

January 2023



## Early Years news, advice and guidance for Square Mile families and settings

### Hello...

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

Our aim is to share regular local and national Information for families in the city. If you would like to find out anything further on any items or like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.

020 7332 1002

[EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### Makaton

Talking does not just involve speaking. Watch someone talking, they will also be using gestures, facial expression, eye contact and body language. All this is communication. Makaton uses speech with signs (gestures) and symbols (pictures) to help people communicate. Would you like to learn some useful signs to use with your child?

As part of our Coltales programme (City of London Talks and Listens Enthusiastically) we post Makaton videos every Wednesday on our social media platforms. Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or search [#ColtalesTopTips](#)

To find out more about Makaton, please visit their website by clicking [here](#).

### Quit smoking with us this New Year

Start the New Year as you mean to go on - Smokefree!



Giving up is hard, but with support and nicotine replacement therapy or a vape, you are 3 times more likely to quit successfully.

After 72 hours of being smokefree, you will feel more energetic and alive.

Thousands of people like you have quit smoking with **Smokefree City & Hackney**. You can quit too.

For more information, please contact us: 0800 046 9946

[www.smokefreecityandhackney.org](http://www.smokefreecityandhackney.org)

# Make a new year resolution to ask your child more open ended questions this year!

Children need plenty of open ended questions to support their language development and help them think for themselves. Here are some examples when talking to your child.

Have a go at asking questions like this...

I wonder if?

What do you think might happen?

Tell me about?

How do you feel about?

Enjoy the conversations you have with your child!



## Coltale's New Book!

If your child attends an Early Years setting they will be bringing home a book called **"The Further Adventures of Coltale the Dragon"** this month. These are stories inspired by the children of the City of London. Well done everyone involved.



## Primary Admissions

If you have a child born between September 1st, 2018 and August 31st, 2019, they are due to start Primary School in September 2023.

The deadline date for application is January 15th, 2023.

For full information please click on the link below: <https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/education-and-schools/school-admissions>

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