

## PRESS RELEASE

### **NDNA Launches Series of Cost-Effective Programmes to Support Nurseries in Raising Quality**

**National Day Nurseries Association, Head Office, 14 April 2011** – National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) today announced that it has launched a series of cost-effective Quality Improvement Programmes to help nurseries raise standards. Priced at just £95 for NDNA members and £120 for non-members each programme is designed to help settings focus on improving quality in key areas such as equality and inclusion and the nursery environment.

Following feedback from the sector, NDNA has introduced a range of Quality Improvement Programmes which are all designed to offer settings a manageable and affordable way to raise standards in key areas of practice. The programmes are accredited by CPD UK. Each programme works by giving nurseries a way to reflect upon practice in that area and develop this against a set of 'quality standards.' Online resources and assessments help settings to identify where they are against these standards and create action plans for improvement. Additional help is provided via the online mentor service and email/telephone helplines. For an additional fee, settings can choose independent assessment by NDNA of their completed programme.

Stella Ziolkowski, Director of Quality and Workforce Development at NDNA comments: "With a real squeeze on budgets and providers experiencing cuts to the support available we have had strong feedback regarding the need for a cost-effective way to develop quality in key areas. These Quality Improvement Programmes offer nurseries a way to focus on a particular area for improvement and raise standards, to improve practice and deliver improved outcomes for children. We look forward to hearing feedback from nurseries about how they are supporting them."

The Quality Improvement Programmes on offer are:

- Leadership and management: improve team performance and leadership confidence
- Developing outstanding practice: ensuring the nursery environment is of the highest quality
- Safeguarding and child protection: making sure that robust policies and procedures are in place
- Equality, inclusion and integrated working: covers a number of key areas including inter-agency working
- Health and safety: raise standards in health and safety procedures
- Nursery environment: develop a stimulating and engaging setting
- Nursery visits and visitors: helping children gain the most whilst remaining safe
- Nutrition, serving food and oral health: providing a balanced and nutritional diet
- Observation and reflection of practice: supporting effective observation to improve outcomes
- Out-of-school care: provides a focus to improve this element of provision
- Positive partnerships with parents: developing communication and engagement
- Recruitment, retention and improving staff performance: recruiting and retaining the right team
- School escort service: helping to ensure this service is both safe and effective
- Students: develop positive working practices with students
- Working with babies: improve understanding of working with babies.

Nurseries can visit [www.ndna.org.uk/qualityimprovement](http://www.ndna.org.uk/qualityimprovement) for more information.

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Notes to editors:

For more information, to arrange interviews or photographs please contact Hayley Wilson, Senior Press and Policy Officer on T: 01484 40 70 66 E: [hayley.wilson@ndna.org.uk](mailto:hayley.wilson@ndna.org.uk) M: 07718 803 652. NDNA is also able to supply features or articles around quality improvement – please contact Hayley on the above details for further information.

National Day Nurseries Association is a national charity representing children's nurseries across the UK, giving them information, training and support, so they can provide the best possible care to young children. NDNA is the voice of the sector, an integral part of the lives of nearly one million children and their families.