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## VI SENCo Newsletter.

SUMMER 2021

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**Dear Managers, SENCo's and Practitioners,**

**We have now entered the final term of the nursery / school year where you have continued to manage the challenges that COVID 19 has presented. Despite this, adaptations have been made and we've all learnt new ways of supporting children e.g. TAC meeting with Microsoft Teams, virtual training to name just a few.**

**Hopefully, things will begin to move back towards some kind of normality as the summer progresses and September is with us again.**

### **Greenwich Parent Carer Participation Forum**

**Does your child have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)0-25?**

***Coffee and Chat drop in every Friday 10.30-11.30 (virtually)***

**Starting Friday 26th February 10.30-11.30 am**

**Time: This is a recurring meeting every Friday 10.30-11.30 am**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://zoom.us/j/3905806354>**

**Meeting ID: 390 580 6354**



Meet with members of Greenwich Parent Carer Participation Advisory Group and hear how you can have a voice and find out about SEND services in Greenwich.

## Transitions

This is the term to prepare for all children transitioning into primary school.



It is an exciting but sometimes challenging step for all our children moving from nursery into 'big' school. It is important for all children including those with a special educational need and or disability (SEND) to have their transition well supported.

Children with more complex SEND who are generally accessing support from an Area SENCo and other services e.g. Speech Therapy, ASD Outreach, Educational Psychologist etc will normally have a transition meeting organized. This should always include their parent(s) as well as nursery Key Person/ SENCo and any other key professionals involved. During the meeting the child's strengths, interests and needs can be discussed and planned for, to enable a smooth transition for them into school.

Key reports and information are usually, with parental permission, circulated before the meeting takes place with the SENCo of the Primary School so they can be prepared with some initial information and able to clarify any points they need to.

Again, this year most of the meetings are likely to take place via Microsoft Teams due to the ongoing COVID 19 restrictions.

Other children in your setting and those with less complex SEND would also benefit from information being shared through the Early Years Transfer form (attached with Newsletter) and shared with the receiving primary school... again, with parental permission (your nursery policies may already outline procedures in relation to sharing information at transition times). The Early Years Transfer form guidance contains further information (also attached with newsletter)

For further information see the 'Transition drop down on the EYIT Local Offer additional page ( the link can be found on page 9 of the newsletter)



We are currently working on a virtual training package.....  
'PLANNING FOR TRANSITIONS'- contact your Area SENCo for further updates.....

# Transition

## REVISED EYFS STATUTORY FRAMEWORK



From September 2021 a revised EYFS statutory framework for the EYFS will be implemented. Alongside this, Development Matters, the non-statutory guidance that has been used to support practitioners in their teaching and assessment of children 0 – 5 has also been updated.

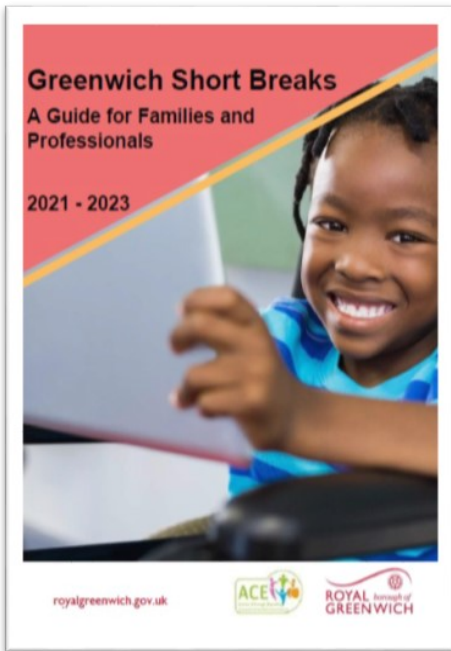
The changes have been brought about to focus directly on:

- Supporting language development in the EYFS
- Reducing paperwork
- The unique nature of the Reception Year
- Narrowing the attainment gap

Of note for SENCOs will be changes in the use of the current “ages and stages” to make summative judgements around children’s developmental and cognitive journeys.

