

SENCO NEWSLETTER



Hi all

It was so nice to see so many of you at the SENCO network this month at the PDC where we got to see each other in person for the first time since Covid.

Thanks for all your input to support our SEF which we will circulate to you all as soon as we have a workable draft. We have now consulted with most stakeholders in a range of ways and have so much information to use. There are no real surprises in the information which is reassuring and reflects the way we all work together on a daily basis. We have lots of great practice to celebrate and it's been good to reflect on them as well as where we know we need to get things better.

Some staffing news..

Sinead Neal has been appointed as the interim Principal Educational Psychologist which is great news and means she will now be leading on the management of the EPS and I will be returning to my SEND Outreach services role.

John Hogan has been appointed to the Head of ASD Outreach which is a new role to reflect the increase in size of the team. I know John will be great at leading the team forward and have more capacity to support service initiatives etc.. than I have had latterly with all the other areas I have taken on.

In this edition are the panel dates for this term so please make sure you know about the deadlines.

See you all soon

Roz

CONTENTS:

Page 1: Dates for your Diary

Page 2: Attention Autism training and Therapy dog opportunity

Page 3/4: New Autism and Girls course : Coming Soon !

Page 5: ASD Outreach and STEPS referrals

Page 6: Behaviour and links to webinars

Page 7: SEND at the Royal Observatory and Downs Syndrome Group

Page 8: SEND OUTREACH SERVICES: General inboxes & STEPS training timetable

Page 9: ASD training timetable

Page 10: SEND admissions Panels Spring 2023

Diary Dates

SENCO FORUM DATES 2022/23:

13th June 2023 (2:00pm - 5:00pm)

SENCO TWILIGHTS
3-5 PM:

16th March 2023

6th July 2023



ATTENTION AUTISM

Earlier this week we sent out details of a new AA course running in May 2023. This is our first opportunity to run this in person since Covid. Lots of you are using AA in your schools and the course is a pre requisite for all running the intervention. We would encourage you to book quickly as places are limited.

Contact Minna for more details

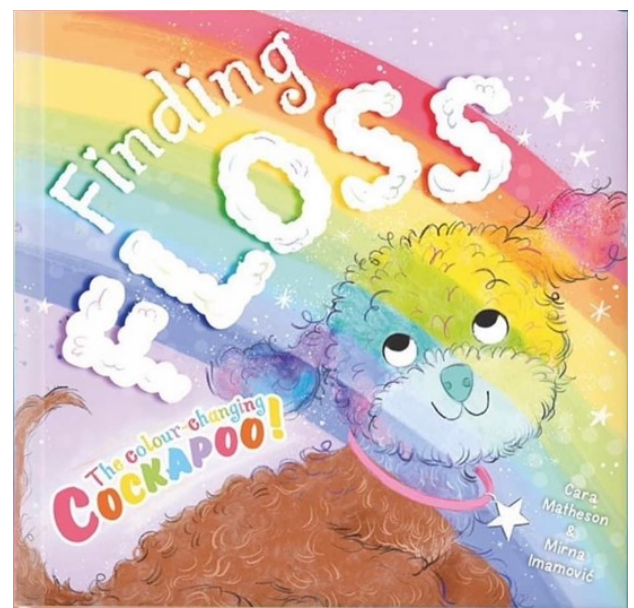
Minna.anaukwu@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Local children's author, Cara Matheson, is available this and next term for free school visits to read her new book, 'Finding Floss'. Cara and her cockapoo, Scout, already volunteer at Middle Park Primary School, where Scout listens to the children reading as part of the Pets as Therapy Read2Dogs scheme.

Scout is a registered therapy dog and has passed an assessment for temperament and suitability, so she can also attend visits if permitted!

'Finding Floss' is the rhyming story of a loveable cockapoo called Floss who has colour-changing superpowers. It is published by Owlet Press and includes messaging for children about what to do if they get lost.

Cara is happy to discuss a visit in more detail and organise an appropriate activity. She can visit multiple groups/years/classes where time permits. In lieu of a fee while promoting her book, Cara would like to be able to sell copies. They are currently priced at £5 a book if bought directly. Ideally, the school could purchase these in advance to be signed and distributed on the day, but this can be discussed. She can be contacted at cara_matheson@hotmail.co.uk or on 07811 353 177.





AUTISM and GIRLS – a brand-new course developed by the Autism Outreach Service

Over a number of years there has been an increasing demand from schools and settings to learn more about autistic girls and how to effectively meet their needs in educational settings. It is widely recognised that autism often affects girls very differently so as professionals we need to know how to adjust our support to meet those needs.

