Issue: February 2024

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Worcestershire SEND News Bulletin.

We hope the Spring term so far is going smoothly for you and your school community, albeit a short term withu glm wm.01267 (7d[o7 (7d67ETQq0 (s)Tj-0.ap1 g0.0Tr -0..36 0(o)1.667 p(e)]333 ((ll)9.583ac(o)113.5

NATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES 3

Course title	Overview	Date	Time	Location	Cost	CPD codes
SENCo	N					

The GP SEND Handbook has now been published and circulated to all Worcestershire GPs.

Purpose of the handbook

- Provide advice on how GP's can help children and young people (0-25 years) with SEND and their families with their concerns and how to access support.
- Outline how SEND support works in schools.
- Quick reference signposting guide including SENDIASS, Families in Partnership and the local offer website.
- Explore the role of GP's in supporting school attendance.
- Outline the GP's role with respect to Annual Health Checks for young people with learning disabilities from the age of 14 onwards.

Underpinning all of this guidance is the desire to promote a collaborative approach between health and education in supporting children, young people and their families.

Available on the local offer website Local Offer website.

Calling all SENCOs – are you able to join us on a Thursday afternoon? We urgently need more school-based members for our EHCNA Multi- Agency Panel.

The EHCNA Panel consists of:

- SEND Assessment Team Manager
- SEND Assessment Team Senior Caseworker
- Senior Educational Psychologist
- Deputy Head Virtual Schools
- School SENCOs
- Designated Clinical Officer
- Team Leader Early Help Family Support
- Team Leader Family Front Door
- Advanced Social Worker Practitioners
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A reminder on how to refer parents to the **Starting Well Parenting Courses** as part of a school's Early Help Offer:

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Famous People
There are many famous people reported to have Dyscalculia, these include Robbie Williams, Mick Hucknall, Benjamin Franklin, Cher and Thomas Edison. Strengths associated with having Dyscalculia include intuitive and strong strategic thinking, very creative and a love of words. Individuals with Dyscalculia are more likely than the general population to have co-occurrence with ADHD, Dyslexia and Dyspraxia.

Support
It's important to recognise the difficulties and support children's learning through concrete apparatus, with the need to build conceptual models before internalising. Anxiety surrounding maths can exacerbate the difficulties, with the stress response leading to a shut down, unable to assimilate new learning. Teachers can develop ways to improve retention and learning of number facts through a range of multisensory activities, moving away from worksheets, playing games and demystifying the language of maths by using mathematical language widely. Visualisation, including drawing the problem, song and rhythm are often used.

For adults with Dyscalculia a calculator, handheld or the calculator function on a phone can be hugely beneficial, as well as memory prompts for pin numbers and other areas of difficulty.
For further help and support see the British Dyslexia Association (bdadyslexia.org.uk) and Steve Chinn (stevechinn.co.uk), author of award-winning books on Dyscalculia, including myths, checklists and information on assessment.

11 dedicated sessions can be found at the NEC on 15th and 16th March 2024, where the Dyscalculia Show will co-located with this year's Dyslexia Show, the UK's leading exhibition dedicated to dys

Early Years Inclusion Process

Have you visited the Early Years Inclusion Process webpage yet? On there you will find information regarding

How do I contact the Area SENCo Team?

You can contact the Area SENCos directly on the details below:

Area SENCOs

Early Years Inclusion Supplement Funding

We have a revised criteria and referral form on our website - Make a referral into one of our children's therapy services | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (hacw.nhs.uk)

There is lots of information available on our website, Facebook page and YouTube Channel - Paediatric Therapy - Information, advice and resources | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (hacw.nhs.uk)

We also have an advice line available on Wednesdays from 9am -12pm and Thursdays from 1pm – 4pm.
OT advice line: 07562 436633

Power Hours focussing on the EEF ‘Five-a-day’ evidence-informed approaches to support all pupils,

Do you have a child aged 2-10 years? FREE One-off sessions available to parents and carers

1 x 2 hour session on Microsoft Teams -Digital session (Book for one of the workshops below)

Thursday 22nd February 2024 (Evening) 6:00-8:00pm
Tuesday 5th March 2024 (Lunchtime) 12:30-2:30pm

How to book: Simply scan the QR code which will link you to the bookings page, visit website https://www.trybooking.com/uk/

Or call **01905 827391** to book your workshop.

This course is aimed at teachers and teaching assistants, in helping to support children who are experiencing difficulties accessing the school day. There is an increase in

Following the success of our previous Communication Champion training and Communication TA training we are pleased to offer further free training for all early year's settings in Worcestershire. Training will be delivered by the Worcestershire NHS Speech and Language Therapy team working in these districts. The training

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With three completely new subject-specific chapters for History, Geography and Religious Education, it offers a wealth of ideas and information about the following key areas:

- Planning inclusive lessons
- Creating including environments
- Curriculum considerations for KS3 and 4
- Strategies to scaffold learning
- Vocabulary retentions
- Supporting learners who need additional conceptual understanding

Download the