The School Improvement Service and the SEN Teams will be working closely together to re-view processes linked to EYFS. There will also be opportunities in the summer term and across the 21/22 academic year for SENCOs to consider the changes, how they can work collaboratively with their EYFS and leadership teams to make necessary adjustments and ensure the very best for all Royal Borough of Greenwich children.

Further information will follow in due course that clarifies the evidence required when submitting an application or review to the SEN Inclusion Fund or when submitting a request for an EHC needs assessment.



RBG Short Breaks are pleased to announce their updated offer for disabled children and young people, available from this April. Short Breaks are a fantastic experience for children and young people with disabilities in Greenwich to take part in exciting activities, make friends and have fun, all in a safe and supported environment with experienced organizations.

From 1st April 2021, we will have 8 organizations running a variety of services across the borough.

All our programmes will be putting measures in place to ensure the safety of children and young people during COVID-19, including social distancing, reduced group numbers and PPE where required.

The service is available to any one aged 4-17 who lives in Greenwich and has an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan. The programmes range from 2-6 hours per session and are designed to encourage friendships, independence and learning new skills, as well as allowing parents and carers a short break from their caring role. Activities will be taking place throughout the summer and vary across each organisation. The only cost to families is the access fee charged by each Short Breaks provider, which ranges from £1.70 - £5 per hour (depending on the level of support that they require).

***If you are interested in registering for Short Breaks please contact the team by emailing [Short-Breaks-Referrals@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:Short-Breaks-Referrals@royalgreenwich.gov.uk) or calling 0208 921 3002.***

***More information can be found in the attached Greenwich Short Breaks Guide, as well as by visiting the Greenwich Local Offer page: <https://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=1YXLOYPJDfQ>***

## GREENWICH PARENT CARER FORUM



We are thrilled to say we have an advisory (steering) group in place. We are 14 passionate and committed individuals who are parents of a child /young person from 18 months to 23 years covering our mainstream and special school settings. We will be sending out the 1st of our regular termly newsletters after Easter to provide an update for parents on what the group have been doing, along with further information about our support arrangements going forward 21/22.

Below are the names and forum email addresses of the advisory group.

Each member of the advisory group has a lead area of interest, where they will be a point of contact – They will be responsible for feeding back to the parent/carer membership and advisory group. More information to follow.

### **For all initial enquires please email**

[admin@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:admin@greenwichpcpf.org)

Temp 07852101492 Carol Foyle

**Lillian Odum** - Lillian's lead areas of Interest are Social Care Inclusion, and housing for families with S.E.N.D. she also sits on parents travel buddies group in Partnership with CACT and one of the Co-Chairs for Royal London Borough of Greenwich's SENDIASS Steering Group. [lillian.odim@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:lillian.odim@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Yetunde Olufesobi** - Yetty's lead areas of interest are Health, Early intervention and Mainstream Support. I currently sit on Royal London Borough of Greenwich's SEND Commissioning group. [yetunde.olufesobi@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:yetunde.olufesobi@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Jane Hawkins** - Jane's lead areas of interest Transition to Adulthood (Preparing for Adulthood PFA) and Health [jane.hawkins@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:jane.hawkins@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Abidema Grandeur (Abi)** - As a member of the Greenwich Parent Participation Advisory group Abi's lead areas of interest are on family support in early diagnosis and early intervention. [abidemi.grandeur@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:abidemi.grandeur@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Stella Abu** - Stella's lead areas of interest short breaks/ local offer and early intervention [stella.abu@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:stella.abu@greenwichpcpf.org)

### **Rachael Withers – Chair**

**Rachael will hold the Forum's mobile, we will communicate the number and details re contact after Easter.**

Rachel's is the Chair and her lead areas of interest are Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes and Short Breaks [rachael.withers@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:rachael.withers@greenwichpcpf.org)

