



Delivering Special  
Provision Locally



## DSPL 9 Weekly Newsletter 5

13.11.24



EHCP Audits using Invision 360

### Ensuring high quality EHCPs

One of the actions in the SEND Improvement plan is to increase the number of new and amended EHC plans that are audited as good or better, as nationally benchmarked by Invision 360.

This session is for members of SLT and SENCOs in DSPL9:

- To understand why we are auditing Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
- To become familiar with the *Invision360 Auditing tool* and what a good EHC plan looks like.
- To learn how to audit an EHCP.

#### So that:

- You feel confident in knowing what a good EHCP should look like.
- You understand how the auditing framework works and to use this in collaboration with LA to ensure good quality plans for C/YP
- You can audit your own schools' plans (if you wish to do so)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

**9.30am-11.00am**

**Venue: The Green Room, Bournehall Primary School.**

[Click here to book](#)



### DSPL 9 EBSA Tier 3 Solution Circles

Spaces are still available for you to bring any EBSA cases to one of our solution circles on the following dates.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December:

- Primary cases: 12.30-2pm
- Secondary cases: 2.30-4pm

Please remember that this is a good opportunity to talk through any CYP experiencing EBSA and receive support from a range of professionals.

To book a slot please contact Jen Thomson at [admin@dsplarea9.org.uk](mailto:admin@dsplarea9.org.uk)

For any further questions please contact [gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk](mailto:gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk)



**Good practice sharing event:  
Assessing CYP with SEND**

Following a positive response to the good practice sharing events that took place in the last academic year, the DSPL 9 SEND Review group are pleased to inform you that these sessions will continue to take place on a termly basis this year.

The focus of the autumn term event will be assessing CYP with SEND. In order for this session to be productive and useful we are asking those SENCOs who attend to share prior to the event the assessment tools they currently use in school. The intention is that this will be used to develop a live directory of assessment that can be used by all SENCOs across the local area when considering how best to assess a child. We ask that you include your name and email as part of the information shared to enable local SENCOs to make contact with each other and further discuss the assessments (peer to peer support).

**Date: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**

**Time: 1.30-3.30pm**

**Venue: The Grove Academy, Fourth Ave, Watford WD25 9RH**

**Please note: All attending are expected to complete the google form prior to the event and bring with them examples of the assessment tools they currently use. By completing the google form you are agreeing to your information (including email address) being shared across DSPL 9 with local SENCOs.**

Outline for the session:

1.30-2.00	HFL Assessing CYP with SEND: Why, how and so what!
2.00-2.40	Small group discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment Tools for Cognition and Learning</li><li>• Assessment Tools for Communication and Interaction</li></ul> Spotlight demonstrations
2.40-2.50	Short break
2.50-3.30	Small group discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment Tools for SEMH</li><li>• Assessment Tools for Physical and Sensory</li></ul> Spotlight demonstrations

To book a place on this session please follow the link below ensuring you state your role within the school:

<https://buytickets.at/dspl9/1434965>

Any questions regarding this event please contact Gemma Hall on [gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk](mailto:gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk)

**New EBSA Practical Framework Webinars**

DSPLs 6 and 9 would like to invite all schools to access one of two free webinars to find out more details around the NEW EBSA Framework and how it can be used by schools to strengthen early identification and implement support. Both sessions will take place on Wednesday 13th November at either 1.30-2pm or 3.45-4.15pm.

Please see attached flyer for links to attend the sessions.



www.hct.nhs.uk

## Herts Shining Communication Award

For the last year we have been piloting the HSCA across the DSPL's and we are now in the position to extend this out further across the county. Please read the flyer below and contact your Education Lead if you would like to express interest in carrying this out within your setting.



Innovative



Caring



Agile

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Hertfordshire Community  
NHS Trust

### Hertfordshire Shining Communication Award

Children & Young People's (CYP) Speech & Language Therapy Service

#### What is the Hertfordshire Shining Communication Award (HSCA)?

HSCA is a tool for schools to use to support and improve the outcomes for those children presenting with speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN). The aim of the tool is to support settings to identify their strengths and areas of development in terms of the support provided for children with SLCN.

#### How does the HSCA work?

- There are 8 'rays' of the HSCA: families, quality, leadership, intervention, identification, environment, training, knowledge.
- Schools will need to demonstrate that they are at least 'developing' across all 8 of the 'rays'. This will be done through a combination of discussions, observations, and evidence such as completed training records.
- Each school will need to identify 1-2 'Communication Champions' to lead on this award.
- The Speech and Language Therapy Team will provide the following support to help schools achieve the award:
  - 1 virtual training session to provide further information about the tool and get you started
  - An initial virtual meeting with schools to identify their areas of strength and areas for development and set targets
  - A minimum of 2 face to face visits to the school to complete observations
  - Further meetings as required to review progress and update targets
- Once settings have demonstrated that they have met the minimum criteria for each of the rays, the Herts Shining Communication Award will be presented to the setting. We recommend that schools work towards achieving their award within 1 year of attending their initial training session.
- Each school's HSCA status will be reviewed annually to ensure that the high standards are continuing to be met.

