



Telford & Wrekin  
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest  
to create a better borough

# Telford & Wrekin Local Offer **Newsletter**



## SEND Newsletter September 2022

**Discover all the current news and information  
about Special Educational Needs and Disability in  
Telford & Wrekin**

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### Welcome from the Service Delivery Manager

It has been a fast and furious start to the autumn term once again!

The Newsletter for September is a bumper edition... there are so many updates and messages to share at the start of term. Firstly, I would like to remind you that the dates for the Inclusive School Forum have been released and are now published on the Local Offer, please take a look and save the dates as needed. Further 'Save the Dates' have been released for SENCo Network Meetings, following your feedback these will be a mixture of online briefings and face to face networking opportunities. I am also pleased to announce a save the date for the SEND Conference scheduled for next year, make sure you keep Friday 19 May 2023 free in your diaries, further information about this exciting event will be released soon!

In other news, all schools and settings should have received listings of their Annual Reviews week commencing 12 September 2022, if you have any queries please contact your SEND Coordinator who will be happy to help. As you know there are statutory dates that we need to finalise EHC plans for ready for transition in September 2023, please take a look at the article to find out more.

Make sure to take a look at the exciting training that is being offered this term, including; Establishing yourself and a SEND Leader, training focused on Governors who have responsibility for SEND and more.

I look forward to seeing you at the next SENCo Briefing on: Thursday 6 October 2022.

Natalie Bevan  
Service Delivery Manager: SEND & Personalisation

**SEND Local Offer**

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## SOS Group

Shout Out for SEND (SOS) is a group of 11-25 year olds that meet every month to ensure that they have the chance to have their voice heard and to influence the decisions in Telford and Wrekin SEND and the Information Advice and Support Service (IASS) service.

The group is interested in working collaboratively with schools, post 16 settings. They would like the opportunity to visit school councils and/or parliaments to share information about the group and discuss how they can work together to encourage young people to share their views.

If your school or setting would like to request a visit from the group to find out how they can work with the group please contact us via email: [localoffer@telford.gov.uk](mailto:localoffer@telford.gov.uk).

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## Annual Review Listings

Annual review listings were sent out to all schools, settings and post 16 providers week commencing 12 September 2022, detailing the dates when we require annual reviews to be completed by and returned to the Local Authority.

Please may we request that you carefully check through your listing and let us know if there are any inaccuracies by emailing the [sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk](mailto:sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk).

As you know we have some statutory dates by which we need to finalise EHC plans with a named September placement where a child/young person is moving between phases:

- **15 February 2023** for any child going into reception, year 3 (where there is movement between an infant school to a separate junior school only) and Year 7 in September 2023.
- **31 March 2023** for young people entering post 16 provision in September 2023.

We therefore require annual reviews for the following year groups to be completed during the Autumn Term.

## YEAR GROUPS

### **PLEASE SEND COMPLETED ANNUAL REVIEWS TO THE SEND TEAM BY:**

Annual Reviews to be held in Schools  
from:

Nursery year  
(aged 3 since 1 September 2020)

**21 November 2022**

Annual Reviews returned to the LA

**5 December 2022**

Annual Reviews to be held in Schools  
from:

Year 2 pupils  
(infant school only)

**21 November 2022**

Annual Reviews returned to the LA

**5 December 2022**

Annual Reviews to be held in Schools  
from:

**All** Year 6 pupils

**21 November 2022**

Annual Reviews returned to the LA

**5 December 2022**

**16 January 2023**

**All** Year 11 pupils

Post 16 Preference Forms should be  
returned by 16 January 2023, with the  
Annual Review.

In some circumstances, a full year may not have passed since the last annual review for children in these year groups but their completion is still required by the specified dates.

The annual reviews of all other year groups should occur within 12 months of their previous annual review.

The SEND Team will be sending consultations to schools week starting: 14 December 2022 for Reception, Year 3 and Year 7.

The Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) Team will be sending consultations to Post 16 providers during the week commencing 23 January 2023.

For more information please contact the SEND Team via email to [sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk](mailto:sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk) or by calling 01952 381045.

Please save the date for the Annual Review workshop that will be held on Thursday 3 November 2022, an invitation to attend will be sent to all SENCo's.

