

Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of the DSPL 2 Newsletter. Although we are unable to include all of the services provided within DSPL 2, we hope that it will give you a flavour of what is happening and let you know how you can get involved or be supported. The newsletter will be sent to all Headteachers and SENCos termly.

What is Developing Special Provision Locally (DSPL)?

DSPL is a Hertfordshire-wide partnership approach where parents, carers, staff in early years settings and schools, further education colleges, local authority officers and representatives from other agencies work together as part of an Area Group, to ensure that there is a range of provision and support services available in their local community that:

- Meets the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25 years, as close to home as possible.
- Widens choice for children and parents/carers.
- Removes barriers to learning.
- Improves outcomes for wellbeing and attainment.
- Uses resources more effectively.

The DSPL 2 support team

The DSPL 2 team consists of:

Teresa Skeggs (Headteacher of lead school – Peartree Spring Primary School)

Kim Taylor (DSPL 2 manager)

The DSPL 2 Website

Please check the website regularly (<http://stevenagedspl.org.uk/>). It includes content for parents & carers and also for schools and settings. It includes up to date info/flyers for courses and workshops within the 'Parents page' and 'Training' tab. It shows information about DSPL local projects. There is also helpful information and numerous links to appropriate organisations under the 'Links' tab.

DSPL 2 Conference – Friday 16th March 2018

There are still spaces available.

Confirmed Guest Speakers:

Dr Angela Smith (Psychologist who speaks extensively on positive psychology, resilience and corporate psychopaths).

Marilyn Hawes (Founder and CEO of Enough Abuse UK)

Caroline Robertson – (ISL, Educational Psychology Team)

Please book by contacting dspl2@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk

How can parents get involved?

There are a number of ways in which parents can get involved in support services.

DSPL 2 Space sessions for parents.



Space is a Hertfordshire based charity supporting parent/carers of children and young people on the Autistic Spectrum, with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or a related condition.

The group has been running since 2007 and it became a registered charity in 2017.

The group meet up several times a month in term time and have either a speaker or a coffee & chat session. They also organise and host workshops run by various organisations and arrange social events.

Dates of the sessions this term:

MARCH 12TH 2018 - Jacqui Penny - Kids in Sync - Sensory Processing

APRIL - NO MEETING DUE TO EASTER HOLIDAYS

MAY 14TH 2018 - Danielle Jeta Hall - Pathological Demand Avoidance

JUNE 11TH 2018 - Jenny Stanley - Autism Workshops

JULY 9TH 2018 - Kids Hub - Lesley Morton - EHCP Review Workshop

AUGUST - NO MEETING DUE TO SUMMER HOLIDAYS

SEPTEMBER 10TH 2018 - Jason Sadler - 0 - 25 Together Service

Sessions are held at Peartree Spring Primary School on the 2nd Monday of the month.
Please email: spaceherts@gmail.com for more information.

Families in Focus



Families in Focus – a charity that provides regular, free networks for parent/carers to share experiences, build local community support and reduce isolation. Bringing parents together to share knowledge and learning to build parental resilience and enhance family life in focused sessions including many courses.

Where:

**Phoenix Centre,
The Hyde,
Stevenage,
SG2 9SE**

When:

**Thursdays from
9.30am to 12pm**

2018 Dates:

January 11th 2018: Seeking sleep 1 – helping children with SEND get to sleep & KIDS Hub

February 1st 2018: Seeking sleep 2- helping children with SEND stay asleep

March 1st 2018: Independent living skills

March 22nd 2018: Janice Gardner, SEND Specialist Advice and Support Teacher (Autism and Communication Specialism)

Invitations to parents and carers...

We are always looking for parent representatives to attend our DSPL 2 board meetings. Please email dspl2@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk to register your interest.

Information about DSPL 2 Projects

GLAS Mental Health project



GLAS Ltd
Adolescent Services

GLAS provides specialist support to those young people with possible Mental Health and severe emotional and behavioural problems, who have been or are at risk of being permanently excluded from school. GLAS are passionate about working with the young people and supporting their families to help that young person overcome the emotional barriers that are preventing them from achieving their optimum best at school and in their communities. Our specialist service helps support the young person to gain ownership of their mental health, emotional and behavioural difficulties and help them move from a place of inward chaos towards a place of feeling settled with a sense of purpose.

