



Issue: October 2024

SEND News Bulletin

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first edition of the Worcestershire SEND News Bulletin for this academic year. We hope that you and your school/setting community have enjoyed a smooth Autumn Term so far. We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all new SENCos taking up their posts this term – please do reach out should you require any further information and guidance.

It was lovely to see so many of you join us for the SENCo Network Briefing on 1 October. We look forward to welcoming you to the series of online and face-to-face events this year - please find details of the events for 2024-25 outlined on page 6. As last year, the majority of events are FREE to attend.

In this bulletin you will find information and updates from a range of national and local service providers and support teams. We encourage you to read and share with relevant colleagues within your school. We hope that you find the information useful and, as always, would welcome any feedback you may have.

Thank you again for your continued hard work and commitment to meeting the needs of the children and young people with SEND and their families, we wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Kind regards

Helen Harris

Learning & Teaching Adviser, SEND/Inclusion

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National News & Updates

Curriculum and Assessment Review

The DfE are seeking views from stakeholders to share their perspective on potential improvements to the curriculum and assessment system.

Why your views matter

The call for evidence invites stakeholders to submit proposals on improving the curriculum and

KoothTalks webinars for Families

FAO: Pastoral Leads, Welfare staff, PSHE Leads, Designated Safeguarding Leads, Parents/ Carers, Teachers

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Meeting the needs of neurodivergent an

Worcestershire SENCo Network

SENCo Network Events 2024/2525

Feedback received from SENCOs about the blended approach of virtual and face-to-face SENCO network events has been overwhelmingly positive. SENCOs have reported that they appreciate the shared space together to discuss topics pertinent to their role and problem-solve creative approaches to shared issues or experiences. SENCOs also fed back that information received from a range of partners provided them with updated information about services, guidance and met training needs which enabled them to feel confident in carrying out their role.

The blended approach to the SENCO network will continue in 2024/25 with FREE membership for all Worcestershire schools with the slight change that there will be two locality meetings each term for the North and South of the County (rather than 3 locality meetings). This change is based on feedback received regarding travel.

The 24/25 SENCO network will consist of the following events:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Autumn 1 | National and Local SEND updates SCH 10178
Tuesday 1st October 2024 3:30 – 5:00pm Virtual Meeting |
| Autumn 2 | Locality Meetings (North and South) SCH 10421
Monday 18th November 2024 1:00-4:00pm (South) – Kings Hawford Prep School
Tuesday 19th November 2024 1:00-4:00pm (North) – Arrow Vale High School |
| Spring 1 | National and Local SEND updates SCH 10178
Tuesday 4th February 2025 3:30-5:00pm Virtual Meeting |
| Spring 2 | Locality Meetings (North and South) SCH 10421
Monday 24th March 2025 1:00-4:00pm (North) – Kings Hawford Prep School
Tuesday 25th March 2025 1:00-4:00pm (South) – Arrow Vale High School |

Local Offer website

s and our colleagues in health services to create a new Local Offer website. This is a specific section of the website that focuses on autism and neurodivergence for families and professionals.

Autism is a neurodevelopmental condition, which means that people with autism think, learn and process information differently. The most

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Lumi Nova: New free App to support children (7-12) with anxiety, fears and w

Transforming Literacy Leadership for Disadvantaged Children

FAO Senior Leaders, Pupil Premium Leaders, English Leads

Worcestershire County Council has worked in collaboration with the EEF, the Research Schools Network and local school leaders to co-construct a two-year partnership for Worcestershire schools. [Please download the flyer for more information.](#)

Drawing upon local expertise and research evidence, the partnership has been designed to enable leaders to create and communicate a clearly defined vision for literacy across the curriculum, ensuring that all children are equippe.005 Tc -0.011 0.6 (i)0.8 (i30.(l)4 (dr)14 (e)3 (n a)4 (r)4 (qu)10 (i)3 (am4 (r)30 (mat)-4

