

Message from DSPL 1 Delivery Manager

Welcome to the Autumn term and a welcome to our new Lead school and Head Teacher Tony Plunkett, Wymondley School who has taken over the role from Diane Frainer, York Road.

DSPL is set up to help provide support and training for parents, professionals and pupils with the highest level of need.

As everyone settles back into a new school term I thought it would be useful to give you an overview of the strategic plan for the coming year. Our main priorities this year are:

- A continued support of NESSie to provide training and guidance with SEMH.
- Funding for Autism family support workers to support transition.
- Working with the behaviour teams to reduce the number of fixed term and permanent exclusions and the number of requests for special school places.
- Training for professionals and parents.
- Supporting county on developing speech and language provision and skills.
- We will also continue to run regular SENCo and FSW forums.

Emma Russell, DSPL 1 Delivery Manager

AUTISM UPDATE

Our **Resource Library** is continuing to prove very popular. The resources and books are available for all settings so please email nhdspl-autism@wilshere.herts.sch.uk if you would like to borrow anything. Brochures are available to view on our website.



"The resource library has been really useful in being able to borrow items that we think might work for that child but not having to spend our budget before we have seen that they actually work for that child."

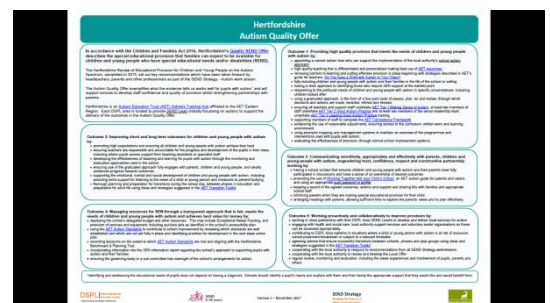


AET Training DSPL 1 schools have been very proactive in taking up the free Autism Education Trust Training offered by Hertfordshire with over 63 settings taking part. If you haven't already signed up for either the **Making Sense of Autism**, **Good Autism Practice** or **Leading Good Autism** please contact:

Sally Yates - Lead AET Trainer or **Charlotte Osborne** - Training Co-ordinator

Training-AET@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Training was given on the **Autism Quality Offer** at the SENCo Forum on 20th June. If you would like any further information please get in touch. Charlotte Field (SEND Lead)
nhdspl-autism@wilshere.herts.sch.uk



NESSie

North herts Emotional Support in schools Service

**Supporting Positive Mental Health in Schools
Recognition, Effective Management & Early Intervention**



Website:

<http://www.nhdspl.org.uk/nessie.html>

As usual it has been very busy for NESSie:

- We were successful on a bid for CYP-IAPT Recruit to Train funding. This is funding training posts for CAMHS practitioners in specialist areas and they will be with us for two years. I am currently in the process of recruiting 2 Parent Trainers for Conduct disorders; 2 0-5 therapists, 2 ASD / LD therapists and 1 Systemic Family Therapist for Conduct disorders. I am working with the commissioners and ISL and partnership working to ensure this provision has the most positive impact.
- We are currently working with DSPL1 to review our contract in North Herts.
- We began our contract for DSPL2 - Stevenage and have employed two experienced Arts Therapists for children who have high end emotional and mental health needs and: additional learning needs; ASD or ADHD; behavioural needs or who are STUC - significant trauma, unmet need and in crisis.
- We were successful in a bid that we put together with Angels and have employed a Dramatherapist who will run the provision whilst co-working with Angels who will be supporting families.
- We have been commissioned to provide 14 trainings in Essex following our taster training.
- Our parent trainings have proved a success and we have raised some money with LCHL. We are potentially using this money to provide mindfulness workshops for parents of children with additional needs.

Parent Forums and training

A parent/carer steering group is being formed and their views will directly impact on the strategy of the service as it develops

Staff Forums and Training

We began this year with a very successful conference supporting 120 staff from educational settings and we have continued to offer trainings throughout the year. There has been a positive response to all our staff trainings: 87 members of staff have accessed our My World & Me Charlotte Field, Becky and Sarah have been working on Brick Therapy - (*Lego®-based therapy is a social development programme for young people with autism spectrum disorders or related social communication difficulties. Young people work together to build Lego® models and through this have the opportunity to develop social skills such as turn taking, collaboration and social communication.* <https://www.bricks-for-autism.co.uk/about-us>) and look forward to offering the training to staff this next academic year.

Forums are well attended; Schools tell us that the support and forums that we offer is highly valued in this current climate. This year we have had several requests to support staff who are struggling with Emotional/Mental health needs. We have been able to offer 'one off' meetings that have proved meaningful in terms of our staff wellbeing.

