

hey!

Year One Report

February 2024

coram | **hemp'sall's**
delivering change together



hey!

Our first year has flown by – this is what we did and what we have planned...

- We're here to provide a modern, informed, values led positive approach to supporting early years learning, an approach that continually evolves drawing upon research and evidence while still acknowledging its rich history and traditions.
- Work with us to raise quality and achieve better outcomes through a deep understanding and knowledge of curriculum progression.
- We want to inspire early educators to develop an informed and confidence pedagogical repertoire that optimises children's learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).



In those early days of 2022, and throughout the spring and summer terms we had settled in the germ of the idea of hey! and started to build our new proposition for the profession, and in doing so set out our aim and mission.



By achieving this we will all be better placed to create conditions for learning, with effective observation and assessment, professional interventions, high quality teaching and the provision of enabling environments. We can use evidence-based, research-driven approaches to supporting the most effective and impactful practice. And we can make best use of the EYFS, enhancing the statutory framework through exploring the influence of international models, pedagogy, and curricula, recognising the importance of cultural identity and diversity. Because we need to better enable and inspire early years practitioners' confidence to develop and sustain a responsive, reflective and informed approach to the best possible practice.

Jan Dubiel | Project Director for Hey!
at Coram Hemsalls

hey!

A year in review

- Researching and developing **our first policy paper**: Reshaping the future of early childhood education <https://hempalls.com/assets/attachments/pages/Hey!-Reshaping-the-Future-of-ECE-6-October-2022-FINAL.pdf>
- Holding our online **launch conference** on 6 October 2022: EYFS reform 2021: one year on, speakers and paper. 1,600 people signed up for that free three-hour event, and over 950 attended on the day, with almost 1.5k people have viewed the recording since, you can find that here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmPGU3Wq40A&t=5s>



1600

signed up for the
three hour event



950

attended on the day



1.5k

viewed the recording

- Shared a **conversation** with James and Jan all about the Reshaping the future of early childhood education policy paper watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fl9jxgSKDP8>
- Shared our mission and held a conversation at the **Nursery World Business Summit** in March 2023 where Jan set out our approach and focused on children at the centre and achieving better outcomes in emotional wellbeing, physical development, social development, language, learning behaviours, embedding the curriculum, and effective CPD and professional status. Discussions were held around what all of us as different stakeholders can do that isn't already being done to achieve our shared goals.
- Shared our mission and held a conversation at the **Children and Young People Now evidence conference** also in March 2023, with our workshop entitled Einstein's Challenges – the role of data in early childhood education. We concluded and called for data to be understood by everyone, and for it to be drawn from a realistic, informed, and authentic understanding of young children, and that it should reflect significant elements of young children's learning and stages of development.





Blogged

- We asked Can we bring our sector together better by redrafting our lexicon? <https://workstylelifestyle.blog/2022/09/30/can-we-bring-our-sector-together-better-by-redrafting-our-lexicon/>
- We reflected upon the use of data and our C&YPN conference workshop in March 2023 <https://workstylelifestyle.blog/2023/04/04/not-everything-is-countable-but-early-education-outcomes-are/>
- We wondered, what the world would be like without early education and childcare: <https://workstylelifestyle.blog/2023/02/17/stop-take-a-minute-and-imagine-a-world-without-pre-school-learning/>

Held our first live conference

- Our event set out a challenge to the sector to consider how we all could, no should, nay must, reframe the future of early childhood education. It was a natural follow up from our launch our hugely popular online conference in October. That all made us feel like a movement has begun. Jan explored in more detail the policy paper and set out the actions required. He again called for a mission that could take the messages from the sector out to the wider education community, to better nurture and grow everyone's understanding of the work we all do. Jan asked for us all to identify the things that connect us, and not focus only on those micro-details that can all too easily and unhelpfully drive us apart. He suggested that we need to embed the understanding and use of children's learning behaviours and as a consequence of this; proposed the Characteristics of Effective Learning supporting the EYFS be reviewed and brought up to date. We also enjoyed a stellar line up of expert speakers: Dr Jools Page, Dr Lala Manners, and Sarah Tillotson from the Education Endowment Foundation, with debate and discussion chaired by former Nursery World editor Liz Roberts. Read more here: <https://workstylelifestyle.blog/2023/03/27/a-big-early-childhood-education-day/>

