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Telford & Wrekin  
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest  
to create a better borough

## Education Noticeboard

**27 March 2025**

**A round-up of news, guidance and key updates for education settings**

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## Directors Update

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to this week's Education Noticeboard.

Firstly, congratulations to our talented apprentices who have recently been recognised for their outstanding contributions and achievements. Their dedication and hard work are truly inspiring!



The Big Walk & Wheel started this week and runs for two weeks. There are currently 11 schools in Telford and Wrekin signed up to the event. This is a great opportunity to highlight to pupils the benefits of the scheme.

Also it's fantastic to see the creative efforts of our local youth club, supported by Telford & Wrekin and a skilled graffiti artist, transforming the Hollinswood underpass.

There is also some useful information from the DfE about the Fully Funded Partnership in Neurodiversity in schools, and information around the safe operation of temporary pop-up swimming pools.

Additionally, there is an opportunity for you to take part in the ELSEC project in September 2025. The ELSEC team is looking to work with schools and nurseries to expand the skill set of staff and reduce the communication gap across Telford and Wrekin.

In this week's edition, you'll also find plenty of professional development opportunities, so don't forget to explore the CPD courses on offer.

As the Easter holidays approach, there is also a reminder about the opportunities available through the 10by10 programme and the Healthy Happy Active Holidays. Information on both these programmes are in this week's noticeboard. Please share this information with parents and carers.

There is also an opportunity to get tickets to watch some players from across the world taking part in the Kabaddi World Cup 2025. This event is taking place in the West Midlands during March.

Finally, April is National Stress Awareness Month, and we have attached some useful links for you to share with pupils about coping with stress and exam preparation.

Enjoy the rest of the week!

Best Wishes,

Simon

**Simon Wellman**

**Director: Education & Skills**

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## **News**



### **The Big Walk & Wheel started on Monday 24 March 2025**

Pupils from Lawley Primary school are taking part in the UK's biggest free active travel challenge.

There are currently 11 schools in Telford and Wrekin signed up to the event which takes place over two weeks and Telford & Wrekin Council is highlighting the scheme for its many benefits for pupils.

**Find out more at <https://newsroom.telford.gov.uk/news/is-your-school-ready-for-the-uk-s-biggest-free-active-travel-challenge>**



### **Youth Club Transforms underpass in Hollinswood**

Designed by members of the Fun Zone Youth Club - a popular youth club for children aged 11-16 the mural is inspired by subjects like maths, science, and local landmarks. Original drawings by the children have been reworked and brought to life by renowned graffiti artist Neil Willis of Auniqueart.

**Councillor Raj Mehta, (Lab) Cabinet Member for Inclusion, Engagement, Equalities & Civic Pride said:** "This mural is a shining example of how creativity and collaboration can transform public spaces. It's inspiring to see the talent and enthusiasm of our young people bringing colour and positivity to Hollinswood. Projects like these remind us of the power of community spirit to make a real difference."

[\*\*Further information about transformation\*\*](#)

### **Council apprentices land awards at celebration event**



**A trio who have excelled on apprenticeships with Telford & Wrekin Council have been recognised at a special awards ceremony.**

Customer Service apprentice Fay Smith together with Health and Social Care apprentice Belinda Dunn were named ‘Council apprentices of the year’ while Business Administration apprentice Debbie Taylor won the ‘Most Committed’ award at the annual County Training awards evening.

The event, at the Gateway Education and Arts Centre in Shrewsbury, was a celebration of learners on apprenticeship programmes and those working towards standalone diploma programmes and also honoured employers who have supported County Training apprentices.

Over 90 people attended the celebration event and award categories included Apprentice of the Year, Telford & Wrekin Council Apprentice of the Year, Shropshire Council Apprentice of the Year, Most Committed Award, Rising Star award and Continuing Professional Development award.

Fay has consistently shown commitment to her apprenticeship throughout her journey and has always had a really positive attitude towards the apprenticeship work and her job with the Council.

She had to move to a different Leisure Centre in the borough towards the end of her apprenticeship as the one she was based at was undergoing a re-vamp, but it didn’t phase her, and she adapted well to her new work environment.

Meanwhile Belinda has shown great commitment to learning and developing throughout her apprenticeship, has grown in confidence and improved her leadership skills and qualities.

Despite facing some challenges in her role, she rose to the challenges and had the opportunity to implement changes in her workplace.

Debbie Taylor won the most committed award after showing a high level of commitment throughout her apprenticeship.

She had two promotions at work in close succession and is reliable, a great communicator and is always upbeat and had grown in confidence along the way.

Winners each received a certificate and glass award engraved with the Herefordshire, Ludlow, and North Shropshire College logo.

A wide range of employers attended the event including Lanyon Bowdler and the Greenhous Group and three guest speakers shared their experiences as an apprentice or an employer during the evening.

They included Michelle Harrington from Empower Trust who gave an insight into the employer's role in apprenticeships, Kelly Jones who is completing her level 2 in health and social care with Hendra House and Chris Hiron from Shropshire Council who spoke about not only being an apprentice but also being an employer supporting other staff in apprenticeships.

**Councillor Shirley Reynolds, Telford & Wrekin Council's Cabinet Member for Children, Young People, Education, Employment & Skills, said:**

"This event celebrates the successes of our apprentices and standalone diploma learners across the region and we are delighted to see three of our own apprentices recognised in the council apprentice of the year category.

"The commitment and dedication of our learners is commendable, and we are incredibly proud of them both and all the winners and wish them all the best with their future endeavours.

"With apprentices and learners varying in ages the event really does show that no matter what stage you are in life or your career, it is never too late to learn!"

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## **DfE fully funded Partnership in Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Year 2**

### **Register an expression of interest to be part of the DfE fully funded PINS project from April 2025-March 2026**

We are delighted to let you know that there is going to be a second year of DfE fully funded Partnerships In Neurodiversity in Schools.

The 20 schools across Telford and Wrekin have made significant changes to support inclusion because of the project, which is bespoke to each school and involves a range of practitioners including:

- SALT - Communication
- Education Psychology - Teaching and learning/readiness to learn
- Occupational Therapy - The environment
- BSAT – Readiness to learn
- Specialist SEND outreach teachers – readiness to learning/teaching & learning
- School Nurses - sensory
- Children and Young People's Mental Health Services - MH
- Autism West Midlands – MH

We are looking to recruit 15 new schools for 2025-2026. There is further information attached and we do require the commitment of the Headteacher and SENCO.

If you are interested, please do send an expression of interest by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April to [sue.stoddart2@taw.org.uk](mailto:sue.stoddart2@taw.org.uk)

The project will run from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025-31<sup>st</sup> March 2026

**[PINS Presentation Update](#)**

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**Safe operation of Temporary Pop-Up Swimming Pools**

## **Temporary Pop Up Swimming Pools**

Schools considering the use of Temporary Pop-Up Swimming pools are urged to verify that the operators have carefully reviewed and implemented the new guidance.

Following an update from Swim England in December 2024

[Briefing note on use of temporary 'pop-up' swimming pools is published](#)

a checklist has been devised to help support schools adhere to the new guidance and the ability to fulfil the relevant requirements.

Schools are reminded that the operator and school cannot limit their liability, and all parties must ensure due diligence has been completed.

It is highly recommended that when considering a pop-up pool that schools either contact the Education and Skills team [educationandskillsstaffall@telford.gov.uk](mailto:educationandskillsstaffall@telford.gov.uk) or your own Academy Trust

Schools are encouraged to contact Swim England at [schoolswimming@swimming.org](mailto:schoolswimming@swimming.org) for support

For further information Contact

[H&S\\_helpdesk@telford.gov.uk](mailto:H&S_helpdesk@telford.gov.uk)

Every school will receive a copy of the checklist by email

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## The Young Person Grant 2025 is now open for applications



**Please continue to share details of the Leader and Cabinet Members' Young Person Grant scheme with students.**

Young people aged 15 to 25 have until 5pm on Friday 16 May to apply for a £500 grant to support their education, training or employment.

Please share details of the scheme through your networks and with any young people you're working with. Full details, including terms and conditions and how to apply, can be found on the link below.

[Young Persons Grant](#)

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## ELSEC



**Are you interested in being part of the ELSEC project in September 2025?**

ELSEC (Early language for every child)

ELSEC is a 2 year pilot project, commissioned by the DfE, as part of the SEND and AP Change Programme. This year 8 primary schools and 6

private, voluntary or independent nursery settings in Shropshire are involved in ELSEC. We have noticed that Shropshire aligns with national findings, with around two thirds of 3 – 6 year-olds having some difficulties with their speech, language and communication. The ELSEC team has worked with current settings to reduce the communication gap by up to 75%, meaning that more children are able to access a full curriculum offer, are more confident socially and have enhanced life chances in the future.

From September 2025 we will be looking to work with a new set of schools and nurseries to expand the skillset, in Shropshire, for SLCN. As an ELSEC team we can offer:

- A dedicated member of the ELSEC team to work, in setting, with you on a weekly basis.
- Regular support from a speech therapist / specialist teacher
- Working with whole cohorts
- Modelling, coaching and support to deliver quality interventions including Talk Boost, BEST (Building Expressive Sentence Therapy)
- Communication friendly audits
- Parent workshops
- Whole school CPD

In return we ask for:

- Staff that are excited to work with us on the project
- Named staff in each setting as a first point of contact
- A quiet space to run interventions and parent workshops
- A warm welcome to your setting

**If you are interested in joining the ELSEC project for the next academic year, beginning in September 2025, please look out for an email arriving at the start of the summer term with details on how to express your interest**

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## Early Years

### Play Matters

Play Matters has now been launched across the country, this is a free resource available to download on the Early Years Reviews website. This 124 page document contains information on the importance of play in the Early Years.

[Link to Play Matters - Early Years Review Website](#)

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## CPD

### CPD courses through to May Half Term 2025

Further details of these and all other courses are available in the 2024-25 CPD booklet on the [Telford Education Services](#) website and on the [Ollie](#) website.

The CPD Booklet to the end of the 2024-25 academic year can be viewed via [Telford Education Services](#)

As always, courses can be booked by completing and returning a CPD booking form to [cpdschoolimprovement@telford.gov.uk](mailto:cpdschoolimprovement@telford.gov.uk) (unless denoted differently).

<a href="#">Safer Recruitment Administration</a> (book directly via Ollie or via HR)	Wednesday, April 02, 2025	3pm to 5pm
Making early reading fun for children with English as an additional language in Early Years	Thursday, April 03, 2025	10am to 12noon
<a href="#">School Attendance Surgery</a> (AST 005)	Friday, April 04, 2025	10am to 12noon
<a href="#">Using visuals to support all children in early years provision</a> (EY 347)	Tuesday, April 08, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Building Self-Esteem &amp; Confidence for Students</a> (PSS 014)	Wednesday, April 09, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Using Trauma Informed Practice to develop change for all learners</a> (PSS 025)	Wednesday, April 09, 2025	9.15am to 12noon

<a href="#">Safety Intervention Refresher Training</a> (formerly MAPA Refresher Training) - <b>CPI accredited</b> (BSAT 212)	Thursday, April 10, 2025	2pm to 4.30pm
<a href="#">Working with Refugee children and their families in schools</a> (CPD 732)	Thursday, April 10, 2025	1.15pm to 2.45pm
<a href="#">Accredited Safer Recruitment Refresher Training</a> (book directly via Ollie or via HR)	Thursday, April 10, 2025	8.30am to 12.30pm
<a href="#">Understanding School Finance</a> (GO 508)	Tuesday, April 29, 2025	9.15am to 12noon
<a href="#">Improving EAL pupils' writing</a> (CPD 727)	Wednesday, April 30, 2025	1.15pm to 3.30pm
<a href="#">Newly Appointed Designated Safeguarding Leads' Training</a> (2 days) - part 1 (SG 102)	Wednesday, April 30, 2025	9.15am to 4pm
<a href="#">Best practice in your breakfast, after-school and holiday provision</a> (EY 104)	Thursday, May 01, 2025	9.15am to 12noon
<a href="#">Newly Appointed Designated Safeguarding Leads' Training</a> (2 days) - part 2 (SG 102)	Thursday, May 01, 2025	9.15am to 4pm
<a href="#">Supporting Behaviour and Learning - Children with ADHD / Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD) &amp; Conduct Disorder (CD)</a> PSS 104	Tuesday, May 06, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Working with Early Years Children who require a High Level of Support through Specific and Differentiated Targeted Activities</a> (EY 348)	Tuesday, May 06, 2025	9.15am to 12noon
<a href="#">Listen with Lucy</a> (EY 023)	Wednesday, May 07, 2025	1.15pm to 4pm
<a href="#">Meeting the EYFS Profile Requirements for EAL Learners in EYFS</a> (CPD 715)	Wednesday, May 07, 2025	1.15pm to 3.30pm
<a href="#">The Importance of Play in Primary including sand based resources</a> (PSS 026)	Wednesday, May 07, 2025	9.15am to 12noon

Emergency First Aid - Part 1 (OES 05) book via <a href="mailto:edvisits@telford.gov.uk">edvisits@telford.gov.uk</a>	Thursday, May 08, 2025	9.30am to 5pm
<a href="#">Raising Awareness of Child Protection</a> (SG 108)	Thursday, May 08, 2025	3.30pm to 5pm
<a href="#">Safety Intervention Training</a> (formerly MAPA training) - Part 1 - <b>CPI accredited</b> (BSAT 201)	Thursday, May 08, 2025	9am to 4pm
<a href="#">Designated Safeguarding Leads Refresher</a> – (SG 107)	Friday, May 09, 2025	9.15am to 4pm
Emergency First Aid - Part 2 (OES 05) book via <a href="mailto:edvisits@telford.gov.uk">edvisits@telford.gov.uk</a>	Friday, May 09, 2025	9.30am to 5pm
<a href="#">Maximising the impact of Teaching Assistants with behaviour management</a> (PSS 019)	Monday, May 12, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
Educational Visits Coordinator Termly Updates (book through Arthog Outreach)	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	1pm to 3pm
<a href="#">EYFS Moderation Trialling</a> (CPD 612)	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	1pm to 4pm
<a href="#">Let's Get Expressive, Creative and Messy In The Outdoors</a> (EY 344)	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Managing Child on Child Abuse</a> (SG 208)	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	9am to 12noon
<a href="#">Understanding Nurture</a> (PSS 101)	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	9.15am to 12noon
<a href="#">Accredited Safer Recruitment Training</a> (book directly via Ollie or via HR)	Thursday, May 15, 2025	9am to 4.30pm
<a href="#">EAL Network Meeting</a> (CPD 526)	Thursday, May 15, 2025	3.30pm to 4.30pm
<a href="#">Safety Intervention Training</a> (formerly MAPA training) - Part 2 - <b>CPI accredited</b> (BSAT 201)	Thursday, May 15, 2025	2pm to 4.30pm

CSE DSL Network (secondary) – for CSE DSLs (no requirement to book)	Tuesday, May 20, 2025	11am to 12.30pm
ELSA Community Network Event	Tuesday, May 20, 2025	12.30pm to 3pm
<a href="#">Pupil Premium Network Meeting</a> (CPD 721)	Tuesday, May 20, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Child Protection Supervision</a> (SG 203)	Wednesday, May 21, 2025	9am to 1pm
<a href="#">Safeguarding Induction Training for Governors</a> - part 1 (SG 103)	Wednesday, May 21, 2025	5.30pm to 7.30pm
<a href="#">School Attendance Briefing Update</a> (AST 004)	Wednesday, May 21, 2025	4pm to 5.30pm
<a href="#">Behaviour Support Intervention Refresher Training</a> - <b>Non-accredited</b> (BSAT 302)	Thursday, May 22, 2025	9am to 1pm TBC
<a href="#">The Importance of the Early Years Foundation Stage in Schools</a> (GO 603)	Thursday, May 22, 2025	5.30pm to 7pm

In addition to the courses run by Telford & Wrekin Council which are advertised in our [CPD booklet](#), you may also wish to look at the range of courses run by other local providers, whose web links are detailed below:

[AmazingCPD](#)

[Severn Training Schools Alliance](#)

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## Other Information and Resources



**10by10 fun this Easter**

With the Easter holidays not too far away, it's a great time for families to start thinking about 10 by 10, our fun programme of things to do by the age of 10.

Whether it's learning to swim, visiting the countryside, learning to ride a bike or use the library, there's plenty to get involved in during the school holidays.

You can track your progress on the website or by downloading an adventure card

[Download the Adventure card](#)



### **Easter HHAH 2025 is back in Telford**

With a range of activities available over the Easter holidays, don't miss out on a space.

Activities go live Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 at 4pm. To register your account, confirm your eligibility, and book activities go to the link below.

For all enquiries regarding HHAH please email [holidayactivityhub@telford.gov.uk](mailto:holidayactivityhub@telford.gov.uk) and one of the team will assist you.

[HHAH Website](#)



**Kabaddi World Cup is here!**

The Kabaddi world cup is being held for the first time in England so get your tickets now!

For the first time ever, England is hosting the Kabaddi world cup in March! Following the successful Kabaddi workshops in schools, provided by MDT, we are pleased to signpost schools to this national event on Telford's doorstep. There are many games being held in venues in Birmingham and Wolverhampton so do check it out. For further information visit [www.kabaddiworldcup2025.com](http://www.kabaddiworldcup2025.com)

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### **Awareness Dates**

#### **April is National Stress Awareness Month**

#### **Support during exam season**

With exam season just around the corner, we know this can be an anxious time for students.

As April marks national stress awareness month, we wanted to share some useful online resources, which offer advice and guidance to students taking exams.

Please share these resources with students and their parents/carers.

[Healthier Together Website - Exam Pressure](#)

[Child Line - Stress and Exam Pressure](#)

**Here are some additional awareness dates that might be of interest, along with links to websites and resources:**

#### **Health Day on Monday 7 April 2024**

This years theme :Healthy beginnings, hopeful futures



[Link to World Health Organisation website](#)

**World Autism Day on Wednesday 2.April 2024**

This year marks the 18th annual World Autism Awareness Day.

[Link to World Autism Day website](#)