### **Phase Transition Reviews - Important Reminder:**

Please CC your locality coordinator into the email when you return the Annual Review paperwork for children and young people who will be moving from infant to junior (Yr. 2), primary – secondary (Yr. 6) or secondary to post 16 (Yr.11). If you are unsure who your locality coordinator is please take a look at the locality listing online.

**SEND Locality Working**

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## **Welcome to...**

### **Statutory SEND Team**

**Katie Crowley**  
**SEND Officer**

I am delighted to have recently been appointed as a SEND Officer for the Hadley Locality. I am a qualified teacher and SENCo with over fifteen years' experience teaching in Primary Schools. At my previous school I was also a safeguarding lead. I have joined Telford and Wrekin having worked for Dudley and Sandwell authorities where I lead projects to support young people's mental health. I look forward to meeting many of you soon!

Email: [Katie.Crowley@telford.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.Crowley@telford.gov.uk)

### **SIS**

SIS is delighted to welcome three new staff to the team, all of whom bring rich and varied experience in a variety of settings.

**Robert Tipton** is a Qualified Teacher of the Visually Impaired and will now act as the Lead Teacher to the VI team. Rob previously undertook this role in Wolverhampton and brings much expertise and knowledge from many previous roles in the field of sensory impairment.

**Eleanor Miles** joins the team as a Teacher of the Deaf having previously been a class teacher and SENCo and most recently worked at TMBSS in Shrewsbury.

**Louise Kitson** joins the team as a Teacher of the Visually Impaired, having previously been a class teacher at Captain Webb Primary School.

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## **Mental Health & Wellbeing**

**Referral Pathway into the BeeU Service**  
**Telford & Wrekin**

Clarification on referrals into the BeeU services is now available, schools can continue to make referrals directly into the service as before.

- BeeU accept referrals from all professionals, including GP's.
- Referrals will be screened, further information or reports may be requested from the professional making the referral.
- BeeU may offer suggestions or steps that can be taken to provide support.
- A referral does not need to have an EP or LSAT report attached, there are no standard pre-requisites to accessing BeeU.

### Referral Pathway into the BeeU Service

## BEAM

Leaflets and a poster are available to download for BEAM Drop-In's, they can be found on the SEND Local Offer - Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Drop In's are available:

**Monday - Drop In's** at The Lantern, Meadow Farm Drive, Shrewsbury. SY1 4NG - From 12pm - 4pm (last session 3:15pm)

**Tuesdays - Drop In's** at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP - From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

**Thursdays - Drop In's** at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP - From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

Emotional wellbeing support for children and young people under 25.

### SEND Local Offer - Mental Health and Wellbeing

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## Speech, Language & Communication Needs Pathway

### New Developments in the Children's Speech, Language & Communication Needs Pathway Announced for Telford & Wrekin

Speech, Language and Communication (SLC) is everyone's business. Therefore, we need to empower everyone involved in the system (including parents, carers and educators) to support children and young people

(CYP) with SLC needs in a timely way that encourages their progress with communication.

Throughout Telford & Wrekin we want to do this by promoting that communication is fun and ensuring that the right support is available at the right time.

Over the last year we have been working in collaboration with parents, education setting staff, specialists in speech, language & communication and commissioners of services to develop a plan to improve services for children with speech, language, and communication needs.

## Early Talk Boost (for 3-4 year olds)

**The Early Talk Boost** was developed because between 40 and 50 % of children growing up in socially disadvantaged areas of the UK are starting school with delayed language. As the early years offers such an opportunity for rich language experiences, it makes sense to start supporting language development at pre-school and nursery so that children have a good foundation when they start school. The Early Talk Boost intervention has been designed by I CAN communication advisors – specialist teachers and speech and language therapists.

Early Talk Boost supports a range of skills that give children's language a boost:-

- Attention and listening: foundation skills for speaking and listening.
- Learning and using new words: research shows that children with weaker vocabularies are at risk of difficulties with reading.
- Building sentences: putting words together is a vital skill for having conversations and telling stories.

Each school or setting can access 1 free place and will receive an Early Talk Boost pack worth £500. (Childminders will be able to access the packs via Early Learning and Childcare Partnership Hubs, but need to have attended the training)

Suitable for Teachers, EYFS leads, Setting leads, Room leaders, SENDCo, Childminders.