GLAS Ltd has worked closely with Stevenage DSPL over the last year delivering and developing support networks for schools, young people and their families and are very keen to evolve these services. DSPL 2 have funded access for 12 pupils and their families for support.

To make a referral for a child at your school, please find the form on the DSPL 2 website. Please send your referral form to dspl2@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk

Back on Track

What is Back on Track?

An extension of The Stevenage ESC Outreach Programme.

Who is it for?

KS3 pupils at risk of exclusion from Stevenage Secondary Schools.

Service Model

- High Quality Education Provision in Literacy and Numeracy.
- Comprehensive Assessments.
- Provision away from the Mainstream School on a fixed term basis.
- Opportunity for pupils to get 'back on track' through PHSE and Social Skills Curriculum.
- The facilitation of pupil work provided by the School.

Key Outcomes:

- Progress in Learning
- Social Skills Gained/Improved
- Increased Self Esteem and Confidence
- Schools gain empowerment to review its support strategies for the pupils.

For more information, Contact:

Tina Stanley - Back on Track Teacher, Stevenage ESC

Email: t.stanley@stevenage-esc.herts.sch.uk

Year 6/ 7 Transition Workers

It has been identified that a number of year 6 Primary school pupils may have difficulties, for a range of reasons, with the move into Secondary school provision. In order to assist these pupils with their transition into their new school there is a transition programme, available through Stevenage ESC.

The programme, which is delivered by a specific transition worker, is delivered to small groups of pupils in year 6. These pupils will have been identified by their schools as having potential difficulties in settling into their new school. The programme covers a range of issues for example organisation, making friends, following the rules, etc. In preparation for the move an additional visit to the new school is also arranged for a date in June prior to the transition day at the beginning of July.

The programme includes introductory sessions for parents which takes place at the beginning of the programme.

The Transition Support Workers can be contacted direct by email on: transitionsupport@stevenage-esc.herts.sch.uk

Autism News



national autism standards



Supported by
Department for
Education

Autism Education Trust training

Hertfordshire County Council has begun rolling out training to every member of teaching staff in Hertfordshire.

Tier 1: “Introduction to Autism – Making Sense of Autism, Raising Awareness”, can be booked by schools for up to 70 staff at a time by e-mailing:

Training-AET@Hertfordshire.gov.uk

Tier 2: “Good Autism Practice” This whole day course is aimed at teachers, teaching assistants, inclusion staff, SENCos and all staff who may be supporting children and young people with autism on a daily basis. Courses will be run regularly over the next two years.

Autism Education Trust materials for schools, parents and carers

All Hertfordshire Schools should be using the Autism Education Trust self-audit materials, to ensure they are following the best practice in supporting children and young people on the autism spectrum.

Free materials are available on the website at <http://www.aetraininghubs.org.uk/>

CAMHs Transformation Project



Work has started to transform mental health services for children and young people living in Hertfordshire.

Following a major review of Hertfordshire's CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services – in 2015, the resulting transformation plan secured national funding to improve services over the next five years.

At least one child in 10 in Hertfordshire has a diagnosable mental health problem, and many more will need some support to prevent more serious difficulties from emerging.

As part of the CAMHS Transformation, Hertfordshire's two NHS clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are offering a funded training programme to support school based professionals to improve the mental health and wellbeing of pupils.

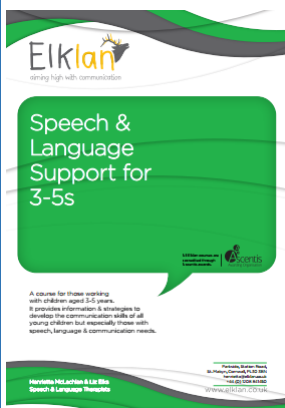
Youth health and mental first aid (21.02.18 and 28.02.18) – 9:30- 4:00pm

Staff sharing and Peer Supervision (07.03.18, 14.03.18 and 28.03.18) – 9:30- 11am

Anxiety Awareness (23.06.17) - 9:30- 12:30pm

All the courses will be held at Peartree Spring Primary School. Spaces are still available for this training. Please book by emailing admin@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk with your contact details, the course you are interested in and the number of places required. The training is free. Lunch will not be provided. Please be aware that there is no parking available on the school site.