ASD Outreach Team had the privilege to take part in a pilot training session during our staff development day in January. Our ASD and Girls training package is now available to book for all Greenwich practitioners.

Our team learnt more about the areas of differences in relation to the autism diagnosis and how these affect girls. We had a group of virtual co-tutors that gave us their insights into how autistic girls and young women experience the world, their friendships and relationships, and what the challenges are for them when attending an educational setting or a place of work. We also heard from the Clinical Lead for the Integrated Neurodevelopmental Team in Greenwich who talked about the diagnostic process and the expertise required to ensure that girls are given the correct diagnosis.

Our first Autism and Girls whole day training session will take place on

Thursday 4th May 2023 at 9.30am -3.30pm at King's Park, Eltham

Training is free for RBG schools and settings – the cost for external participants is £155.

Please visit <http://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/courses/sen> to secure a [place on the course.](#)

If you require any further information about the course please email

lydia.barnes@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or benjamin.sloan@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

“Overall, a great training package – opened up a whole new way of looking at autism”

“Covers a range of content – very informative”

“Getting the perspective of the children and their first hand experience was a strength”



SEND Outreach Services Referrals

We are struggling to manage the influx of referrals efficiently at the moment and teachers/ assessors are spending a lot of time chasing incomplete information before they can do visits or getting information when they arrive.

To process referrals as quickly and efficiently as possible, can we request that all relevant sections of the referral form are completed in full (pages 1-4 and relevant Appendices), with any reports from outside agencies attached. Due to limited capacity and waiting lists, we would like assessors to focus on assessments, without the need to contact schools for outstanding information. Regrettably, any incomplete referrals will have to be:

returned for completion (STEPS)

wait for information to come through to be allocated (ASD Outreach)

FOR ASD OUTREACH

We require:

Checklist	Tick
A completed consent form	
Evidence of the ASD diagnosis in the form of a diagnostic report or clinic letter	
A schools information gathering form	

BEFORE the referral will be processed.

FOR STEPS

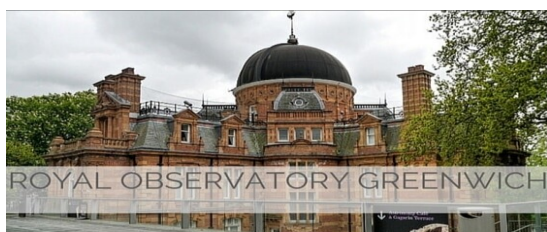
Please note that for STEPS referrals, the following checklist is contained within the referral, to support with the referral process.

Checklist	Tick
Ensure that 'reason for referral' is clearly stated	
Attainment: If below Age Related Expectation, indicate year group or PIVATS milestone	
For a dyslexia referral indicate the interventions tried to date	
For a dyslexia referral ensure a completed parental questionnaire is attached	
If other agencies have been involved ensure reports are attached	
Ensure the outcome of the phonic screening is included	
Information about a recent vision and hearing check is required	
Ensure the referral is signed by the parent/carer and the SENCO	

SEND at the Royal Observatory Greenwich

Here at the Royal Observatory Greenwich we are about to embark on a very exciting, large-scale project called The Royal Observatory Greenwich First Light. This project will see us redevelop the site, our galleries, programmes, events – our entire offer, it really us a once in a generation opportunity and we cannot wait to get cracking!

We are currently recruiting for two of our forum groups: teachers (including teachers in training) and SEND educators. The forum sessions run for these groups will allow local educators to play a role in how we develop our content and have their say when it comes to what we do and how we do it.



Is there any way you could help us to promote this opportunity to our local educators please? If you would like to chat about anything or come along to see our site and facilities please do just give us a shout any time.

Best wishes,

Liz

Elizabeth Avery

Senior Manager: Science Engagement & Lead Astronomer ROG

Direct +44 (0)20 8312 8627

Royal Museums Greenwich

Cutty Sark | National Maritime Museum

Royal Observatory | The Queen's House

+44 (0)20 8858 4422

STEPS Down Syndrome Support Group



and learning strategies suitable for pupils diagnosed with Down Syndrome. Participants will also have opportunities to network and share good practice with each other.