For more information please e-mail: [talkingchildcare@telford.gov.uk](mailto:talkingchildcare@telford.gov.uk)

## Talk Boost Key Stage 1 (for 4-7 year olds)

The delivery of the ICAN Talk Boost Intervention and Training for Key Stage 1 schools provided by Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust commenced on 24<sup>th</sup> March and we will continue the roll out of the training throughout the year ahead.

- There are two free training places available per school
- Every school who takes up the offer of free training will receive a toolkit worth £500 purchased for them

- Once a school is registered for the training, they will be sent information on how to collect their toolkit
- For any school not already booked additional training dates will be available in 2022/2023.

For further details, please contact: [CPDSchool.Improvement@telford.gov.uk](mailto:CPDSchool.Improvement@telford.gov.uk)

## Talk Boost Key Stage 2 (for 7-10 year olds)

The delivery of the ICAN Talk Boost Intervention and Training for Key Stage 1 schools provided by Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust commenced on 8<sup>th</sup> June and we will continue the roll out of the training throughout the year ahead.

- There are two free training places available per school (including secondary schools)
- Every Junior and Primary school who takes up the offer of free training will receive a toolkit worth £500 purchased for them
- Every Secondary school who takes up the offer of training will have access to an intervention pack on loan from the SEND team as they need it to deliver the programme.
- Once a school is registered for the training, they will be sent information on how to collect their toolkit
- For any school not already booked additional training dates will be available in 2022/2023.

For further details, please contact: [CPDSchool.Improvement@telford.gov.uk](mailto:CPDSchool.Improvement@telford.gov.uk)

### Further Resources

For the new Children's SLT referral form and further information on the SLT early identification and intervention resource, including details on the new screening tool for speech sounds please visit:

<https://www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/childrenspeechlanguagetherapy>

You will also find tips and advice about speech, language, and communication development on this site.

### This announcement is from:

Telford and Wrekin Council, PODS, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICS and Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust.

## Advice Line

Partners across the system continue to work together to support children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SCLN). Schools and settings have been supported to develop their toolkit of support through the roll out of the Talk Boost Program in Early Years and KS1.

Parents and practitioners are able to access an Advice Line appointment with the SLT service if they wish to talk about specific CYP's SLCN or further strategies to support SLCN.

More details about SLCN support locally can be found at:

[www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/childrenspechlanguagetherapy](http://www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/childrenspechlanguagetherapy)

For children and young people who need to be referred to the SLT service for an assessment, there continues to be a significant wait (over 18 weeks) which as a system they are working to reduce.

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## Early Years

### Early Years SENCO training

Information from the DfE.

The Department for Education is pleased to announce that they have appointed Best Practice Network to deliver training to up to 5,000 early years SENCOs across England over the next two years. Best Practice Network will deliver accredited Level 3 EY SENCO training, nationally available, but with targeting in specific areas based on levels of disadvantage. The first cohort will begin training in October 2022 and with additional regular cohorts beginning training until August 2024. In this timeframe up to 5,000 SENCOs will be trained. The training will be available to early years staff working in group-based settings and working as childminders.

**Minister for School Standards, Will Quince said:** “It’s great to be working with Best Practice Network on the delivery of Level 3 SENCO training for early years staff.

“This is a crucial programme within our early years education recovery package, addressing the impact of the pandemic on the youngest and most disadvantaged children. It’s also a key part of our SEND Green paper commitment to improve outcomes for all children, regardless of need.

“The early years sector has worked incredibly hard to support families over the past few years and we want to continue working with them to support all early years children. This upscale in the number of qualified SENCOs will directly help children who have special educational needs.”

Please visit the Best Practice Network [website](#) for more information and to enrol on the training.

[Best Practice Network website](#)

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## Schools

## Inclusive School Forum (ISF)

The Inclusive School Forum is a school led forum within Telford and Wrekin that provides support and challenge to mainstream schools regarding the provision and practice they deliver for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). It aims to provide an opportunity to network and deliver peer to peer guidance. The focus is, through sharing best practice, to develop an inclusive education system within Telford and Wrekin whereby children with increasingly complex needs achieve and succeed within mainstream schools.

Make sure you join us at the next SENCo Network meeting on Thursday 6 October 2022 as we have some exciting news and updates for ISF including where referrals for Special School Outreach can be made!

