

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter April 2026

A Bit About Me

Hi, my name is Naomi Shepherd, I'm your school's link EIFA. As an EIFA I offer advice and strategies to parents and carers with a Primary School aged child that may be experiencing some challenges such as routines, sleep, sibling rivalry, challenging behaviour, worries or self-esteem. If you'd like a chance to chat about any of these topics, just contact me on the details below.

Weekly online drop in sessions – (Wednesdays) [Summer term, first half term 2026, online drop in sessions with Naomi Shepherd](#) – [Fill in form](#)

Parenting Top Tips

A **visual timetable** can help your child to understand the structure and activities of the day. Click the link to create your own visual timetable: [Visual Timetable cards.pdf](#)

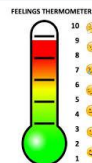
Special time is a daily interaction with your child that is child led, it doesn't need to be a long period of time, it can be just 10 mins. Playing with your child helps to build a warm relationship and a strong attachment between family members, it also helps to develop a child's communication and social skills. Your child will learn to problem solve, test out their ideas and allows time to explore their imagination.

Praise, make sure you acknowledge and praise your child, catch them doing the right thing and praise them, using descriptive language such as "I liked that you shared your colouring pens".

Emotion Coaching, emotion coaching supports emotional literacy, which means to recognise and understand feelings. You can help your child by doing activities together to practice develop their emotional literacy.

Feelings thermometer, this can help your child to identify how they are feeling.

Storytime reflection, after reading a book ask your child how they think the character felt and what would they do in that situation.



Activity Idea

If you are looking for a fun free way to get outside this Easter with your children, click the link below to download an Easter Nature Scavenger Hunt, this activity gets you all outdoors in the fresh air:

[Easter Nature Scavenger Hunt Color](#)

Another Resource

The Easter HAF Programme will run from 30 March to 10 April 2026. Easter eligibility codes will be issued on 2 March 2026. The HAF team will assist with code and eligibility queries from this date. The Provider Directory will be available via a link on this page. [Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme | Cambridgeshire County Council](#) Bookings are open now.

Information and Practical Tips to help support you and your child during the time of school transitions. www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/getting-ready-to-start-primary-school

[How Parents Can Help With Secondary School Transition | YoungMinds](#)

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? **Pinpoint** (www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk) have lots of information, advice and tips. For **Cambridgeshire's Local Offer** go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer

Contact me directly  Naomi.Shepherd@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Request for consent form link - [EIFA support request consent form NAOMI SHEPHERD – Fill in form](#)