Provision of Counselling/Therapy

NESSie continues to work closely with the national and local agenda and currently provides two Evidence Based Counsellors (CYP-IAPT) free of charge for a year to Brandles and The Priory Secondary School. Two of our secondary schools have bought in Evidence Based Counsellors from NESSie this academic year and we have a wonderful team of Arts Therapists and Counsellors who have continued to offer support to settings. We are seeing an increase in referrals this year for CYP with behavioural and underlying emotional or mental health issues and our support offered to Brandles has been part of a pilot exploring the value of therapeutic support with these young people.

The Future

NESSie is coming to the end of its initial four year funding commitment from DSPL1 (April 2019). Thank you to those of you that completed the Survey Monkey that was sent out to schools. It showed that schools really value all aspects of the service but in order of preference and particularly:

1. Provision of Counselling / Arts Therapy
2. Staff Training
3. Supporting Children with Autism
4. Individual Consultation with NESSie Staff
5. Parent Training

Rachel Lambie

PARENT & CARER TRAINING/SUPPORT

Places are limited; if you are unable to book a place you can join the waiting list which will inform us of the needs within the area.

<p>Preparing for transition to Secondary School - For parents/carers of a child currently in Year 5 If you have a child currently in Year 5 with autism or social communication difficulties our Specialist Teachers will be delivering a session to help you look at provision planning for Secondary School.</p>	<p>Wednesday, 14 November 2018 - 9:30am to 12:30pm (Letchworth)</p>
<p>Workshops on Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) What are Language Difficulties? What is Developmental Language Disorder? Why be concerned? What support is available? How to support language development at home</p>	<p>Thursday, 31 January 2019 - 10am to 12pm (Letchworth)</p>
<p>Parent Sessions from NESSie 'Foundation of positive Emotional Health – supporting our children positively'</p>	<p>6 February – Letchworth 13 March – Hitchin 3 April – Baldock</p>

STAFF TRAINING/SUPPORT

<p>Early Years Autism Training (in place of AET) To develop increased understanding and awareness of autism & social communication needs To explore strategies to support learning and development To enhance good practice across Early Years settings to ensure effective support for Early Years children across all settings</p>	<p>Thursday, 8 November 2018 (other dates available) Letchworth Booking: CommunicationandAutismTeamISL@hertfordshire.gov.uk</p>
<p>Level 2 Mental Health (CAMHS) See website for further details and booking.</p>	
<p>Workshops on Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) Overview of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) in the context of language difficulties and learning. Identification, intervention, impact Strategies for effective support and differentiation – take-away toolkit Working in partnership with parents Quality Offer for SLCN</p>	<p>Thursday, 17 January - 10am to 12pm (Letchworth)</p>
<p>Staff Training provided by NESSie 16 October & 29 January – Bereavement/Loss 6 November – Brick Therapy 21 November & 6 March – Anxiety for Early Years</p>	
<p>NESSie Staff Forums They are held in each of the four areas with NESSie Area Co-ordinators. Topics and discussions are led by the needs of each group. You can attend any of the forums. Details of forthcoming NESSie Staff Forums will be on the website and will be emailed to schools.</p>	
<p>Baldock & Hitchin Contact: Becky Wilburn b.wilburn@rsat.org.uk Royston & Letchworth Contact: Sarah Blackford: s.blackford@rsat.org.uk</p>	

Book your place online! You can now book your training place through our website

<http://nhdspl.org.uk/>

You can still call/text to make enquiries: 07527 828 477 (Debbie Robins)

<http://nhdspl.org.uk/home/event-list.html>

If a course is fully booked you can join the waiting list



SENCo Forums – 2018/19

What is a SENCo Forum? We have held SENCO Forums for a few years now, held half-termly they give SENCOs an opportunity to keep up to date with current news from County, share best practice and access training.

Buddy SENCo New SENCo, school or new to the area we aim to help connect you with another SENCo who can help with any support you may need.

Not limited to SENCos If you are an Autism or Mental Health Lead and not your school or setting SENCo please feel free to come along. We appreciate that SENCo's cannot attend all meetings, if you are unable to attend we would encourage sending a representative.

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 27 November 2018	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Strathmore School
Wednesday, 23 January 2019	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Garden City Academy
Tuesday, 12 March 2019	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Strathmore School
Wednesday, 15 May 2019	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Tannery Drift
Tuesday, 25 June 2019	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Strathmore School

No need to book and if you are unable to attend minutes will be circulated following the Forum where appropriate. Reminders will be sent prior to each Forum. Have an idea for a visitor or topic please let us know. Enquiries: nhdspl@wilshere.herts.sch.uk.