New dates for the autumn term have been released, please take a look:

[SEND Local Offer - ISF](#)

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## Preparing for Adulthood

### SEND PfA Team Lead

We are pleased to announce that Vicki Abbott has started as the new PfA SEND Team Lead.

### Telford 16-19 Website Post 16 Prospectus

The Telford 16 - 19 prospectus has information on the post 16 offer in Telford & Wrekin including almost 300 A - levels, BTECs and Apprenticeships across six schools and colleges, making Telford an inspirational hub for learning, opportunity and achievement.

For more information please contact Future Focus by email: [Future.focus@telford.gov.uk](mailto:Future.focus@telford.gov.uk) or, by phone: 01952 388988.

[Telford 16-19 Website](#)

### Guidance for young People applying for Post 16 Education (with an EHC plan)

Guidance is available on the SEND Local Offer for young people with EHC plans to help them plan their Post 16 transition and consider their future career prospects. Information is included about educational settings in our local area and an explanation of how young people can express a preference for the setting they wish to attend.

## **Telford & Wrekin Children's Autism Hub 0-18**

The Telford Children's Autism Hub has now opened its doors in January 2022, and recently had their Official Launch Event. The Service is available to children and young people aged 0-18 years and their families who have a formal diagnosis of Autism living in Telford and Wrekin. They provide peer support for families, activities for children and young people and their families, training workshops and opportunities for children and young people with autism to aspire, develop and have access to community centred support.

They believe in:

- "the empowerment of children and young people with autism to live a full and active life"
- "Our work is based around child centred principles focused on building up and celebrating the individual strengths and gifts of each child"

The team are available to listen and explain the hub and what we can offer through a range of support options.

There is also specialist advice available through Autism West Midlands through advice sessions and workshops.

They would love to hear from families, as you are the experts, and we value your feedback to support the future development of the hub. They also sit alongside the Telford Adults Autism Hub. This supports the transition of young people into the support for adults and opens the pathways of support into adult independence.

They already have feedback, and would like to share this with you from a family accessing support.

"The hub provides friendship for us and our daughter. A safe and non-judgemental place where we can access support and our daughter is free to be herself".

**[Autism Hub Leaflet](#)**

**[Children's Autism Hub Website](#)**

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# SEND Local Offer

## Redesign

Over the last year we have been working behind the scenes with parents, carers and young people to create a redesign of the [SEND Local Offer](#) – we are now pleased to share this with you!

Changes have been made to make the homepage simpler and easier to navigate. Further developments are still in progress so please bear with us as we complete all the changes.

In the meantime, we have created a SENCo Space, this is an area where we can include links to all the information and downloads that SENCo's may need to access frequently – we would love to hear your views on what should be included in this space. If you have any suggestions please contact us at: [localoffer@telford.gov.uk](mailto:localoffer@telford.gov.uk).

[SEND Local Offer – SENCo Space](#)

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## SEND Training Courses

### SENCo Network Meetings Save the dates

Save the dates have been announced for the programme of SENCo Network Meetings over the next academic year.

Briefings will take place virtually, with the invitation to the virtual meeting sent a week before it's due to take place, please save the dates in your diaries.

Locations will be arranged for workshops to take place face to face and these will be shared as soon as they have been confirmed.

If you haven't received invitations to the SENCo Network meetings, are new to your role, or would like to be added to the invite list, please contact us with your name, position and school by via email to [SENDandInclusion@telford.gov.uk](mailto:SENDandInclusion@telford.gov.uk).

Meeting dates have been also published on the SEND Local Offer – SENCo Space.

[SEND Local Offer – SENCo Space](#)

### LSAT 302: Establishing Yourself as a SEND Leader

For new and returning SENCOs and anyone wanting a refresher

6 twilights throughout the year starting on Tuesday 11 October 2022 and covering the following:

1. The role of the SENCO
2. EHCNA & Annual Reviews
3. ISF & The Local Offer
4. Quality First Teaching and SEND
5. Working with outside agencies
6. SEND Information Report

## **LSAT 212 – Governor’s Responsibility for SEND**

This course will support governors who have responsibility for SED. Ensuring they have up to date knowledge of the SEND agenda and develop their skills as a critical friend.

