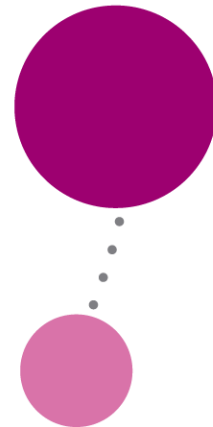




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Welcome to our Early  
Years Lead Practitioner  
Apprenticeship Taster  
session!



# Introduction

## Emma Reading

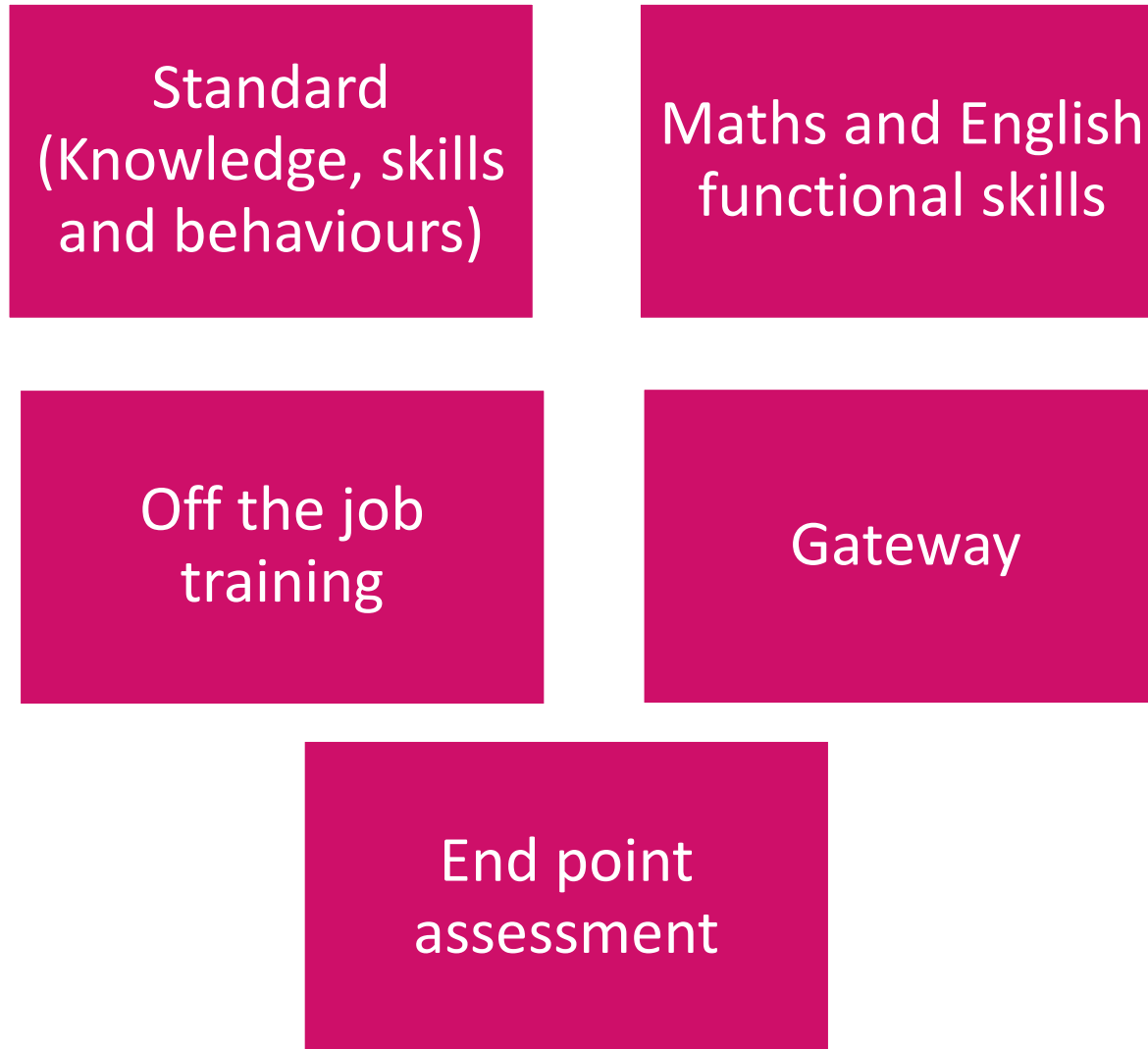
Curriculum  
Manager – Early  
Years, Teaching  
Assistant and  
Playworker



## Tatia Singleton

Early Years Virtual  
Classroom Tutor

# What is an apprenticeship made up of?



# EYLP L5 Apprenticeship Overview

- 18 month programme + 5 months EPA (for full time learner – minimum duration 12 months)
- Designed for those in a leadership role in an EY setting
- Functional skills maths and English L2 (mandatory for 16-18 year olds who have not achieved equivalent qualifications)
- Delivered in cohorts
- 19 online sessions
- Fully recognised qualification in line with the EYFS



# What are the benefits of the apprenticeship?



- Support development of lead practitioners through specific early years focused leadership training
- Supports development of knowledge skills and behaviours to excel in the role
- Offers a route into higher education whilst working and gaining practical experience
- Develop confidence, communication skills and support your wider learning
- Opportunity to gain a fully funded qualification (95% government funded)

# How will this apprenticeship support my career progression?



# Our Delivery Plan



Blended programme of face to face and online study



Progress reviews every 6 weeks



Specialist 1-2-1 Tutor Support



BPN boost – personal development, career information advice and guidance and welfare programme



Regular reflections on learning and practice



Partnership working between BPN, the apprentice and the employer

# Code of conduct and expectations



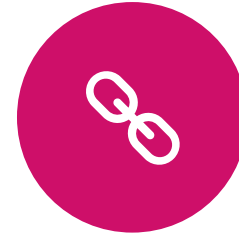
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SILENT



CAMERA ON



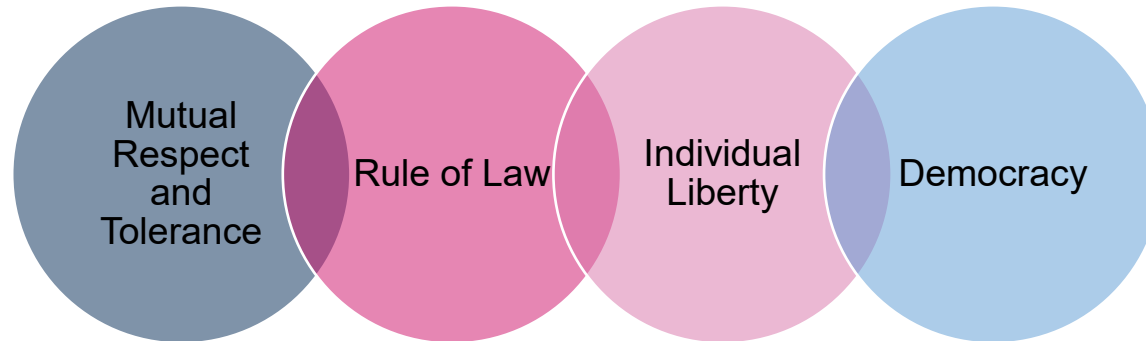
ACTIVE  
LISTENING



JOIN IN



BE  
RESPECTFUL  
OF OTHERS



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# The aim of today is:

Explain how early years leaders can shape inspiring environments that support every child's development, and support their teams to do the same



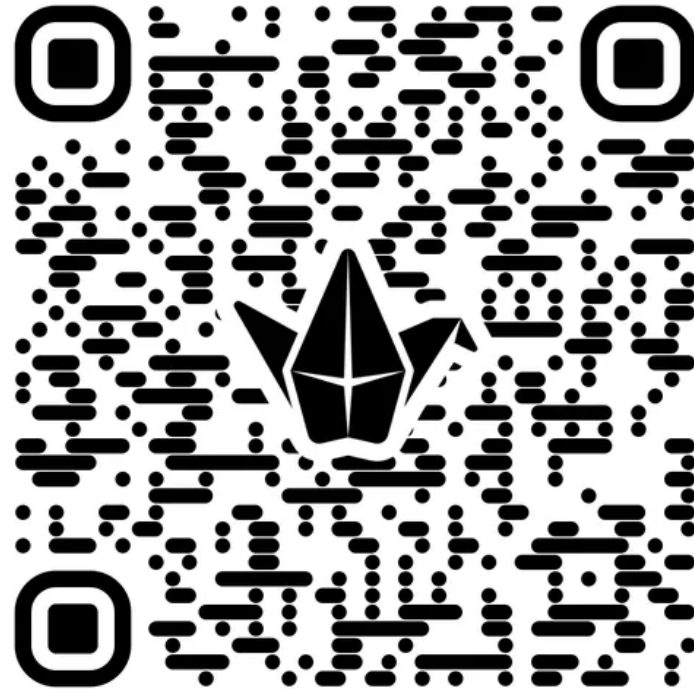


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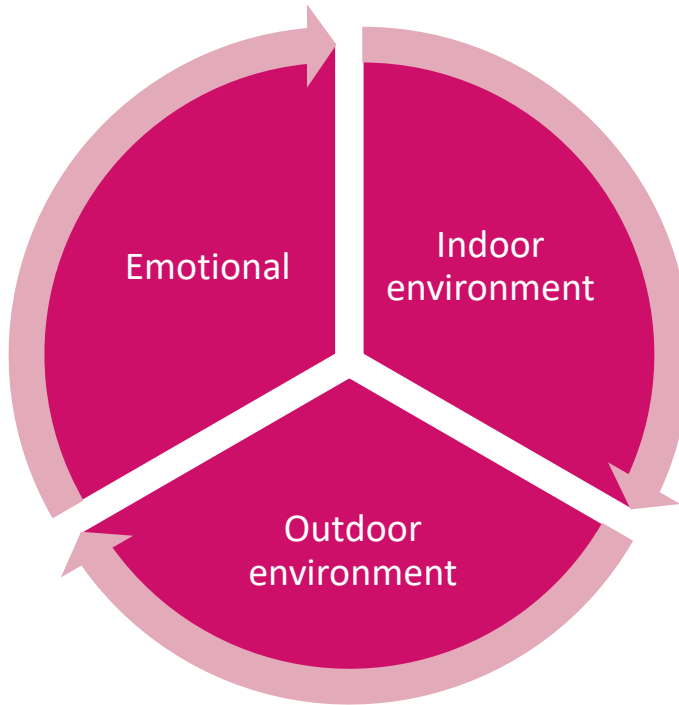
How confident are you with exciting and enabling environments?