#### How to get involved?

Please contact your local Speech and Language Therapy Education Lead to express an interest in starting your award or have any questions.



www.hct.nhs.uk



**Hertfordshire Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey 2024** will go live on Monday Nov 4th - Friday 20th December! Any young person can complete the Survey. To access please follow the link [www.hertshealthevidence.org/yphws](http://www.hertshealthevidence.org/yphws) or use the QR code in the eflyer (attached above).



## **Webinar: the right education, in the right place, at the right time**

Leaders from the School Planning and SEND teams at Hertfordshire County Council are hosting a webinar for families (and anyone who wants to join, professionals included), as one way we are looking to share more about improvements we are making in SEND.

We would like as many families as possible to hear about this. Please would you help us to reach your families by sharing the below information with them on any channels you have?

## **Webinar: The right education, in the right place, at the right time: enhancing inclusive mainstream schools and increasing specialist provision in Hertfordshire**

**Wednesday 27 November, 7.30pm - 8.30pm**  
**MS Teams (a BSL interpreter will be present)**

Hear from leaders at the council talk about how we're addressing the increased need for specialist provision in Hertfordshire. They will be sharing information about:

- the work we are doing to increase specialist provision in Hertfordshire
- details of our new model for provision panels
- the work we are doing to create more inclusive mainstream schools.

If there are any questions you would like to have answered during the session, please email them to [sendstrategy@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sendstrategy@hertfordshire.gov.uk) before 11pm on Monday 18 November. We will theme up the questions we get and try to answer as many as we can during the session. We can't respond to questions about specialist provision for individual children, but we will address the general questions we know a lot of families have about this topic.

There will be a BSL interpreter present at this event.

### **How to join:**

**There is no need to book: Just save this joining link, which you can use to join the meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27 November:**

### **[Webinar joining link](#)**

Or you can use these details to sign in with MS Teams:

Meeting ID: 376 847 150 22

Passcode: 9b4935



### **Service Delivery from the EYs SEND Team**

The session will focus on the changes to our service, new members to our team, processes, and FUNDING. We also have updates from Speech and Language Therapy, DSPL and Family Centres.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 10am-12pm OR 12.30-2.30pm**

Please see flyer for booking information.



The Voices of Hertfordshire Multi schools' council network is please to invite you to our November council meetings. These meetings are for young people with SEND, their friends and siblings of those young people with SEND. A safe space to learn to advocate and learn more about inclusion. If your school needs an individual meeting or more advice please do let us know [sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

What you need to know:

- The meetings are around the county and are either primary focused, secondary focused or specialist focused. Simply book on the one you feel most appropriate for your young people.
- Primary age - You can bring 5 pupils from your school to take part. Simply register your places on the eventbrite links below. There are between 40 and 50 places per event.
- Secondary age - You can bring 10 pupils from your school to take part. Simply register your places on the eventbrite links below. There are between 40 and 50 places per event.
- These events are free – open to all pupils – fun and give every young person the chance to talk about what matters to them.
- The focus is on SEND but can be a young person with SEND, a young person who is a family member to someone with SEND or anyone who is passionate about inclusion.
- We will cover things that matter to young people in Hertfordshire, for example mental health, awareness of conditions / disability etc. Over time the agendas will be formed by the young people themselves. For October the agenda is attached
- The meetings are run by myself, Sarah Stevens, an ex-primary headteacher, SENCO and Ofsted inspector with a passion for pupil voice and ensuring young people with SEND are heard, if you have any questions simply email me on [sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk)
- Young people require a ticket from the Eventbrite link below (5 for each school) adults do not need tickets BUT DO NEED TO BRING THEIR SCHOOL BADGE /DBS. These can be booked in one link.
- Adults attending with young people are responsible for supporting with any adjustment required e.g. sign language, hearing loop, large print etc.
- Further FAQs on attached sheet.

Setting Type	Date	Location	Time	Eventbrite link for tickets – please book up to 5
<b>Primary</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> November	Shephalbury Park, Burydale, Bragbury End SG2 8AX	10 – 1130am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-stevenage-area-tickets-1047893346207?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-stevenage-area-tickets-1047893346207?aff=oddtcreator</a>
	21 <sup>st</sup> November	Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School Mount Pleasant Lane Bricket Wood St. Albans Hertfordshire AL2 3XA	10 – 1130am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-st-albans-area-tickets-1050389331767?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-st-albans-area-tickets-1050389331767?aff=oddtcreator</a>
	22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Chorleywood Primary School Stag Lane Chorleywood Hertfordshire WD3 5HR Tel: 01923 282095		<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-chorleywood-area-tickets-1050390455127?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/primary-voices-of-hertfordshire-chorleywood-area-tickets-1050390455127?aff=oddtcreator</a>
	25 <sup>th</sup> November	Wormley Primary School Cozens Lane East Wormley Broxbourne Hertfordshire EN10 6QA	10 – 1130am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/broxbourne-district-voices-of-hertfordshire-tickets-1048821422107?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/broxbourne-district-voices-of-hertfordshire-tickets-1048821422107?aff=oddtcreator</a>