15 March 2023
Coram in
London





We went local

- We were the guest speakers at Doncaster's EYFS schools event in November providing a national briefing which included informing everyone about the Stronger Practice Hubs and reviewing OFSTED's 'Best Start in Life: Setting the Scene' and how this connects with an informed approach to pedagogy in the EYFS. We returned in January to address headteachers and providing an overview of the Early Year Recovery Programme and the importance of effective CPD.
- We spent a day in Buckinghamshire. In the morning we held EYFS briefings for headteachers focussing on the use of EYFS Profile data to support the quality of practice and provision, in the afternoon we worked with managers and leaders from across the early education sector exploring effective approach to pedagogy.
- In March we delivered a virtual briefing for EYFS leads in schools and spoke at the regional NDNA conference for Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire exploring the current challenges and the hey! mission.
- A keynote conference speech was given in Wakefield for their early years conference in June that explored the potency of EYFS educators and the key principles and practices that should underpin a pedagogical repertoire.
- We also started curriculum development consultancy alongside colleagues at the Astrea multi-academy trust in the South Yorkshire region.



Get involved – our offer for 2024 and beyond



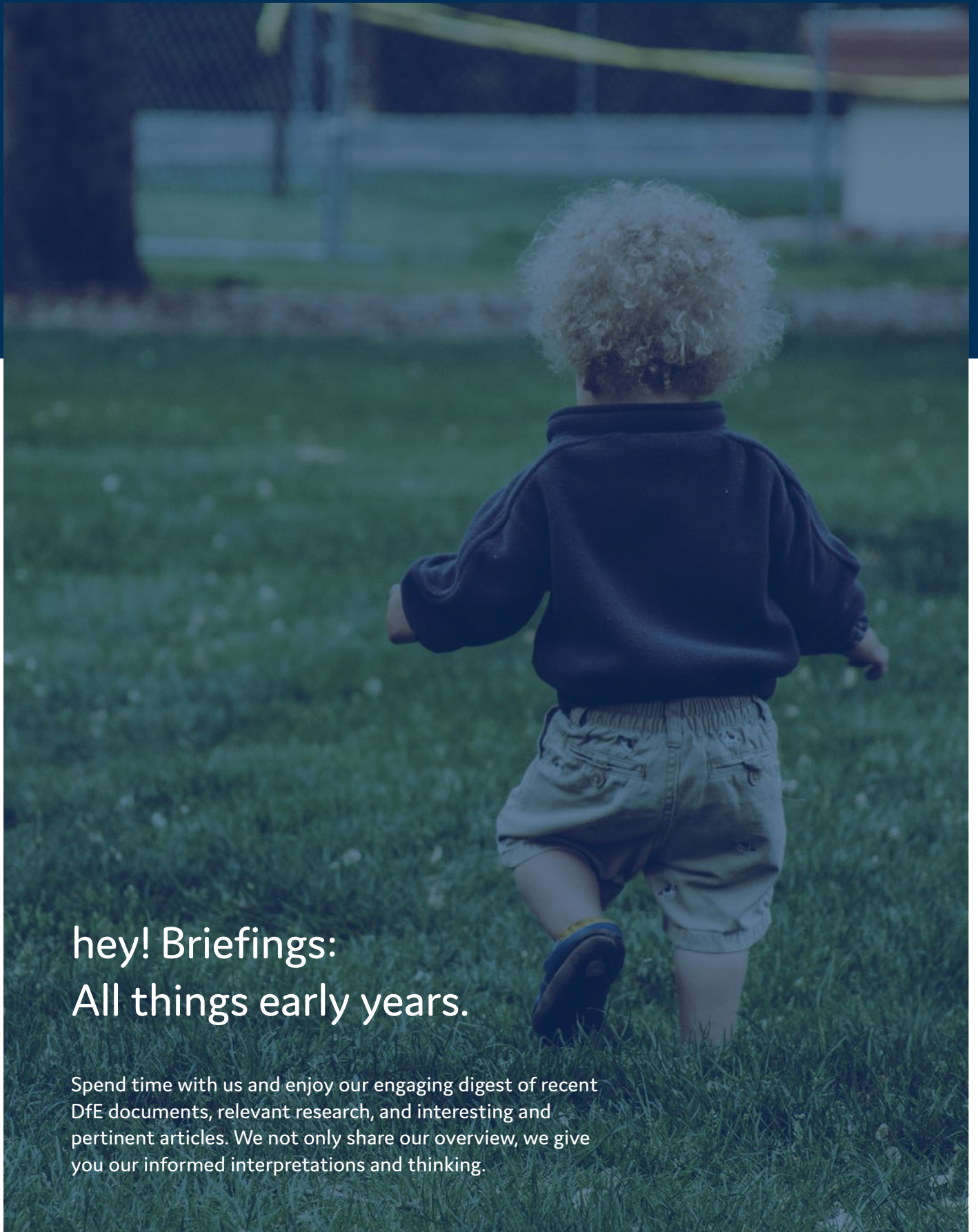
Information briefings, training, onsite support, and consultancy.

