

Day 1 Tuesday 10 November

- 10:00 • **Welcome**
Lydia Hodges
Head of Coram Family and Childcare
- 10:10 - 10:40 • **An update on the Best Start in Life Strategy**
Charlotte Hollom
Head of Delivery, Best Start in Life, Department for Education
- 10:40 - 11:10 • **Learn more about the [Best Start in Life digital tools](#)**
Dr Elizabeth Houghton
User Journey Policy Team Leader, Early Years Entitlements Delivery Unit
Department for Education
- 11:10 - 11:40 • **Break**
- 11:40 - 12:10 • **Findings from a regional early years workforce data project**
Lucie Stephens
Associate Director of Research, Early Education and Childcare Coalition
- 12:10 - 12:45 • **School-age childcare strategy**
JJ Clark
School-Age Childcare Strategy Lead, Department for Education
- 12:45 - 13:45 • **Lunch break**
- 13:45 - 15:00 • **FIS Forum with Maryam Makki and Paul Herbert (NAFIS Co-Chairs)**
An opportunity to raise any issues or concerns your Family Information Service is experiencing and gather ideas, support and advice from other FIS colleagues

Day 2 Wednesday 11 November

- 10:00 • **Welcome**
Lydia Hodges
Head of Coram Family and Childcare
- 10:10 - 10:40 • **'What price is free? The price effects of England's childcare reforms' research**
Dr Joanna Clifton-Sprigg
Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor), Department of Economics
University of Bath
- 10:40 - 11:10 • **Update from Ofsted**
Glen Jump
Childcare Reform Project Manager, Early Years Regulatory Policy and Practice
Regulation and Social Care Directorate, Ofsted
- 11:10 - 11:40 • **How will the SEND reforms affect families?**
Liz Devlin, Legal Team Member, IPSEA
IPSEA is a charity that offers free, independent legal advice and support to families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
- 11:40 - 12:10 • **Break**
- 12:10 - 12:50 • Choose ONE of the two workshops below:
Workshop 1 **Reviewing the impact and reach of your FIS.** This workshop will look at how to review the work of your FIS, evidence reach and impact and bring about change in your local authority.
Workshop 2 **How to engage families and share information about your FIS in a new world of AI.** Practical advice on ways to ensure trusted FIS information reaches your local families.
- 12:50 - 13:20 • **NAFIS Awards & close of conference**
Presentation to the winners of this year's NAFIS Awards
 - Best Community Engagement Award
 - Best Family Information Service Directory Award
 - Best Local Offer Directory Award
 - 2026 Award for Family Hub Innovation