CHOICES - Transition int

Early Years Inclusion Funding dates

[Online inclusion funding application process | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Deadlines for Funding applications:

Spring Term 2025 -

Sp554 (rin)-4 (g)u AMmm10 (2)-m025 - Sp924 (rin)-4 (g)u AMmm10 (2)-m025 -
45/5 Spring 2025
7/8 Spring 2025
12/2025
10/2 T au sSp334 (rin)-4 (gAu AMt1(e)u AMmnp)4 205

The Early Years Inclusion Team Inclusion Helpline

Every Tuesday & Thursday afternoon (term time only) between 1pm to 3pm there will an Inclusion Officer able to take your phone calls.

The remaining times within the week, someone may answer, or we ask that you leave a voicemail for us to get back to you.

- Inclusion helpline and answer machine: 01905 843099
- Inclusion helpline email:

WCC EAL (English as an Additional Language) Service

From September, all schools who request support will receive a half term package of intensive weekly language support from our Specialist Practitioner including a cognitive assessment for multilingual learners which might help identify any additional needs. Following the initial intensive programme, the team will offer a monitoring visit in the next half term and each term thereafter, for the remainder of the academic year, to facilitate embedding of skills and capacity building for EAL learners. All our learners will now receive a report of assessment findings and recommendations to meet their individual needs. EAL audits are still available either via online consultation or a one hour in-person visit.

This service is free to maintained schools or can be purchased via the eStore for academies. Please email

Contact SENDIASS

Call: 01905 768153 Monday-Friday 8.30am-4pm (24hr answerphone service)

Email sendiass@worcestershire.gov.uk

For regular Special Educational Needs/Disabilities (SEND) updates, sign up to the SENDIASS mailing list by clicking the sign-up link on their [SENDIASS Contact page](#) or follow them on social media: [Facebook-](#)
[HWSSENDIASS](#)

HW SENDIASS also have lots of useful information on their website www.hwsendiass.co.uk and provide

Book your place on the above training via [CPD](#) using your school CPD leader login details. Confirmations are issued at the point of booking and go to the delegate email provided. If your school requires support when booking, please contact the training team on **01905 844 420** or email workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk

What is the SCERTS Approach for EYFS / Reception?

SCERTS: Social Communication Emotional Regulation Transactional and Support

SCERTS is an evidence-based framework for assessing children who need support with their social communication and emotional regulation skills, including autistic children. Transactional support is the support given to children to reach their goals and achieve their potential.

The SCERTS approach is not a prescriptive course code: 10462. Only one member of staff needs to be booked to get all the Stage 1 information, as once you M10 (ha)4 (v)7 (e)3 ()10 (t)10 (he)3 ()10 (we)3 (bc)8 (a)4 (s) it can be accessed onto Stag 2. When your school / stings ready to accesstag 2 of SCERTS please contact the tra On0ng team by emailing workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk.

EYFS children in Sttings / Rception Classes and Shool

_____ course code: 10462. Only one member of staff needs to be booked to get all the Stage 1 information, as once you M10 (ha)4 (v)7 (e)3 ()10 (t)10 (he)3 ()10 (we)3 (bc)8 (a)4 (s) it can be accessed onto Stag 2. When your school / stings ready to accesstag 2 of SCERTS please contact the tra On0ng team by emailing workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk.

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Resources

SEND Podcast

The SENDcast is a weekly podcast focusing on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). It is an effective way to keep up to date with policy changes, best practice and to improve your knowledge around SEN. The weekly podcast features a different guest or guests talking about a specific topic related to Special Educational Needs. [Listen to SENDcast](#)

NASEN - SEND Teacher Handbook

On 22

Shine A Light - Sharing Effective Practice

Chawson First School receive Centre of Excellence award for Oracy

A huge congratulation to Chawson First School who have received the prestigious Oracy Centre of Excellence award from the national oracy charity, Voice 21, for its work developing students' speaking and listening skills.

Voice 21 work with more than 1,000 schools nationally, and Chawson First

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