# What makes an exciting and enabling environment?

Add examples onto the padlet of how to create exciting and enabling environments and how to inspire your team to create these!



# Three aspects: Environment



The environment is more than physical space because it contains the emotions of the children who spend time in it, the staff that work there and the parents who leave their children there. The emotional environment is an invisible measure of 'feelings'

Indoor space needs careful planning as it needs to be flexible to accommodate children's changing interests and needs. Resources should be of the highest quality. Books need to be attractive and well maintained and reflect children's fascinations. be accessible by children themselves.

Ideally children should have access to outdoor space daily – regardless of all except the worst weather. Being outdoors allows them to move around without many of the restrictions of being inside.

Reflect on these 3 aspects – how can they be supported?

# Theories in practice - Montessori

Watch the video and make notes. What do you like about the environment?

How would you support your team in implementing changes to your environment to suit this approach?



[A glimpse into a Montessori toddler classroom](#)



# The Curiosity Approach

The curiosity approach aims to give children back freedom by enabling natural curiosity and imagination.

When adopting this teaching method, children are able to think for themselves, make their own choices, and direct their own learning.



# How are you feeling?

Add an emoji into the chat box to show how you are feeling about the information you have been taught so far.

Is there anything you need more support with?



# Scenario – what would you do?



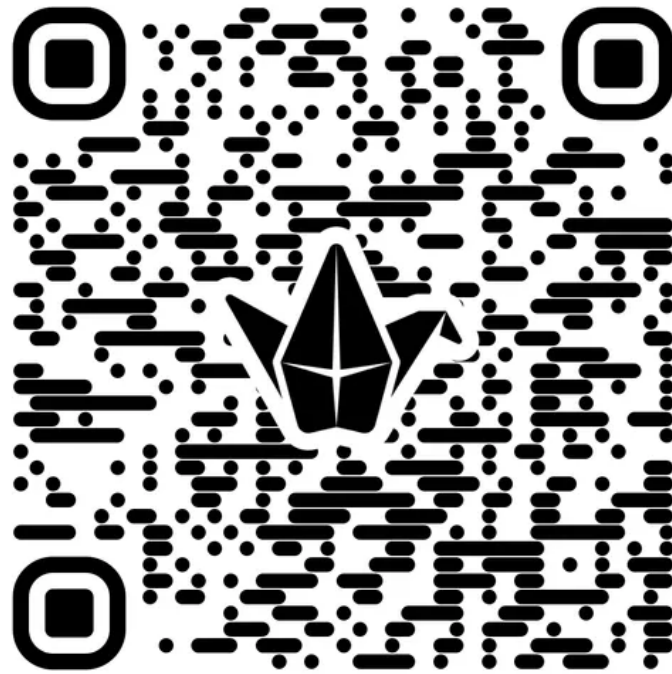
You notice one room uses lots of plastic toys. The room is always cluttered and children do not seem to focus for long at any one activity, often just running around the room. The team are overwhelmed and don't know where to start.

What would you suggest to develop the environment?

How would you support this change as a leader?



# Leading change to the environment



Use the  
Padlet to  
share your  
ideas!

# Top tips to leading changes to the environment!



- **Lead by Example** - Inspire others through your own high-quality practice, whether that's setting up environments, engaging with children, or modelling inclusive play.
- **Support and Develop Your Team** - Coach and guide colleagues, sharing knowledge, offering feedback, and helping them grow in confidence and skill.
- **Reflect and Improve Practice** - Take time to reflect on what's working (and what's not) and lead changes based on observations, evidence, and the needs of the children.
- **Use Theory to Shape Real Practice** - Understand and apply key theories, like Froebel, Montessori or Vygotsky - not just for assignments, but to guide decision-making and spark new ideas.
- **Champion Children's Voice and Development** - Put children's interests, needs and development at the heart of everything, and encourage others to do the same.

# How are you feeling?

Add an emoji into the chat box to show how you are feeling about the information you have been taught so far.

Is there anything you need more support with?



# Quiz time!



What is the curiosity approach?

What are the 3 aspects of an enabling environment?

Give one example of how you can lead change to the environment.

Give one example of how Montessori can influence the environment.



1

2

3

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How confident are you now with exciting and enabling environments?



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## Next steps

**Apply on our website!**

<https://www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/early-years-lead-practitioner-level-5-apprenticeship>

**Contact us:**

**enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk** or  
call **0117 920 9200**

**Any  
questions?**