**Wednesday 16 November 2022**  
**5.00-7.00pm**

## **LSAT 514 – AET Making Sense of Autism - An Introduction to Autism for Governors**

This virtual training course for governors is delivered using materials from the Autism Education Trust’s training module, ***Making Sense of Autism***.

The course will examine the three areas of difference that affect autistic pupils and explore how schools can begin to make reasonable adjustments in the way they support autistic pupils.

**Tuesday 6 December 2022**  
**6.00-7.30pm**

For more information and to book your place, please refer to the CPD booklet and booking form, on the Telford Education Services website.

**Telford Education Services**

## **SIS – Hearing Impaired Service**

We are looking forward to welcoming colleagues from settings on 29 September 2022 at our course, ‘The Hearing Impaired Child in your Class’.

The course has been in high demand and we are now fully booked for this day. Delegates with a place should have had further details sent out already regarding timings for the day/where the event is being held and so on.

If you have not received these, please do get in touch with [SENDandInclusion@telford.gov.uk](mailto:SENDandInclusion@telford.gov.uk) or your school's Teacher of the Deaf.

If you have missed out on a place this year, please speak to your school's Teacher of the Deaf to see what other options there are around training that can be provided for setting staff.

## SIS – Visually Impaired Service

Our annual course "The Visually Impaired Child in your Class" is taking place on the 18 October 2022 at the Mercure Hotel in Telford.

There are still places available for this event which is a thorough introduction into the varying needs of a child or young person who has a visual impairment and how they can be met by working in partnership with our service.

If you would like to book, please contact me for a booking form: [robert.tipton@telford.gov.uk](mailto:robert.tipton@telford.gov.uk) or speak to the teacher of the VI who supports the pupil/student in your school.

The cost is £65 per delegate, great value for such a full day's training.

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## PODS

### PODS Referral Form

PODS have recently amended their referral process, professionals are now welcome to fill out the Referral Form to make the process easier, however, you are more than welcome to also contact us to discuss individual cases.

Download: [PODS Referral Form](#)

Contact Details:

Phone: 01952 458047

Email: [support@podstelford.org](mailto:support@podstelford.org)

[PODS Website](#)

### Free challenges at home sessions

**Support sessions (for child/young person with Autism with/without diagnosis).**

Open to 0-18 years from mainstream and special schools. For families to discuss home/life concerns and seek information and advice from Educational Psychologist team around emotional, behaviour, social, anxieties, routines, etc.

We use these sessions to support families to find solutions together and share experiences and offer mutual support in a safe and supportive place.

### **In Person Dates at 9.30am**

11 October 2022  
16 November 2022

To book your place on an in person session, please follow the link below:

[Challenges at Home – In Person Sessions](#)

### **Online Evening Dates at 6.30pm**

11 October 2022  
15 November 2022

To book your place on an online evening session, please follow the link below:

[Challenges at Home – Online Evening Sessions](#)

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## **Short Breaks Forum**

The forum is an opportunity for parents, children and young people that use Short Breaks services, working together with Local Authority colleagues to talk about what is working well, what isn't and how we can make improvements to the Short Breaks offer. It is a place where we can share knowledge for the benefit of all, including inviting guest speakers on particular issues or services.

[\*\*Short Breaks Forum Notes\*\*](#)

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## **Education Health and Care Needs Assessments**

### **Updated Education Health Needs Assessment Request Form**

It is requested that schools and settings use the new refreshed referral form for EHCNA Requests (Education Health and Care Needs Assessments).

The Parent Carer Education Health and Care Needs Assessment Request form has also been updated to include a medical questionnaire.

The forms are available to download from the SEND Local Offer.

[\*\*EHC Needs Assessment Request Form\*\*](#)

## Thinking of requesting an EHC assessment?

We ask that all educational settings first discuss new EHC need assessment requests with your allocated SEND officer before starting an application. They will work with you to discuss how best to get SEND support and provision in place for children and young people.

**Thank you for your support.**

[SEND Officer & Locality Contact Details](#)

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## Educational Resources

### ERIC - The Children's Bowl & Bladder Charity

Tackling the challenges of bowel and bladder conditions together, for young lives free of shame and fear.

[ERIC](#)

### NELI

The registration is now open for the 2022/23 programme.

Opportunity for state-funded English schools with Reception pupils to receive the Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) at no cost.

[NELI](#)

