agree
...was accessible for me (e.g., digital platform and resources - Padlet)	○	○	○	○	○
...was beneficial to my professional development	○	○	○	○	○
...used materials which were accessible to me	○	○	○	○	○
...provided enough information and support to get started with EYCP	○	○	○	○	○
...was appropriate in frequency and length	○	○	○	○	○

14. Rate the level of importance of the different aspects of the EYCP PD training in supporting you with developing language skills in the classroom (0 being 'not important' and 4 being 'very important')?

	0-Not important at all	1-Least important	2-Neither important nor not important	3-Somewhat important	4-Very important
1.5 days face to face session	○	○	○	○	○
Session 1: Approaches to supporting colleagues	○	○	○	○	○
Session 2: Inclusive practice	○	○	○	○	○
Session 3: Prioritising back and forth interactions	○	○	○	○	○
Session 4: Multilingualism	○	○	○	○	○
Session 5: Working with families	○	○	○	○	○
Session 6: Embedding and sustaining the ShREC Approach	○	○	○	○	○

15. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the hub meetings and mentoring support (0 being 'completely disagree' and 4 being 'completely agree')?

	0- Completely disagree	1- Somewhat disagree	2-Neither agree nor disagree	3- Somewhat agree	4- Completely agree
The time allocated for hub meetings was about right for me.	○	○	○	○	○
The frequency of the hub meetings was about right for me.	○	○	○	○	○
The level of mentor support was beneficial for me.	○	○	○	○	○
The accessibility of the hub meetings was easy (both to the physical venue and online meetings).	○	○	○	○	○
The delivery mode (face to face and online) of the hub meeting was well-balanced.	○	○	○	○	○
The mentors' in-school support visits were beneficial for me.	○	○	○	○	○

	0- Completely disagree	1- Somewhat disagree	2-Neither agree nor disagree	3- Somewhat agree	4- Completely agree
The video reflection of my teaching using ShREC approach was beneficial for me.	○	○	○	○	○

16. How much time do you spend on preparing for using EYCP strategies in your nursery per week? (hours)

17. Have you bought or needed any additional resources in order to implement the EYCP strategies?

○ Yes, what have you bought or needed?

○ No

18. How often do you have meetings with your manager regarding EYCP programme?

○ Rarely

- ○ [ ] Weekly, please indicate the hours
- ○ [ ] Monthly, please indicate the hours
- ○ [ ] Termly, please indicate the hours
- ○ [ ] Others

19. Have you been cascading the EYCP programme to other practitioners in your nursery?

- ○ Yes; please provide more information about to whom, in what way and how often?
  [ ]
- ○ No

20. How often do you use the ShREC (share attention, respond, expand, conversation) approach in your teaching practice?

- ○ Rarely
- ○ 1 day a week
- ○ 2-3 days a week
- ○ More than 3 days a week
- ○ Everyday

- ○ Hard to tell

21. How often do you use the interactive book reading in your class/room?

- ○ Rarely
- ○ 1 day a week
- ○ 2-3 days a week
- ○ More than 3 days a week
- ○ Everyday
- ○ Hard to tell

Section 3

This section asks you about your teaching and usual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) practice in your nursery.

22. How many 2 year olds do you have in your class/room?

23. Do you work full time or part time? If part-time, how many hours do you work in a week?

- ○ Full time
- ○ _____ Part time

24. How many practitioners are working with you in your 2-3 years old class?

_____

25. What is your highest early years qualification?

- ○ Level 3 (Related A level, Related level 3 NVQ, Early Years Educator)
- ○ Level 4 (Related Level 4 NVQ e.g. Early Years Advanced Practitioner)
- ○ Level 5 (Related Level 5 NVQ e.g., Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services, or related foundation degree)
- ○ Level 6 (Related Honours degree, Early Years Teacher, Qualified Teacher Status)
- ○ Level 7 (Related Master's degree, Postgraduate Certificate of Education National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination)
- ○ Level 8 (Related Doctorate)

○ Any other please mention in the space below:

26. How many days CPD have you done other than EYCP training since September 2024? (days)

27. Other than EYCP training, what (if any) language and communication related CPD have you undertaken since September 2024?

28. Do you feel the level of contact by the EYCP team (delivery team from Sheringham Nursery and evalution team from Durham University) during the programme was...?

○ Too much
○ Too little

○ About right

29. Do you have any further comments about the EYCP programme? If so, please leave your comments below:

Thank you for completing the endline survey and supporting the EYCP research. Your answers are valuable to help us learn about the EYCP Programme. If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please email: eycp.evaluation@durham.ac.uk

Please leave your email address for us to send a £15 voucher as a thank you for your time and participation:

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