



**THINC**  
Tower Hamlets Inclusive  
Nursery School Consortium



**TOWER HAMLETS**

# THINC Services for Schools and Early Years Settings

Training Brochure Summer 2018



[www.thinc.org.uk](http://www.thinc.org.uk)







Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the new early years training offer to schools and early years settings. This brochure contains information you will need about services available from the Tower Hamlets Nursery School Consortium (THINC).

## What is THINC?

THINC is an alliance between the six unique and outstanding Tower Hamlets Nursery schools; Its main aims are to improve social mobility by supporting schools in improving provision, raising standards and narrowing attainment gaps. THINC is led by an experienced group of five nursery school head teachers and a school improvement partner. Through the partnership, together we have built a network that can support schools and settings to become and remain sustainably good or better.

Sharing experiences, expertise and resources across schools we maximise the availability of support and make the very best practice that exists available for everyone.



Our shared vision is based on the belief that every child is entitled to the same high quality early education no matter who is delivering it. We aim to take a leadership role in delivering sector led improvement across the borough and beyond through innovative and collaborative partnerships.

Our ultimate goal is to improve outcomes for all children but especially our most vulnerable and their families. We want to inspire, motivate and

challenge all early years practitioners to be the best that they can be through support, training, leadership and innovative bespoke packages.

This high quality support will have measurable and sustained impact.



## Accessing Training and Support

We hope you find this brochure easy to use. It will soon be available online together with a current list of charges.

In developing our offer, we understand that budgets are tighter than ever and we strive to provide good value for money in these challenging times.

We know that we share with you all a vision for ensuring that all children in Tower Hamlets have the support they need to live safe, happy, healthy, successful lives and get off to the best possible start with their early education.

We look forward to working with you this year and going forward, to ensure that the shared vision of THINC becomes a reality for all children in Tower Hamlets.



### How the Service Works

The brochure outlines the training and services we can provide to schools and settings in Tower Hamlets along with the additional enhanced support that we can offer.

At the back of this brochure you will also find the course booking forms and information on how you can contact THINC to discuss your training needs.

Your partnership lead will work with your school to discuss our services, and between us, we will coordinate the services you need for the 2018/19 academic year and provide you with a full price breakdown to discuss with your governors. We will also help you with any amendments you may require after our initial discussions.

The consortium can offer everything from training days open to everyone to a bespoke package of support unique to your school or setting.





“Tell me and I forget  
Show me and I remember  
Involve me and I understand”



## Biographies



**Lynn Cottle** is the head teacher of Alice Model Nursery School in Stepney and executive head teacher of Columbia Market Nursery School in Bethnal Green. Columbia Market Nursery School, which is housed a listed wooden building, was built in the 1930's as part of the experimental open air schooling. The nursery continues this today with its amazing outside area where children experience forest school, mud kitchens, and grow vegetables.

Alice Model was a pioneering campaigner for mothers and children's welfare, who opened a nursery in 1901. We continue her valuable work today as a national support school. Alice Model Nursery School offers a rich range of learning experiences and is committed to learning together.

Lynn is a National Leader of Education. For the majority of her career Lynn has worked in Newham and Tower Hamlets. Previously she was a deputy head teacher of a primary school. Lynn is passionate about working in partnership with staff and parents to ensure high quality play based on real life experiences.

**Kath Beck** is a freelance education consultant currently working mostly with the nursery school headteachers in Tower Hamlets, and headteachers in Newham and Essex. She believes firmly that all children should have access to rich and engaging experiences throughout their education. They have only one chance and it should be the best.

Kath has been the headteacher of two large primary schools, the Chair of Governors of a secondary and primary school, and free-lance inspector. As a contractor, and deputy director of an inspection provider Kath worked closely with HMI.

Kath likes to travel. On a recent trip to Australia, she was amazed to find the hotel in the middle of the outback had no knowledge of her booking. Fortunately a room was found because it was a long and dangerous walk to the next one!