### **Simon Wilson – Vice-chair**

Simon's lead areas of interest are Transition to Adulthood (Preparing for Adulthood PFA) Social Care and engaging Men. I currently sit on Royal London Borough of Greenwich's and SEND Commissioning Group [simon.wilson@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:simon.wilson@greenwichpcpf.org)

### **Kafayat Eleu Vice – Chair**

Kafayat's lead areas of interest are Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes and training for parents. She will sit on Royal London Borough of Greenwich's SEND managers Strategic group and Co-Chair RBG's SENDIASS Steering Group. She also sits on a parent Travel buddies group in Partnership with CACT [kafayat.eletu@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:kafayat.eletu@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Yannick Nyah** - Yannick's lead areas of interest are early intervention, engagement and outreach. He also sits on the Royal London Borough of Greenwich's SEND Managers Strategic Group. [yannick.nyah@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:yannick.nyah@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Audrey Morris** - Audrey's lead areas of interest are the Local Offer and Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes [audrey.morris@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:audrey.morris@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Leanne Kennedy** - Leanne's lead areas of interests are complex needs and under 5's services [leanne.kennedy@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:leanne.kennedy@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Jane Higgins** - Jane's lead areas of interest are the role of the Senco and SEN Support and Transition to Adulthood (Preparing for Adulthood PFA) [jane.higgins@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:jane.higgins@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Olayide Olafuyi** - Ola's lead areas of interest are transition to adulthood (Preparing for Adulthood PFA) and Social Care [olayide.olafuyi@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:olayide.olafuyi@greenwichpcpf.org)

**Warda Saleh** - Warda's lead areas of interest are the Local offer, Short breaks and Mainstream and Sen Support [warda.saleh@greenwichpcpf.org](mailto:warda.saleh@greenwichpcpf.org)



# Symbol World



Communicate in Print allows you to change skin tones for individual symbols and now we are delighted to inform you that Widget Software are currently working on an up-date that will allow you to have multiple skin tones within one symbol (i.e. for 'family' - 1 black adult, 1 white adult, 1 mixed race child).

They are hoping to release this in late Spring/early Summer.



At the same time, they will be re-leasing new symbols which better reflect the multicultural nature of society. We welcome the much-needed symbols for use in our schools!

Handy hints:



You can currently use this function to change the skin tone for all symbols, throughout the document made.



You can also use the palette function to change the skin tone within each individual symbol.



Twinkl have created a symbols app that is currently free to download and use <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/apps/twinkl-symbols>

# GREENLIGHTS



Challenging  
Behaviour Support

Greenwich  
**mencap**

Telephone  
020 83052245  
E-mail  
greenlights@greenwichmencap.org.uk

Greenlights Project

Greenlights helps families to better understand the underlying causes and meanings of challenging behaviour exhibited by a child at home with learning disabilities/difficulties and/or autism. Greenlights offer parents/carers guidance on how best to respond to the behaviour with appropriate strategies and techniques. The sessions are delivered at the family home in partnership with parent/carer and child. Challenging Behaviour workshops are also provided to help families waiting for support in need of advice and information.

Our Greenlights staff have completed essential training to enable them to have the skills and knowledge to support families. They receive regular on going support and supervision.

Greenlights Contact  
Unit 4 Hopyard Studios,  
The Movement, 13 Lovibond Lane,  
Greenwich  
London  
SE10 9FY  
Tel: 020 83052245  
Email:  
[greenlights@greenwichmencap.org.uk](mailto:greenlights@greenwichmencap.org.uk)

We have other **workshops** in April, May and June already listed so please do check them out and join us

April - [Self- Care & Supporters](#)    May- [Announcements](#)    June- [Siblings](#)



<https://www.greenwichmencap.org.uk/our-services/behavioural-support/>

## Supporting children with Down Syndrome



STEPS (Support Team for Education in Primary and Secondary School) currently have their annual Down Syndrome training day booked for October 12<sup>th</sup> this is bookable online via direct services to schools (link below)- this is a full day run by an external speaker – generally a good insight to Down Syndrome.

