DSPL9 Delivering Special Provision Locally

DSPL 9 Weekly Newsletter 3

07.10.26

DSPL 9/HFL Autumn Term SEND Briefing

Tickets are now available for SENCos to book to attend the autumn term DSPL 9/HFL briefing. This terms session will take place on Tuesday 17th November from 1.30-3.30pm at Westfield Academy, Tolpits Lane, Watford.

Please use the link below to book your space:

https://hub.hfleducation.org/courses/dspl-9-briefing-autumn-171126

Booking information:

- The link is hidden in the HFL Hub shop so SENCos won't be able to search for.
- SENCos will need to get their 'booking manager' to make the booking on their behalf (this is usually and admin/head teacher)
- When the confirmation email is received the booking manager needs to forward this to the SENCO
- SENCOs will then need to click on the enrolment link in the confirmation email in order for the session to show on their dashboard.

DSPL 9 EBSA Support

DSPL9 Face to face EBSA parent drop ins

Spaces are still available for the DSPL 9 Manager and the Family Support Worker to visit the school and provide advice and signposting for parents of children experiencing EBSA. Schools will be allocated up to a 1-hour slot, which will enable 2 parents to attend each for 30 minutes.

Please book a session using the link below:
https://buytickets.at/dspl9/2304677

DSPL 9 EBSA Tier 3 Solution Circles

EBSA insight and solution circles will be managed and chaired by the DSPL 9 manager to ensure consistency across the meetings. Insights and solution circles will take place twice per each half term (see dates below). The purpose of the meetings will be to provide additional support and continued professional development for SENCos and Pastoral Leads through group discussions and formulation of next steps.

Please book a session using the link below:
https://buytickets.at/dspl9/2304713

DSPL 9
Young Carers Event

DSPL 9 would like to invite all local primary and secondary schools to attend a Young Carers event to find out more about how to identify and support young carers within your schools.

The morning will be an amazing opportunity to hear from local schools and services and gain a better understanding of how and what support looks like.

The event will be attended by:

- Hertfordshire Young Carers Team
- Laurence Haines School (Primary)
- Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School (Secondary)
- Herts School Nursing Service
- Akshaya Patra: Empower Hour

Date: Wednesday 11th November 2026
Time: 9.30am-12.30pm
Venue: The Niland Centre, Bushey, WD23 4EE

To book your space please click on the link below:

https://buytickets.at/dspl9/2249946

Please note: This event is open to any colleagues in school responsible for supporting Young Carers.

Hertfordshire

Annual Review updated documentation

Please be aware the EHCP annual review documentation has been updated on the Herts Grid, we are awaiting further communication from HCC regarding this but wanted to highlight this to you as soon as DSPL 9 became aware.

To access the updated document please use the link below:
Education, health and care plan (EHC) - Hertfordshire Grid for Learning

SENCo Drop-Ins

This academic year Gemma Hall and Mandy Brandon will be moving the weekly drop in sessions to a Thursday morning (before school) or lunchtime and rotate this on a weekly basis.

These sessions are an opportunity for any SENCos, Head Teachers, Pastoral Leads or staff to jump onto a call and ask any question big or small that is SEND related.

MORNING SESSION:
The first session 8-8.45am session will take place on Thursday 10th September and will run until the end of the summer term:
Microsoft Teams meeting
Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/33742930953952?p=UVsoWANjoUGmNQEUt3
Meeting ID: 337 429 309 539 52
Passcode: 9SM3ML3v

LUNCHTIME SESSION:
The first session 12-1pm will take place on Thursday 17th September and will also run until the end of the summer term:
Microsoft Teams meeting
Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/381362195089344?p=npG00zLkEDiny3CZcM
Meeting ID: 381 362 195 089 344
Passcode: Zq6kk6nK

We are excited share that HOME is **now live** on the Trust website:

Speaking different languages, bilingualism | Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

We have developed it as part of our equality, diversity and inclusion work, and it's designed to support families, schools and settings who are supporting children growing up with more than one language. There is a webinar and postcard and general bilingualism information sits in drop-down sections, so it's easy to find what's relevant to you, and the page can be translated.

Spot the Signs (Youth Suicide Prevention Course)
5 November 2026 & 25 February 2027 09:30 – 11:30 am

Audience: All practitioners working with children and young people (aged 9yrs to 20yrs) in Hertfordshire.

Overview:
The purpose of this session is to increase participants' knowledge and awareness about youth suicide. We will explore information about which groups of young people are most at risk and why, protective factors and increase confidence in using practical strategies for identifying and responding to signs of risk in young people. You will be provided with some of the latest information and statistics in regard to suicide in young people. We will also explore the effects of media and contagion on youth suicide, with the internet having an important contemporary role. This session is most suitable for individuals working/ caring for 9-year to 20-year olds.

Learning Outcomes:

- Have a broad awareness of suicide in young people, including being able to recognise some of the latest statistics and risk factors
- Understand some of the misconceptions surrounding suicide in young people and be aware of the impact of stigma.
- Have increased confidence in responding to and supporting young people with suicidal thoughts.
- Have an increased knowledge of services available in Hertfordshire to support young people with suicidal thoughts.
- Know where and when to signpost young people to for additional support.
- Please see our Terms & Conditions for the cost of attending our courses and our cancellation policy.