**Becky Dolamore** is the head teacher of Rachel Keeling Nursery School in Bethnal Green. Rachel Keeling is a highly creative school and an exciting place to learn. The child's voice is at the heart of Rachel Keeling and a love of learning is fostered.

Becky has been a teacher in Tower Hamlets for nearly twenty years in primary and early years. Becky was a trailblazer for the forest school movement in Tower Hamlets and is passionate about storytelling and story acting with young children.

Becky lives in London with her two children and is an award winning hospital radio presenter.



**Chris Lewis** is the head teacher of Children's House Nursery School in Bow. Children's House operates out of a listed building and has a rich and colourful history of which the staff are very proud. The school was opened by HG Wells in 1931 and has played host to many visiting dignitaries, including Mahatma Gandhi. Children's House is a dynamic learning community where children, families and staff have access to rich and exciting experiences. All staff have developed expertise in rapidly developing children's speech and language by adopting an approach which engages the whole family.

Previously, Chris worked in the field of special educational needs. She is a qualified teacher of the hearing impaired and has additional qualifications in audiology and early years. She has been a borough head of sensory services, head of a unit for deaf children, and an inclusion consultant and can offer advice and support on including children with a range of additional needs.

At Children's House we may think about what children will become tomorrow, but we never forget that they are someone today.



**Sarah Helm** is the head teacher of Old Church Nursery School in Stepney.

After teaching for many years in primary schools she became a Maths Consultant working across Islington, Hackney and Tower Hamlets. It was during this time that she began to specialise in Early Years.

After visiting Denmark, to look at Forest Schools, Sarah and her staff became convinced that the philosophy behind early education in Denmark had much to offer inner city children in London. The idea that young children were “competent beings” capable of leading their own learning, gaining self-esteem and confidence in a natural environment was compelling.

Sarah lives in London with her family and far too many animals!



**Alexandra Law**

I am currently enjoying being the Head teacher of Harry Roberts Nursery School. Having trained in Scotland, I then moved to East London and I have taught in several schools, over the last thirty years there.

In more recent years, I have specialised in Early Years, which I love because I believe strongly if we get it right in the early years we set children up well for the best start in life.

My other educational interests include supporting bilingualism, special needs, learning through play and working with parents. I am also regular Tweeter!

Harry Roberts Nursery is a larger than average nursery school in Mile End with approximately 100 children. The children learn through play supported, by skilled practitioners and enjoy a high quality learning environment indoors and outdoors.



“Play is the highest form of research” Einstein



## Kath Beck School Improvement Partner THINC

### Course Title:

Be prepared  
(for your inspection)

### Course Outline:

Understand the inspection process.  
Think about the evidence to collate and confirm views expressed in the school's self-evaluation. How to demonstrate capacity to improve and be confident in interviews.

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for Early Years Coordinators and headteachers.

### Course Objectives

- to outline current short inspection processes
- to support Early Years Coordinators so they are prepared and confident when talking to an inspector
- to enable Early Years Coordinators to collate relevant evidence
- to understand the importance of demonstrating the capacity to improve

### Course Outcomes

You will be confident about your next inspection; know what to say to an inspector, and provide appropriate evidence.

### Course Details

Date: Thursday 24th May 2018

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Venue: Old Church Nursery School

Cost: £50

Early bird discount: £40

Facilitator: Kath Beck

**How do I apply?** See page 16







# Harry Roberts Nursery School

*nurturing and inspiring*

## Course Title

### War, Weapon and Superhero Play

#### Course Outline:

- reflect on why this play is important to children
- explore the issues involved and learn how to support it

#### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

#### Course Objectives:

- to raise awareness of the importance of War, Weapon and Superhero Play to children and why
- to support practitioners in planning and supporting this play
- to consider the emotions involved with this play
- to consider how this play relates to the EYFS

## Course Outcomes

Practitioners will :

- be equipped with ideas to take back to their own setting
- be motivated and confident to share expertise in their own setting
- understanding the importance of this play and how to support it

## Course Details

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Date: Thursday 7th June 2018

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Time: 2pm - 4pm

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Venue: Harry Roberts Nursery School

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Cost: £50

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Early bird discount: £40

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Facilitator: Alexandra Law

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**How do I apply?** See page 16

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## Columbia Market Nursery School

### Course Title

Maths is Everywhere  
Developing Children’s Mathematical  
Understanding and Thinking

### Course Outline:

We will explore how children develop early mathematical understanding.  
Appreciate how providing high quality play opportunities and exciting enabling environments increases mathematical curiosity.

