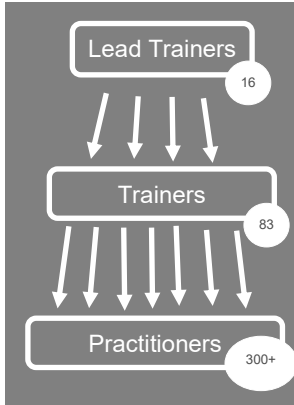


Physical Development (PD) Train the Trainer

PD Train the Trainer has influenced physical development practice across the Early Years sector in Greater Manchester.



Overview

Improving PD outcomes is a key priority in the Greater Manchester (GM) School Readiness programme.

PD Train the Trainer was developed in Stockport, to upskill Early Years practitioners with a better overall understanding of PD, why interventions are in place, provide a consistent message and identify how they can support at the earliest opportunity to reduce delayed development and referrals to specialist teams.

The training is delivered in a cascade model to reach as many people as possible and has been rolled out in Stockport, Manchester and Salford. Currently there are 16 Lead Trainers, 83 Trainers and over 300 practitioners trained.

Multi Agency Approach

The training has been delivered to a wide range of Early Years professionals, across the 3 localities, to ensure that the messaging and content is delivered to a broad range of audiences. Those that have attended the training include, Health Visitors, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Outreach workers, Children's Centre Managers, Leisure Trust staff, Community Nursery Nurses, Speech and Language Therapists, Nursery practitioners and Teachers.

Impact

Regular focus groups have been held to keep in touch with the Lead Trainers and Trainers from across the 3 areas, which has captured their reflections and impact that they have seen as a result of the training.

"Even though it's something you do everyday, not everybody understands why we're doing something. This is why it's important a child crawls. So, when children arrives at our nursery, and are unable to do certain things at age two, we could put the reason 'why' and what we need to be doing, for them to catch up."

Donna Robinson, Ladybirds Nursery

"I think from an OT perspective it's important, and recognising it and seeing the referral coming from other professionals as well. I just thought it's really important that, you know, paediatricians have that reminder and everybody that has that. Those that see those children at those early ages, and work with those families"

Natalie Adshead, Occupational Therapist

"We've made a few adaptations to the Mini Movers programme, conversations about benefits for those children who are walking, crawling, bum shuffling etc. But it was getting the narrative right for those children in the stage before, the pre-walkers. Discussion with parents/carers that its beneficial for socialisation, getting eyes moving and looking around the room, hear music, different lights etc"

Hannah Bowler, Life Leisure

"A lot of people have said that they are talking more about tummy time and the importance of crawling and things like that which we hadn't necessarily been as aware of. We knew we had to talk about it, and had an idea of why it was important, but all the other things that come into it, that's been a bit of an eye opener for most people and something they can talk about, school readiness to parents that, new birth visit, its not something we'd have discussed before because we didn't understand how relevant it was. But now having that understanding is making it more of a conversation.

Katy Harrison, Health Visitor

"The boys are lying under tables and drawing, we have a really big issue with boys and them engaging. But they've been lying on the floor underneath the table and there's all paper stuck underneath, and they're mark making under the tables."

Donna Robinson, Ladybirds Nursery

Next Steps

GMCA are continuing to evaluate the programme and make additions and amends to the training slides and resources, with the view of potentially rolling out the training to more localities in 2025.