To book your place please visit our website https://hscb.event-booking.org.uk/

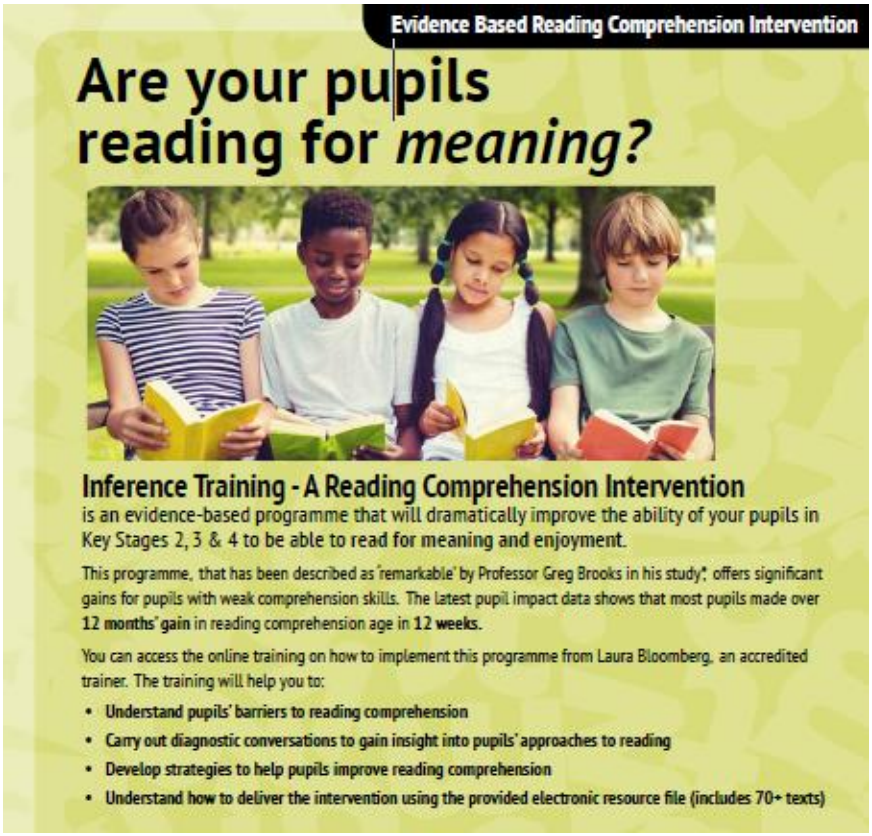
This annual training will be delivered by Mandy Brandon (SISO for DSPL 9) and will cover the following aspects:
· What to do prior to applying for a needs assessment
· How to complete the request effectively
· What paperwork should/should not be included?
· What to do if a needs assessment is not needed but parents are insisting

The training is refreshed and updated each year, so we recommend attending this year even if you attended last year.

To book your place please click here

Please see the attached flyer to find out more about the SEND Learning week taking place between Monday 30th November and Friday 4th December.

The SEND Learning week will kicks off on Monday 30th November with an in person launch event, followed by a wide range of online interactive SEND webinars spanning across the week.



For further information including dates and costings, please see attached flyer and booking form.

North Hertfordshire College is pleased to announce our November open event at **Springboard Watford** which will be held on **Thursday 5th November 3pm – 5pm** at our prestigious premises. This is an opportunity for professionals, parents, and prospective students to meet the team and find out more about the Springboard programme.

Please note our address for this event will be:
Springboard
Unit 8 Wilmington Close
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD18 0FQ

The nearest car park is Gade car park in Rosslyn Road and Wilmington Close is off Upton Road:
https://citipark.co.uk/car-parks/watford/gade-car-park

If you are not already aware of Springboard, it is a full-time personalised course which provides students with the support, knowledge, skills and confidence to become more independent, make informed decisions and ultimately to progress into mainstream college and work. The course is delivered in self-contained teaching centre in Watford.
Springboard course is for school leavers - young people aged 16 and over who require additional support before progressing to a cross college vocational course or employment. Many of our students have a diagnosis or traits of autism. Many have associated emotional and mental health needs that require specialist and bespoke support before they can move on and make a successful transition to adulthood. We do also consider 15-year-olds but only if they have an EHCP – subject to funding being approved by the local authority.
All candidates out of Herts do need EHCP.
Our students study Employability, Functional Skills Maths and English from Entry 3 to Level 2, Creative Arts (Drama) Therapy, Life Skills, Personal Development and Wellbeing, Vocational tasters in Art, Cooking and First Aid, Enrichment, and complete 34 hours of work experience in their vocational area of interest. We support our students to transition into cross college vocational courses, supported internships or apprenticeships or employment by helping them to discover what they want to do after Springboard, arranging taster sessions and supporting them at interviews.
Students need to meet our assessment criteria in order to access the provision although individual needs are always considered, and decisions are made on a case by case basis and subject to funding being approved by the Local Authority.
If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Mark Kucper: mkucper@nhc.ac.uk or text / call us on: 07961522708.
To help us to manage numbers we would appreciate a confirmation from you as to what time you are planning to attend. The event is on drop-in basis and there is no need to book to attend.

Please forward this email to any students, parents or professional contacts who may be interested in attending.

If you are unable to attend but would like to find out more about our provision, we would be happy to arrange a visit on an individual basis. Please email Mark at the above email.

We look forward to meeting you at our open event.

Prospectus link:

https://indd.adobe.com/view/1aec11b4-4cdf-4dde-9ebb-978bf90a1b02