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

### Course Objectives:

- exploring real-life scenarios in order to encourage and develop mathematical skills in counting and early calculation.
- to enable practitioners to support children to represent their mathematical thinking through mark-making and construction.
- to support work with parents on ‘Maths at Home’
- increasing practitioners understanding that “maths is everywhere” through developing the continuous provision within your setting,

### Course Outcomes

Practitioners will have further developed their ability to identify and extend maths learning. They will feel empowered to share their understanding of enabling environments within their setting.

### Course Details

Date: Thursday 14th June 2018

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Venue: Columbia Market Nursery School

Cost: £50

Early bird discount: £40

Facilitator: Lynn Cottle / Kim Waters

**How do I apply?** See page 16







## Children's House Nursery School



### Course Title

'Wow it's a Dinosaur'  
Supporting Block Play in the Early Years

### Course Outline:

Learn new ways to support children's open ended play with blocks and simple materials  
See how hands on exploration and spontaneous creative play supports learning across all areas of the EYFS curriculum.

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

### Course Objectives

- to raise awareness of the importance of block play in the EYFS
- to support practitioners to plan for open ended play with blocks and simple materials
- to understand how children find ways to express and develop their thoughts through imaginative play
- to support practitioners in identifying links with the EYFS
- to understand ways to provide an effective learning environment

### Course Outcomes

Practitioners will have increased:  
understanding of the benefits of block play  
will be equipped with ideas to take back to their own setting  
will be motivated and confident to share expertise in their own setting  
understanding of enabling environments

### Course Details

Date: Tuesday 19th June 2018

Time: 2pm – 4pm

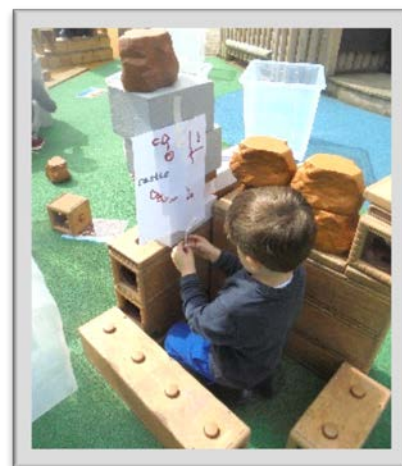
Venue: Children's House Nursery School

Cost: £50

Facilitator: Chris Lewis / Guthsna Khan

Early bird discount: £40

**How do I apply?** See page 16





## Rachel Keeling Nursery School



### Course Title

**Unlocking the Magic with Persona Dolls -**  
Supporting emotional literacy in the Early Years.

### Course Outline:

Join our experienced and sensitive practitioners to learn how to support emotional literacy through the use of Persona Dolls.

See how empathy, problem solving and communication supports learning across all areas of the EYFS curriculum.

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

### Course Objectives

- to raise awareness of the importance of supporting emotional literacy and empathy in the EYFS
- to support practitioners to plan for and lead the implementation of Persona Dolls in their setting
- to develop an understanding of equality issues in a safe, supportive environment
- to understand ways to support behaviour and your school values

### Course Outcomes

Practitioners will:  
have a clear understanding of the benefits of using Persona Dolls with children; will be inspired to take back to their own setting; will be motivated and confident to begin to lead sessions in their own setting; have an increased understanding of developing empathy in young children.