They have recently started to run termly 'zoom' coffee mornings for all staff supporting children with Down Syndrome. If you would like more information on these please contact Claire Large directly on [Claire.Large@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Large@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

They have also put together the attached booklet which might be a useful reference point for early years providers.



### **Direct Services to Schools**

*Did you know you can now book training online?*

*Register at <http://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/> to access our range of training opportunities!*



The Early Years Inclusion Team pages have been updated and another page added with drop down headings for various documents, resources, forms and templates.

Now have new QR codes that can be scanned using a mobile device ☐

[Early Years Inclusion Team - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)



[Early Years Inclusion Team - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

Your child can receive support from the Early Years Inclusion Team if they have an identified or emerging complex special educational need/ disability and are a Greenwich resident aged 2-5yrs who attends an early education or care setting that is in the Private, Voluntary or Independent (PVI) sector (i.e. not a local authority school), this includes child-minders.

Additional resources page:

[Early Years Inclusion Team - additional resources and information | Greenwich Community Directory](#)



[Early Years Inclusion Team - additional resources and information | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

What are easy read documents? Easy Read is one form of accessible information, making written information easier to understand.. Easy Read documents use short simple sentences with pictures. Easy Read Early Years Inclusion Team. Easy Read information - Funding support available support for children with Special Educational Needs/ Disability (SEND) aged 2, 3 and 4 years old in the Royal Borough ...

SEND Early Years keyworker:

[Early Years Inclusion Team - SEND Early Years \(0-3yrs\) keyworker - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)



## [Early Years Inclusion Team - SEND Early Years \(0-3yrs\) keyworker | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

Families of children and young people with complex needs and disabilities often need to see a whole range of health, educational and care professionals, for a variety of reasons, at different stages and times of the child's life. Some families and carers can be overwhelmed by the many different agencies, organisations or people they may have to deal with; others may not be aware of all the ...

[greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk](https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk)

Additional resources page:

<https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=BGDNtpOMV7k>



## [Early Years SEND Keyworker \(0-3\) - additional resources and information | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

Some parents need a helping hand to find the right care for their child who may have complex disabilities. Children aged between birth - 3 years who have complex disabilities, may be entitled to receive our support to arrange and coordinate services across health and education as well as to access their free entitlement to early learning.

[greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk](https://greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk)

### **For further information on Early Years SEND funding-**

#### **Funding**

##### **SENIF:**

[Early Years Special Educational Needs \(SEN\) Inclusion Funding - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)



##### **DAF:**

[Disability Access Fund \(DAF\) Early Years Special Educational Needs \(SEN\) Inclusion Funding - Children's Services | Greenwich Community Directory](#)



## Local Offer



[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) Local Offer | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

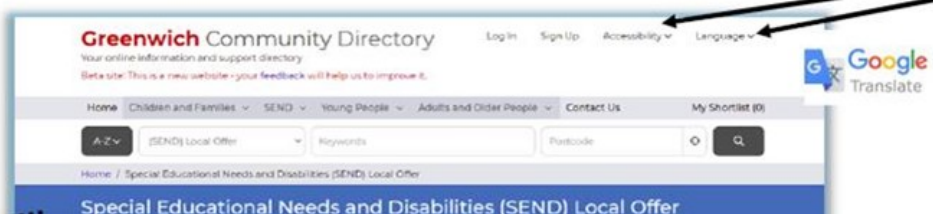
### [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) Local Offer | Greenwich Community Directory](#)

SENDIASS Survey We are reviewing what parents/carers and our children and young people think of and their experiences of the SENDIAS service. A small survey has been created survey.

[www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk](http://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk)



Did you know that you can change the language displayed or accessibility options with a click of a button?



This will change the language etc on all the page and may be helpful to some of our families that have differing needs.... it's all very clever and might help families understand the services available to them better