

National Updates

Post-16 provision

Secondary colleagues may be interested in a new report released on Dec 3rd, which outlines key recommendations for improving post-16 provision. These include:

- More collaboration between post-16 FE and other providers and the LA
- Better transitions between secondary schools and FE and beyond
- An improvement in the content of post-16 EHCPs

The full report can be read by [following this link](#)

Hertfordshire Updates

St Albans and Dacorum Local Multi Agency Group (LMAG) panel

From January the LMAG panel would really welcome representation from the education sector, particularly EY or school SENCOs. At the moment, the panel meets online every fortnight on a Tuesday morning from 9.30-11.30am, to discuss applications for EHC needs assessments (EHCNA). It is a valuable CPD opportunity for SENCOs to see what the process is following the application, and what information is looked at most. If you would like to attend one of the virtual panels, please email StADSENDTeam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

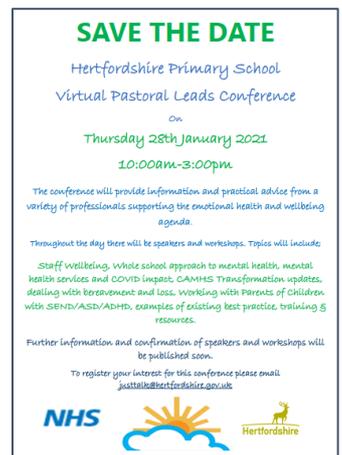
New guidance for making ASD referrals

There is a range of updated guidance and information to support schools in making referrals for CYP in educational settings: Guidance for making referrals, ASD School Questionnaire (completed by schools to initiate referral process), ASD Parent/Carer Pre assessment Information (completed by parents with support from school) and a copy of the ASD referral Form which is then completed by GP/Health Professional once Parent and School Info received.

<https://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/welfare/nhs/index.shtml#asd>

Virtual Primary Pastoral Leads Conference

A 'save the date' announcement was sent out from the Mental Health School Leads this week for the primary pastoral leads conference on Thursday 28th January from 10-3pm. There are workshops and speakers throughout the day, and topics will include staff wellbeing, mental health services and COVID impact, working with parents of children with SEND. Details of how to register are included on the flier.



SAVE THE DATE
Hertfordshire Primary School
Virtual Pastoral Leads Conference
on
Thursday 28th January 2021
10:00am-3:00pm

The conference will provide information and practical advice from a variety of professionals supporting the emotional health and wellbeing agenda.

Throughout the day there will be speakers and workshops. Topics will include:

- Staff wellbeing, whole school approach to mental health, mental health services and COVID-19 impact
- CAMHS Transformation updates, dealing with bereavement and loss, Working with Parents of Children with SEND/ASD/ADHD, examples of existing best practice, training & resources.

Further information and confirmation of speakers and workshops will be published soon.

To register your interest for this conference please email justtalk@hertfordshire.gov.uk

NHS Hertfordshire

Local Updates

Local High Needs Funding Panels (LHNF)

The next LHNF panel will meet on Friday 22nd January. Applications for consideration at this panel should be received by **Thursday 7th January**. These should be sent through **SchoolsFX** to dspl7lhfnpanel@dspl7.org.uk, including the summary front sheet of the banding tool.

Following feedback from all the DSPL panels, an updated referral form and guidance was sent out to all settings last week, and is now available on the grid here. Further feedback about the process will be given at the next DSPL7 update session on Tuesday 19th January.



NESSie

The NESSie waiting list has reduced considerably this term, and Natasha and Tim will be happy to consider further referrals next term for any children in primary schools who need support with emotional difficulties. See the DSPL7 website for referral guidance and the application form.

DSPL7 Training

We have added further online training dates for SENCOs next term:

- ADD-vance will be delivering ‘Social Stories and Comic Conversations’ training on Thursday, January 18th from 3.30-5pm.
- Louis Barrell will be holding a Provision Mapping workshop on February 3rd from 9.30-11.30am.
- ADD-vance will also be delivering ‘Understanding ADHD’ on February 23rd from 9.30-11.30am
- Helen Jones will be looking at ‘Small Steps of Progress’ for pupils with SEND on March 18th from 1.30-4.30pm.

Places can be booked through admin@dspl7.org.uk

SEND Professionals Training
Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations
 14th January 2021- 3.30-5.00

Course Details
 This workshop, delivered by ADD-vance, is designed to help professionals working in schools and early years settings:

- To understand the purpose of social stories and comic strip conversations.
- To explore the kinds of situations where social stories can be useful.
- To look at how traditional social stories can be adapted to suit the needs of the different pupils.
- To have a go at creating your own social story.

TO BOOK: Email admin@dspl7.org.uk
 This is an online training. The links you will receive on booking.

01277 559229 www.dspl7.org.uk

SEND Professionals Training
Provision Mapping
 3rd February 2021 - 9.30-11.30am

Course Details
 In response to DSPL7's recent SEND Benchmarking and Planning Toolkit Data, DSPL7 is pleased to offer, in association with Herts for Learning, an opportunity for SENCOs to explore Provision Mapping and management practices.

This workshop will enable you to:

- Understand the purpose of provision mapping and management
- Explore what is important when creating your own provision maps and look at some different examples
- Consider the impact a provision map can make when planning provision and monitoring outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

This is a perfect opportunity to share examples of provision maps you are working with in your own DSPL7. We will also share some examples of provision maps that you can currently using.

TO BOOK: Email admin@dspl7.org.uk
 This is an online training. The links you will receive on booking.

01277 559229 www.dspl7.org.uk

SEND Professionals Training
Measuring small steps of progress
 18th March 1.30-4.30

Course Details
 This course is aimed at SENCOs and class teachers. During the session, Helen will share with you some different ways of measuring gains in the development of skills for pupils with SEND or who find learning difficult. There will be an opportunity for you to look in detail at the materials and then decide which will best fit the context of your school. There will be a chance to practice using the materials to do a case study for a pupil in your school.

Helen Jones has been a successful school improvement adviser for 35 years, first with the Herts for Learning, then at Herts for Learning and subsequently with Herts for Learning. She has been successful in her work with schools in a range of areas of critical need across the county, including those with SEND and those supported by the pupil premium grant.

TO BOOK: Email admin@dspl7.org.uk
 Please note there are limited spaces available.

01277 559229 www.dspl7.org.uk

Signposting Parents

ADD-vance are offering a number of fully-funded 6 week courses for parents starting in the New Year. Please signpost any parents who you feel would benefit from their support.

...and finally...

It has been a long and difficult term for everyone and I am sure you are all in need of rest and recuperation. Everyone at DSPL7 would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas - we hope you manage to have a good break and enjoy some time off with family and friends.

Understanding ADHD and Autism
 An online course from Add-Vance

Mondays	4 th January to 8 th February	10 am - 12 pm and
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Wednesdays	6 th January to 10 th February	10 am - 12 pm
Thursdays	7 th January to 11 th February (Parents/carers of girls only)	10 am - 12 pm
Fridays	8 th January to 12 th February	10 am - 12 pm
Saturdays	9 th January to 13 th February	2 - 4 pm (Dads and male carers only)