### Course Details

Date: Tuesday 26th June 2018

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Venue: Rachel Keeling Nursery School

Cost: £50

Early bird discount: £40

Facilitator: Becky Dolamore / Linda Yon

**How do I apply?** See page 16







## Alice Model Nursery School



### Course Title

Learning through Real Life Experiences

### Course Outline:

Exploring ways in which learning can be addressed in a meaningful context to the child. Help children to make sense of the world around them, and give real-life context to support learning through play.

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

### Course Objectives

- to demonstrate high quality learning opportunities which have developed through real life experiences.
- to understand that children respond to developing their interests in all curriculum areas through real life experiences. Enabling the children to develop as active learners.
- to share examples of ways in which this has developed including parental engagement within the nursery.

### Course Outcomes

Proving strategies to help extend children’s learning through high levels of engagement. Practitioners will have practical ideas to develop exciting, enabling environments.

### Course Details

Date: Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Time: 2pm – 4pm

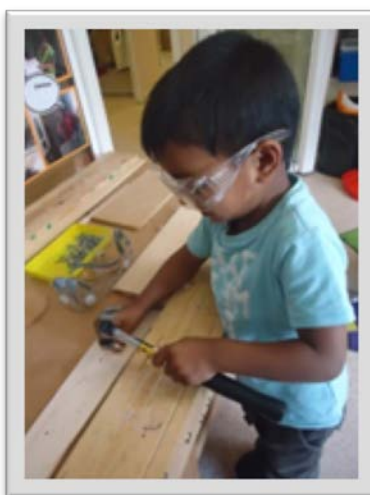
Venue: Alice Model Nursery School

Cost: £50

Early bird discount: £40

Facilitator: Lynn Cottle / Deirdre Dixon

**How do I apply?** See page 16





## Old Church Nursery School

### Course Title:

Forest School and Outdoor Learning

### Course Outline:

Learn how to set up Forest School and maximise opportunities for independent outdoor learning

### Target Audience

This training is suitable for all Early Years and Foundation Stage practitioners and students.

### Course Objectives

- to raise awareness of the importance of outdoor learning
- to support practitioners to plan for opportunities that offer children the chance to develop self-confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment.

### Course Outcomes

Practitioners will have increased understanding of the benefits of outdoor learning and Forest School and will be equipped with practical ideas to take back to their own settings

### Course Details

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Date: Tuesday 10th July 2018

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Time: 2pm – 4pm

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Venue: Old Church Nursery School

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Cost: £50

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Early bird discount: £40

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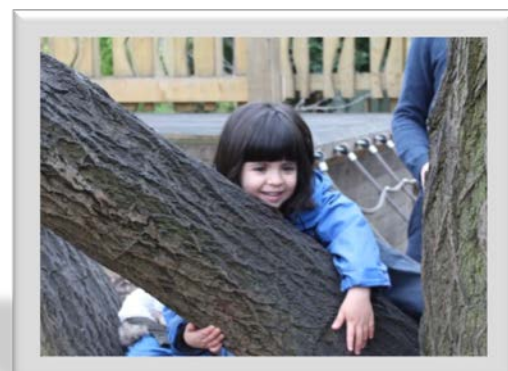
Facilitator: Lizzy Ali / Lydia Boudjemaa

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How do I apply? See page 16

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“If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn”





## How do I apply?

Have you/the staff member attended a session provided by the Integrated Early Years Service before?

**YES**

Email the Workforce Development Team at [eytraining@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:eytraining@towerhamlets.gov.uk) to request a place with the following information:  
Course date, Time, Full Name, Job Title, Full name of setting or workplace

**NO**

You will need to complete a New Staff Registration Form. Please email [eytraining@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:eytraining@towerhamlets.gov.uk) for a form.

For further assistance, please call us on 020 7364 7947.







We are delighted to announce the date of the first THINC Early Years Conference.

This will be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Please put the date in your diary and look out for further details on the website

[www.thinc.org.uk](http://www.thinc.org.uk)