<b>Secondary and Specialist secondary</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	<b>The Valley School Broadhall Way SG2 9BN</b>	10 – 1130am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/secondary-specialist-voices-of-hertfordshire-stevenage-area-tickets-1050388088047?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/secondary-specialist-voices-of-hertfordshire-stevenage-area-tickets-1050388088047?aff=oddtcreator</a>
	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	<b>Adeyfield, Longlands, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4DE</b>	10 – 1130am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hemel-hempstead-secondary-specialist-settings-voices-of-hertfordshire-tickets-1048807691037?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hemel-hempstead-secondary-specialist-settings-voices-of-hertfordshire-tickets-1048807691037?aff=oddtcreator</a>
	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Falconer School, Falconer Road, Bushey, WD23 3AT	10 – 1130am	No link as single school event
<b>All through specialist</b>	TBC	Amwell View, Ware		Single school event

Any questions simply email me on [sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.stevens2@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Please see all attached flyers for further information.

## IMPOWER

Valuing SEND

### DSPL 9 In person VSEND Setting Readiness/CYP Profile Workshops

This academic year, DSPL 9 will be offering termly sessions to enable SENCos to look at and develop the setting readiness and CYP profile sections of the VSEND tool. It is intended that this dedicated time and having the access to support, will enable SENCos to feel more confident in using the tool for a greater number of CYP with SEND in their school/setting.

This session will be an opportunity to come together and:

- complete or review your school or settings setting readiness
- complete the CYP profile for an individual child
- develop your confidence in using the tool to support CYP with SEND
- speak to local SENCos about how they are using the tool
- ask Katy Alexander (SENDIAGO/VSEND Lead) any questions regarding the VSEND tool

Date	Time	Venue	Booking Link
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30-11am	The Green Room, Bournehall Primary School, Bournehall Ave, WD23 3AX	<a href="https://buytickets.at/dspl9/1392859">https://buytickets.at/dspl9/1392859</a> (Please identify the date you wish to attend once clicking on the link)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	1-2.30pm	The Green Room, Bournehall Primary School, Bournehall Ave, WD23 3AXT	

Places are limited so please book early as not to avoid disappointment.



### Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Please find attached flyers for the 1 day champion course and 2 day first aider course.

All dates and booking information can be found on the flyers.

## DSPL 9 Parent/Carer Coffee Morning



DSPL9 Delivering Special Provision Locally



**PARENT/CARER COFFEE MORNING**  
For all parents/carers of children with SEND

**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 10.00AM-11.30AM**  
ASDA WATFORD COMMUNITY ROOM 4  
ST ALBANS RD, WATFORD WD24 7RT

Please join the DSPL9 Triage team to find out about the support available locally and to meet other parents and carers of children with SEND.

If you would like to attend or to find out more please email us at [enquiries@dsplareg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dsplareg.org.uk)

Following a successful parent/carers coffee morning in the last half term, DSPL 9 is pleased to be able to offer this again in December.

Please share the attached flyer with your school community and encourage parents and carers of CYP with SEND to attend.



# CONFERENCE 2025

## Behaviours for Learning



**Thursday, 23rd January 2025**  
University of Hertfordshire, Fielder Centre, Hatfield  
in partnership with the University of Hertfordshire

**TICKET PRICES**  
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SCAN ME OR BOOK HERE  
<http://AlbanTrsHConf2025>



Dear Colleagues

We have a new Protective Behaviours level 1 (Foundation) course confirmed for January 2025 and just one place available on this month's course. For those wanting to progress from Level 1, we hope you can join us in the new year for our online level 2 (intermediate course).

**Level 1:**

- Mondays 18 & 25 November 2024 (1 place available) 9.30am – 4.30pm £245 + Vat. Fee includes course book and certificate. [Please click here for booking form...](#)
- Thursdays 23 & 30 January 2025 £245 + Vat. Fee includes course book and certificate. [Please click here for booking form...](#)

**Level 2:**

- 27, 28 Feb, 6 & 7 March 9,30am -12.30, 13 March 9.30 – 4.30pm £445 + Vat. Fee includes course workbook and certificate. [Please click here for booking form...](#)

**Facilitators course**

- TBC – This course is for anyone who has completed Level 2 and wishes to train to deliver the evidence-based Families Feeling Safe programme for Mums, Dads & Carers within their service. Please email [admin@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](mailto:admin@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk) to be added to our waiting list.

For all enquiries (or for a word version of the booking form) please email [admin@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](mailto:admin@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk)