

Early Years Inclusion Service PVI SENCo Newsletter

Autumn 2023

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The Royal Borough of Greenwich has developed an early years' service to support Private, Voluntary or Independent sector early years settings to meet the needs of children with emerging and complex SEND needs.

The service has developed a newsletter for managers, SENCo's and practitioners packed full of useful information and resources.

The Early Years Inclusion Service can be contacted via:

Early Years Consultation Phonenumber

0208 921 3311

Early Years Consultation Forums

[Click here or scan the QR code for the flyer](#)



Email

eyit@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Further information/ resources can also be found on the Local Offer:

[Click her or scan the QR code to visit the website](#)



More inside >>>

RBG Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Activities Ages 0-4 Years.



Activity	Location	Age Range	Staff/Teacher	Specialist/Additional
Music Therapy	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	Music Teacher	Specialist Musician
Sensory Play	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Sensory Specialist
Art and Craft	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Art Specialist
Physical Activity	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Physical Education Specialist
Reading and Literacy	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Reading Specialist
Maths and Numeracy	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Maths Specialist
Language and Communication	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Language Specialist
Emotional and Social Skills	Greenwich Children's Centre	0-4	SEN Support	Emotional and Social Skills Specialist

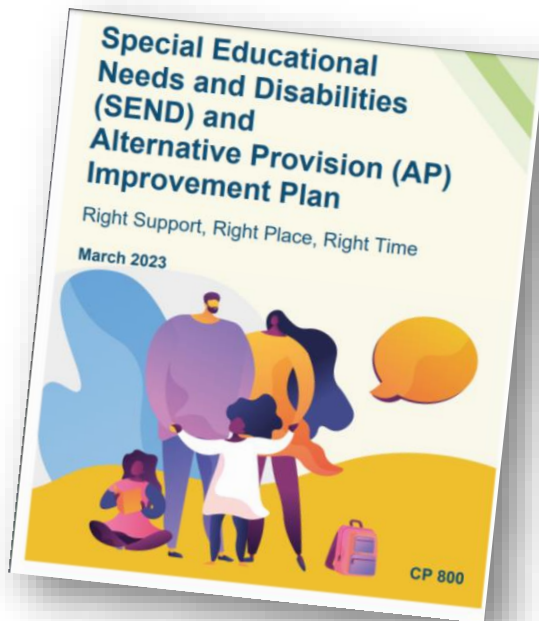
Please see attached document regarding activities that families in Greenwich can access during term time if they have a child with SEND. This could include soft play, music therapy and access to sensory rooms – take a look and circulate as appropriate to parents.

Children's Centre's have a range of activities and services that are available to children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. These inclusive sessions provide additional staff who are qualified and experienced in working with SEND. The sessions also offer a space for parents and carers to come together, discuss their experiences and get support and advice. Children do not require an Education, Health, and Care (EHC) plan to access support at the Children's Centre's.



SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan

2 March 2023



[SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan](#)

On 2 March the Government published the SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan Right Support, Right Place, Right Time in response to the SEND Green paper that was published in March 2022 and proposed a number of reforms to the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) system.



For more information [What is the SEND and AP Improvement Plan?](#)



E ARLY YEARS INCLUSION SERVICE FOCUS:

Changes to the Early Years Inclusion Service offer.

As you may be aware the Early Years Inclusion Team underwent a re-organisation earlier in the summer which was in direct response to the recommendations of an external early years review the previous year, which looked at the Early Years Inclusion Team and SEN Inclusion Fund.

The main recommendations from the review were:

- The need to increase leadership capacity to develop areas of the service.
- To strengthen the Quality Assurance around the SEN Inclusion Fund and Disability Access Fund.
- To increase the capacity in the Early Years Inclusion Team to respond to steeply increasing demands.

In light of this we have already recruited new staff to fill available posts and changed the teams name to the **Early Years Inclusion Service**.

From September 2023 we will be implementing the Early Years Inclusion Service SEND 0-5yrs pathway (see pages 3 & 4)

The pathway sets out the way we will now offer a service at home to families of children with complex needs and children with emerging/ complex Special Educational Needs or Disabilities who attend and PVI settings.

We have also set out what the Universal Offer will be for PVI settings.

To support your understanding of these changes we have created an [Information Brief](#) which goes into further detail and an [Easy Read document](#) which sets out the basic points.

It has been necessary to re-allocate some Area SENCo's to new PVI settings; you will be contacted separately by the new Area SENCo if this applies to your setting.

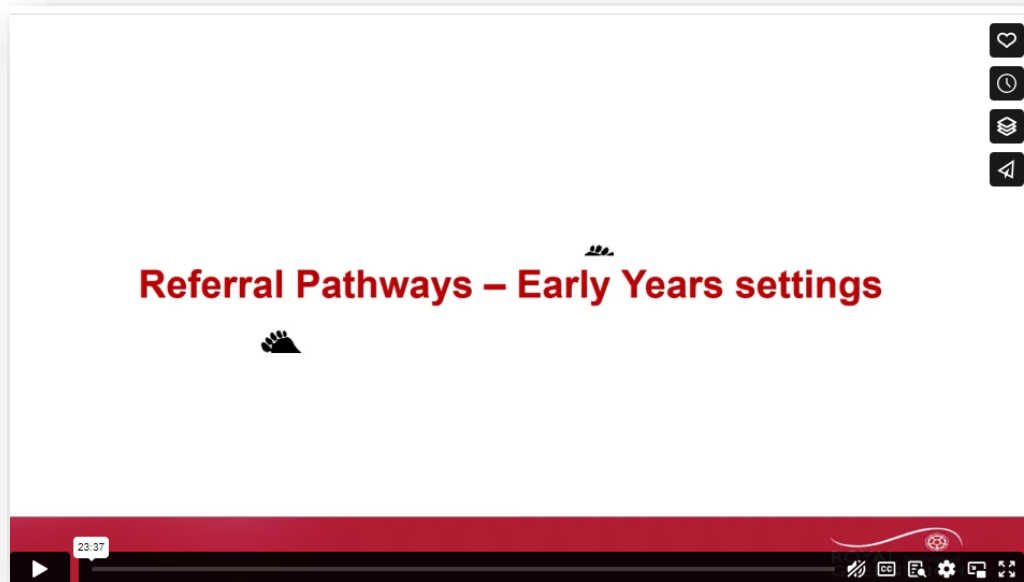
Those individual children affected will have casework transferred to the caseload of another team member. Again, you will be notified separately with these arrangements.

Please do not hesitate to contact your settings allocated Area SENCo directly if you have any queries.



Early Years Referral Pathways – an Information Brief for early years practitioners.

We know that it can sometimes be confusing deciding which referral is the right one for a child, so the Early Years Inclusion Service have put together a short Information Brief on Referral Pathways..... click on the image below to watch the video.



EARLY YEARS INCLUSION SERVICE TRAINING OFFER:



A reminder about our training offer. Most courses can be accessed virtually. Face to face training can be organized in discussion with your Area SENCo.

Introduction to SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities)	SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) Foundation Certificate – <i>for Practitioners taking on the SENCo role.</i>
Legislation and Early Identification	Supporting Children with Social Communication Difficulties and Autism in the Early Years
Working with Parents and Voice of the Child	Planning for Progress for children with SEND (PLP)
Multi-agency working and TAC meetings	Developing a Profile and EHCP requests
Talking Mats	Disability Awareness
Planning for Transition Training	Sensory Circuits Session 1 – theory Session 2 – Practical.
Promoting Positive Behaviour in Early Years Settings 1	Promoting Positive Behaviour in Early Years Settings 2
Disability Awareness	Using Observation to support children with SEND.
Early Years Consultation Forums – accessed via group meeting – Microsoft Teams.	

For more detailed information regarding training and to access to an updated 'training request form' go to the Early Years Inclusion Service webpage by clicking on the image below

Early Years SEND – Resources for PVI SENCo's and practitioners





SEN INCLUSION FUND & DISABILITY ACCESS FUND:

SEN Inclusion Fund & DAF Information Pack

Application/ Review form and SENIF & DAF invoice form.

Just a reminder about this:



For information about how to claim and support with filling in the form, including a **SENIF Information Brief video** go to the Early Years Inclusion Service webpage by clicking on the image below.



Claiming the funding- your invoice **MUST** include:

- a unique identification number
- your company name, address and bank information
- the date of the invoice
- the period you are claiming for and the total amount

Please make that you:

- claim funding for the term time only and not in advance
- submit the invoice on the termly basis, except Spring Term when it is required to submit documents by the end of February (SEN Funding coming to the end of financial year)
- email your password if the invoice is protected (even if that is 'the usual' password)

Any queries, contact via email: early-years-inclusion-fund@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH LOCAL OFFER:

THE LOCAL OFFER
in Royal Greenwich

Continue to promote the Royal Greenwich Local Offer with Parents, Carers and Practitioners.

Have a look at this latest resource.



As a local area partnership, we have created this series of videos to provide information, strategies, and support for families with autism as well as those with a child on the autism assessment pathway.

Families have told us that they need more support whilst they wait for diagnosis and immediately after. The purpose of the video series is to provide families accessible information to help parents/carers understand autism and develop tools and strategies to support their children at home. We are ambitious for our families and want to ensure they have access to the right information, at the right time.

[Children & Young people and Autism: a video series for families](#)

A screenshot of a website page titled "Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Local Offer". Below the title is the subtitle "For children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities". The main content area features a video thumbnail on the left with the text "SEND Video 2 - What is ASD and how is it diagnosed?". To the right of the video is a grey box with the text "New video resources for parents and young people" and "Find out more". The video thumbnail includes a small text overlay: "Therapist, CAMHS at the ADHD team".



GOOD NEWS/ EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTISE:



WELCOME TO THE TEAM- Antoinette joined the Early Years Inclusion Team in September 2023 and looks forward to meeting you all very soon.

Antoinette Hunte



Antoinette has worked in the childcare sector for 19 years.

She's worked in a variety of PVI settings, nursery schools and nursery classes within a primary school. She has a vast experience, working with young children and enjoys making a difference to young children and the family's lives.

Antoinette has only very recently joined the Early Years Inclusion Service and is looking forward to working with families and settings in her new capacity.

Contact details:

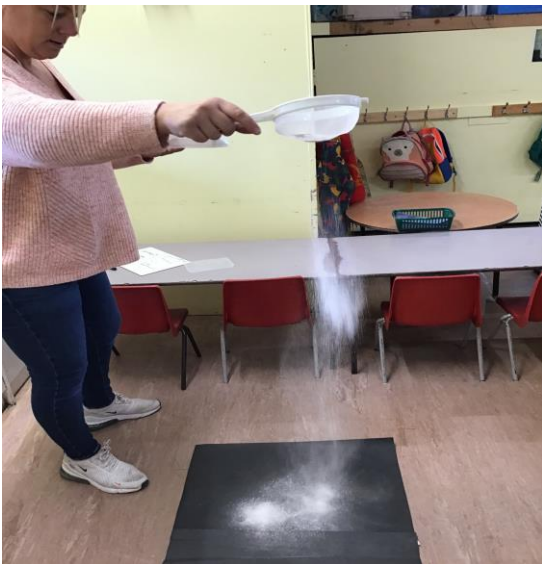
Email: antoinette.hunte@royalgreenwich.gov.uk Mobile: 07864685539

GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS/ EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTISE:

Royal Eltham Pre School have been running the Attention Autism program consistently since receiving the training.

Setting staff have seen the impact/ good progress on their key children who have enjoyed and benefited from taking part in the sessions.



TOP TIPS:



This resource has been designed to be used by staff within education supporting children and young people. However, the content is relevant to anyone wanting to find out more about the different types and ways to rest.

Often, it can feel like there is not enough time in the day to complete the mounting tasks ahead of us, usually with something or someone requiring our attention and time. We may feel like there is little to no time for rest.

Yet, no matter what our work schedule or personal situation might be, creating opportunities to rest is important, not only for our physical health but our mental health and well-being too.

Here at the Mental Health Foundation, we partnered with Reflect and Refocus to support you to reconsider what rest means to you and how you can find ways to rest depending on your body's needs.

The Rethinking Rest Guide will walk you through the different types of rest, including:

- Rest your body
- Rest your mind
- Rest your 'heart'
- Rest your 'soul'
- Rest your connectivity
- Rest your senses

For each type of rest, we give tips and activities to try and links to further resources you may find helpful.

Click on the image below for more information.

[**Rethinking Rest Guide**](#)



OTHER:

UPDATE:

Greenwich has now filled the post of **Designated Clinical Officer SEND (DCO)** her role will be to ensure that assessment, planning, and health support is carried out for children and young people with SEND, recognizing the requirement to incorporate the transition to adult services and up to the age of 25.

We'd like to say a huge welcome to Jacqueline Alby, she has kindly put together a profile of her background....



I am a qualified Learning Disability nurse and hold an MSc in Clinical Leadership and Management. I have held a variety of roles which includes working in a long stay hospital for adults with multiple and complex medical, neurodevelopmental, and mental health needs. Following this, I moved into the community where I led and managed several services including a tri-borough Adult LD Community Nursing team, a Care service within a residential college, LD, ASD, and Mental Health.

In 2015, I started my career in SEND as a Health Lead within a SEND Integrated Service for a Southwest London Borough. In this role, I supported the LA deliver its statutory functions under the CFA 2014 & SEND Code of Practice 2015.

My interest in SEND led to a Secondment opportunity in 2021 as a Designated Clinical Officer supporting two neighbouring boroughs and successfully transitioned into my current role in May 2023, within the LBG Integrated Commissioning Team with specific focus on:

- *Joint working across the SEND system*
- *Have an overview of the way health services work for CYP and families across the 0-25 age range.*
- *Contributing to strategic level decision making, scrutiny and improvement via the SEND Improvement Board and Southeast London*
- *Supporting commissioners and service leads in the development of good quality services for SEND including the neurodevelopmental pathway, mobilization of the integrated therapies services & supporting pupils at school with medical conditions.*
- *Working alongside all partners including CYP, parents and carers to identify and raise any concerns relating to health services for SEND.*

Interest outside of work: *reading, gardening, and travelling. I have also had the opportunity to volunteer for our local Police as well as a member of a Governing body for a local Secondary School.*