FSW Forums – 2018/19

What is a FSW Forum?

We have held Family Support Worker Forums for a few years now, held half-termly they give FSWs an opportunity to keep up to date with current news from County, share best practice, help with stuck cases and access training.

Becky Wilburn from NESSie will come along to each Forum where possible.

Date	Time	Venue
	1pm to 3pm	Letchworth Garden City Partnership Pod Northfields Infant & Nursery School, Burley Letchworth SG6 4PT
Wednesday, 28 November 2018		
Tuesday, 22 January 2019		
Wednesday, 13 March 2019		
Tuesday, 14 May 2019		
Wednesday, 26 June 2019		No parking on school site – thank you.

North Herts DSPL Contacts & Enquiries

Tony Plunkett – Lead School and Chair	dspl1lead@wymondley.herts.sch.uk	Emma Russell – Delivery Manager	nhdsplmanager@wilshere.herts.sch.uk
Charlotte Field – SEND Lead	nhdspl-autism@wilshere.herts.sch.uk	Debbie Robins – Administrator	nhdspl@wilshere.herts.sch.uk 07527 828 477
Website: http://www.nhdspl.org.uk/			

Help, Support and Advice

<p>The Families First portal is a directory of organisations, services and groups in Hertfordshire that can help you with problems you or your family may be facing, before things might get worse. This is known as 'Early Help'. You may not want or need to ask for help from a professional and there's lots of support you can find yourself by looking on the portal. https://directory.hertfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/hertfordshire/directory/familiesfirst.page?familiesfirstchannel=0</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Local Offer</p> <p>Services for children and young people with SEND</p> <p>https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/Local-Offer/The-Hertfordshire-Local-Offer.aspx</p>
<p>Hertfordshire SEND Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS) Formerly known as Parent Partnership Service, SENDIASS is an impartial information, advice and support service funded by Hertfordshire County Council for parents, carers, young people (0-25) and professionals. Phone 01992 555847 or email sendiass@hertfordshire.gov.uk. Find out more at https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/support/sendiasp.aspx</p>	<p>The KIDS East and West HUBs 01923 676549 The KIDS HUB offers information and support for parents and carers of disabled children / children with additional needs. aged 0-19 in Hertfordshire. KIDS Hub directory of SEND services has also now been published. www.kids.org.uk/hub HARC (Hertfordshire Branch)</p>
<p>Angels Support Group Angels Support Group was formed in response to families in the community in desperate need of support for themselves and their children. All of our volunteers have children with either ADHD or an autistic spectrum disorder and are committed to providing a resource that people will find both useful and accessible, making it available to as many families as possible info@angelsupportgroup.org.uk 01462 685150 http://www.angelsupportgroup.org.uk</p>	<p>Up On Downs Monthly Family and Friends meetings are held in Hitchin. There are also training events across the County. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Sande or Jan at: enquiries.nhdowns@yahoo.co.uk or call 01462 630 459. www.upondowns.co.uk</p>
<p>ADD-vance Provide specialist information, training and advice for professionals as well as support for children, adults and families on issues relating to Autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and related conditions. Free membership for parents and carers or professionals offers priority information on ADD-vance courses, training and workshops, carefully selected relevant and useful information. Professionals, children, adults and families can reach us for information or support via: 01727 833963 (Mon-Thurs 9am to 1pm, answer phone service at other times. herts@add-vance.org www.add-vance.org</p>	<p>Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database You are entitled to join HAND if you are the parent or carer of a child or young person with an additional need or disability aged 0-19. Benefits of joining include a leisure concession card, and subscription to the HAND newsletter. https://handnews.hertfordshire.gov.uk/issue-48-september-2018/news-this-month/welcome-to-your-september-hand-news</p>
<p>For a list of local support groups and voluntary organisations click here http://www.hertsdirect.org/docs/pdf/v/vologs.pdf</p>	<p>The Public Directory of Services is available on the NHDSPL website http://nhdspl.org.uk . It contains support information for families in North Herts</p>
<p>Parents and Carers – How can you get involved? Hertfordshire Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI) is the parent carer forum for Hertfordshire and part of a national network of parent carer forums. It is an independent parent carer led organisation with a network of parent carers from all over Hertfordshire. It aims to improve services for families by working alongside those providing services for children and young people with SEND (Special educational needs and disabilities) So if you are a parent or carer of a child or young person with SEND aged 0 – 25 years then join them- http://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk/</p>	