These sessions will provide opportunities to explore resources and discuss teaching

Date	Focus	Lead
24 th April 2023 9.30am – 12.00pm	Behaviour SALT	Claire Large
20 th June 2023 9.30am – 12.00pm	Handwriting Assistive Technology	Claire Large



Cost: Free

Address: King's Park Campus
Eltham Palace Road
SE9 5LX

Booking via email:

claire.large@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

SEND OUTREACH SERVICES: General inboxes

Following the success of using a generic email for ASD Outreach Service and to improve the SEND Outreach Services communication with our parents, schools and other professionals as **from 1st of September 2022** we have introduced an individual email address for each service:

STEPS- STEPS@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Sensory Service – sensory-service@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

EYIT – EYIT@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

ASD Outreach Service – ASD-outreach@royalgreenwich.gov.uk



Please use the above addresses when you wish to contact us with your queries and the new referrals. This will make the systems clearer and more responsive as these boxes are checked and managed daily . it also reduces the risk of things going missing etc...

Our referral form (attached) has been updated to reflect these changes so please use this from now and destroy any earlier copies



Jan 23			
OCR Level 7 updating skills	09/01/23	1 x session 4.00pm – 6.00pm	£30 per delegate OOB £50
Feb 23			
Half term 13 th Feb – 17 th Feb			
'WORD UP' approach	01/02/23	1 session 9.30am – 3.00pm	Free RBG OOB £50
Story/Maths Box	08/02/23	1x Session 9.30am – 11.00am	Free RBG
Assistive technology for inclusive literacy learning Part 1	02/02/23	1 x session 9.30 am– 12.30	£30 per delegate OOB £50
Assistive technology for inclusive literacy learning Part 2	02/02/23	1 x session 1.00 pm– 3.30pm	£30 per delegate OOB £50
March 23			
Assessment of children with Complex needs	08/03/23	1 x session 9.30am -12.30	£30 per delegate OOB £50
Phonics programme 'STEPS to Success'	07/03/23 14/03/23 21/03/23 28/03/23	4 x session consecutive Tuesday's 9.00am – 12.00pm	Free RBG OOB £200

TRAINING

January 23

Supporting Students with an ASD in Foundation stage ALL DAY COURSE	12/01/2023	9.00am 4.00pm	RBG Free OOB £155
SENCO Network Meeting	26/01/2023	2.00pm 5.00pm	RBG £30 OOB £40
Using Sensory Stories for children with an ASD at an early stage of literacy development in schools	19/01/2023	9.30am 12.30pm	RBG Free OOB £70

February 23 Half Term 13th Feb – 17th Feb

Using Intensive Interaction to support students with an ASD in school	06/02/2023	9.30am- 12.30pm	RBG Free OOB £70
Using Social Interventions to support children with an ASD in schools	04/05/2023	9.30am 12.30pm	RBG Free OOB £70

March 23

Supporting Students with an ASD in Primary Schools x5 weeks	02/03/2023 09/03/2023 16/03/2023 23/03/2023 30/03/2023	9.30am 12.30pm	RBG Free OOB £155
SENCO Twilight Session	16/03/23	3.00pm 5.30pm	
Setting up a Sensory Programme for children with an ASD in your school: To include sensory circuits and sensory diets ALL DAY COURSE	22/03/2023	9.00am 4.00pm	RBG Free OOB £155
Analysing and Managing behaviour for Children with an ASD in a school setting	29/03/2023	9.30am 4.00pm	RBG Free OOB £155

SEND Admission Panels

Spring Term 2023			
Provision	Panel Date & Time	School Submission Date For Application Form and Supporting Documentation	Circulation Date of Allocations to Panel Members
Secondary			
Sensory Primary and Secondary	Monday 6 February @9am	Monday 23 January	Monday 30 January
CPA	Monday 6 February @10am	Monday 23 January	Monday 30 January
Willow Dene Secondary	Monday 6 February @11	Monday 23 January	Monday 30 January
Kings Oak	Monday 6 February @12	Monday 23 January	Monday 30 January
MLD DSP Secondary	Thursday 9 February @9am	Thursday 26 January	Thursday 2 February
ASD DSP Secondary	Thursday 9 February @10	Thursday 26 January	Thursday 2 February
Kings park	Thursday 9 February @12	Thursday 26 January	Thursday 2 February
Primary			
Willow Dene	Thursday 9 March @9	Thursday 23 February	Thursday 2 March
Greenacres	Thursday 9 March @10	Thursday 23 February	Thursday 2 March
ASD DSP	Thursday 9 March @10	Thursday 23 February	Thursday 2 March
Waterside/Nook	Thursday 9 March @11:30	Thursday 23 February	Thursday 2 March