Some of our forthcoming training



Early Years ELKLAN Training for staff

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust Speech and Language Therapy Service is continuing to roll out the highly popular 'ELKLAN Speech and Language support' courses to schools in Hertfordshire. ELKLAN is an accredited course for those working with children. It provides information and strategies to develop the communication skills of all children but especially those with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN). The early year's course covers all aspects of SLCN including play, social communication, adult-child interaction, vocabulary and communication-friendly settings.

DSPL 2 will fund half of the course fees for teaching staff for Stevenage schools and settings delivered by the NHS Speech and Language team.

Wellcomm



Along with the Children's Centres, DSPL 2 is funding WellComm Training.

Date: 1st Mar & 21st Mar 2018

Time: 12:30-2:30pm

Venue: Peartree Spring Primary, Hydean Way, Stevenage SG2 9GG

Cost: FREE

Suitable for: Early Years Foundation Stage staff, Pre-school and Nursery staff; including key workers.

This training enables participants to become familiar with the Wellcomm toolkit enabling them to support the speech and language needs of children within their setting. Both sessions must be attended. Participants must have access to a Wellcomm Toolkit, and bring this with them to the workshops.

To book on contact: : Speech and Language Therapy Admin on 01992 823083

SENCo forum

The SENCo forum's are held at Peartree Spring. Sessions provide SENCos with updates from DSPL 2 as well as information and networking opportunities. Refreshments are provided. Here are the list of dates for the meetings this academic year:

8th March 2018 - 1:30 - 3pm

22nd May 2018 - 1:30- 3pm

12th July 2018 - 1:30- 3pm

Hertfordshire Steps –delivery model

Hertfordshire Steps is the local authority's preferred approach to supporting positive behaviour management in schools and settings. The Steps approach forms part of the authority's behaviour

strategy. It has been agreed through the SEND Executive and forms part of Hertfordshire's Local Offer.

What is Hertfordshire Steps?

Hertfordshire Steps is a therapeutic approach to positive behaviour management and is already well established in many of our education settings and services. The Steps approach is based on the following principles:

- Shared focus on inclusion of all children and young people within their educational settings.
- A shared set of values and beliefs.
- Open and shared communication.
- A shared commitment to diversion and de-escalation.
- Shared risk management.
- Shared reparation, reflection and restoration.

Schools will need to identify members of staff who will become their own in-house trainers. Training courses are taking place at Robertson House in Stevenage. The DSPL 2 Board have agreed to part fund Hertfordshire Steps training (£450 to cover the cost of the training) to support this initiative across the area. For more information please contact dspl2@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk.

Steps Surgery

Surgeries are available to book if you are concerned about a child. Please email Adam Hayes at steps@hertfordshire.gov.uk

To find out more and book your place on any Hertfordshire Steps Train the Trainer course, please email Adam Hayes on adam.hayes@hertfordshire.gov.uk

New to ASD/ SEN Support? A helpful 'Who is Who?' guide

DSPL 2 Team –work with schools and try and bridge the gap by offering regular networking through the ASD leads meetings and SENCo forums.

Communication and Autism Team - a County resource; schools can seek help from this team. They liaise with schools and provide training, support and bespoke programmes for children.

PALMS - Autism, Learning Disability and Mental Health Service. PALMS is a multi-disciplinary team who provide individually tailored support to help manage a number of concerns experienced at home. The service is available for children and young people up to their 19th birthday. PALMS provides intervention where necessary and intensive support to families reaching crisis with a step up and step down approach throughout their care journey.

Local Offer – a one stop shop for everything concerning health care and education. The Hertfordshire Local Offer provides information on what services children, young people and their families with SEND can expect from a range of local agencies, including early years, education, health and social care.

ADDvance – a registered charity founded in Herts in 1996. They provide specialist information, training and advice for professionals, adults and families on issues relating to Autism, ADHD and related conditions.

KIDS HUB – providers of free and impartial support over the phone, by email or face-to-face (including home visits). The help provided includes:

- Helping you find activities, groups and training.
- Providing information about benefits and parking.
- Supporting you at meetings about your child.
- Giving help with relevant forms and letters and EHCs.
- Signposting you to a range of local services for disabled children and young people including specialist services.
- Keeping you informed with regular newsletters and updates.
- Helping to develop inclusive provision in the community.
- Providing a venue to meet for support and networking.