

## Charlotte Adcock Setting Manager Westview Day Nursery

Charlotte Adcock is the Setting Manager at Westview Day Nursery, Wiltshire and she recently completed the EYPDP along with eight colleagues in her setting.

### How did you find the EYPDP?

**I really enjoyed the content and as a setting we gained a lot from all of the modules.** I personally enjoyed the Communication and Language module the most, but I thought all the modules were good.

**The PSED was really valuable and I'm pleased that module was at the end of the course.** I think there is even more that could be covered in that module for example around trauma and the impact on parents as well as children. I think parents were also really affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and a lot of them never had the opportunity to meet with other parents or attend antenatal classes. As a consequence, I think many parents are anxious which can have an impact on their child's PSED, so it would be great to explore that more.

**The other learning unit that was really good was the Staff Wellbeing. We are now so much more aware of conversations we have with team members** and make sure we're not talking over them. Now we ask questions like 'what would you suggest we do differently?' and I've definitely seen a difference in my team leaders who are doing this more now. I would say as a consequence, the staff are feeling more valued and appreciated which is great.

**We already focus on the children each week, but this course has made us realise the importance of recognising the staff and their wellbeing too.**



### How did the EYPDP enhance your practice?

We found the networking through the weekly webinars really useful. A lot of learning is done online now meaning we don't actually speak to anybody. **It was so useful to talk to other practitioners about what works well and what doesn't work well and to then try that in our setting.**

Speaking with other practitioners also made us realise there are things we could add back in to our practice that we'd stopped doing because of COVID, for example allowing the children to take the nursery teddy bear home. Reintroducing that has been a great way of encouraging more communication and has helped to involve parents more which has been lovely.

**We also looked at some of the areas in our nursery and improved them, for example we made our book area cosier which the children are really enjoying.**

One of the big things we do now which we didn't do before is talk through potential scenarios more as a team, and that has been really valuable, for example we create a scenario whereby we think a child is displaying signs of ASD and we ask how would you approach the parent?

### How did you find managing the workload?

**The support we had from Mel in the EYPDP team was amazing.** There were a lot of us trying to do the course together and knowing which webinar groups we should all be in was difficult as we need to make sure we weren't all in one group. Mel guided us through and was so helpful and I was really grateful to her for that.