Online and on-site services and programmes for parents, schools, academies, all types of early years setting, organisations, local authorities, and national government departments.

Briefings and informed explorations of the national and international picture, the identifiable contemporary ideas and beliefs, and the known and potential policy direction of travel. With guidance on how this may affect everyday practice and provision, the implications for early educators, and how this can be interpreted and used for maximum benefits.

Evidence-based training, research and consultancy to achieve the best in early years practice. With packages of CPD support that entail linked sessions with opportunities for reflection, application and dissemination in settings.

Advice with practice reviews, support for developing quality provision, supporting effective assessment and the EYFS profile. Auditing provision for quality and identifying/targeting CPD needs.



hey! Briefings: All things early years.

Spend time with us and enjoy our engaging digest of recent DfE documents, relevant research, and interesting and pertinent articles. We not only share our overview, we give you our informed interpretations and thinking.



hey! Continuous Professional Development training.

Compact two-hour sessions up to full days containing bespoke continuous professional development for differentiated groups (leaders and managers, headteachers and schools, practitioners of all types and levels) on all relevant aspects such as:

- Implementing the revised EYFS, achieving change and impacts.
- Supporting curriculum progression.
- Creating quality experiences that nurture children's cognitive development.
- Developing a pedagogical repertoire.
- Effective assessment, to support learning and demonstrate progress and impact on children's learning and development.
- Supporting consistency of assessment judgements through developing strategies for effective moderation.

From 2 hour
to full day
group sessions

hey! In best practice.

We come and work with you in your early years workplace. This is more specific and targeted in nature to support identified elements of practice, most likely involving an initial self-complete questionnaire, a half-day initial audit observation visit, an onsite support visit with suggested actions, bespoke training input(s) to work through the suggested actions, and a gap task to review what needs to happen next. Usually this is for 3-6 days.



About Coram

Coram is the UK's oldest children's charity founded by Thomas Coram in London helping vulnerable children and young people since 1739. Today, the Coram group helps more than one million children, young people, families and professionals every year by providing access to the skills and opportunities they need to thrive.

Founded in 1999, Coram Hemsall's supports organisations independently and within Childcare Works programmes – notably in early years, childcare sufficiency, the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), local authorities, and central governments – to achieve change and deliver best practice, with a particular focus on tackling inequality and the effects of disadvantage. Coram Hemsall's provides project management, consultancy and research in early years and childcare, as well as delivering relevant training workshops and courses. We joined the Coram Group in 2023.

Download

Download our leaflet:
[Say hey to hey - new services from Hemsalls](#)

Contact us

Contact us to find out how we can help:
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