



SENCO NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 67 December

23



Hi all

This is the last SENCO newsletter before Christmas with details of training for next year.

There is some further information about the Y6-7 transition day arrangements and feedback we would like to gather from you at our next SENCO Network Meeting on 23rd January, so please do save the date.

We have to say goodbye to some key staff this term. As you are aware, we will be saying goodbye to Rory McDonnell, Head of Sensory Service at the end of this term and many of you may have already heard, through RBG School's Bulletin, that Di Osbourne will be leaving Greenwich in January too. Di has been in Greenwich for over 10 years and during that time has worked tirelessly, under ever challenging circumstances, to ensure that our children and young people with SEND have the best possible opportunities and outcomes. Di will be embarking on an exciting new opportunity in Camden. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Di for all her hard work and wishing her all the best in her new role.

Thanks as always for all your support this term and wishing you all a good festive break when it arrives.

Hetal Patel

Acting SEND Outreach Services Manager

Diary Dates

- **SENCO NETWORK MEETING: 23/01/2024 2-5PM at the PDC.**

Please make sure you register ahead to attend on the PDC website so we can have tea and coffee available for all so a small charge to cover that and room hire at the PDC. DSP leads welcome.

CONTENTS:

Page 1: Dates for your Diary.

Page 2 : Attachment information.

Page 3: Stepping Up Program.

Page 4: Neurodivergent power youth group.

Page 5: Years 6-7 Transition day.

Page 6: Virtual school updates.

Page 7: Early Talk Boost Practitioners refresher session,

Page 8: SEND assessment and Panel dates.

Page 9: Down Syndrome support training.

Page 10: Training Dates.

ATTACHMENTS



ABA and the RBG Approach

The Royal Borough of Greenwich were facing a growing number of SEN Tribunal cases in which we needed to explain our approach in working with children and young people with autism in our schools.

We aim to have a child centred, eclectic approach which matches the interventions and strategies to the individual child or young person.

Our document '*The Royal Borough of Greenwich Approach to supporting the needs of Children and Young People with a diagnosis of ASD*' is attached and may be useful in communications with parents or professionals concerning the ways we provide our support in schools.



Medical Guidance

Over the last 12 months the Inclusion Service has been working on developing guidance to advise schools and colleagues with supporting children who may have medical needs. These guidelines will give advice and signposting to schools. See attached guidance.





This programme will cover areas such as coping with change, conflict resolution, numeracy, literacy, peer pressure and friendship. If there are any behaviour concerns, we are hopeful that some of the workshops being delivered will go some way to addressing these. Our aim is for a smooth and pleasant transition for all Royal Greenwich Year 6 pupils.

To be eligible for nomination, the pupil **must be** moving on to a Royal Greenwich secondary school and meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Be categorised as SEN Support for behaviour (not with EHCP).

2. Have been discussed at Fair Access Panel in Years 5 or 6
3. Have been in receipt of a PSP or EHA in Years 5 or 6
4. Have a history of suspensions in Yr5 or 6
5. Have below average school attendance
6. Recently returned to school for EHE
7. Safeguarding and Social Care involvement
8. A looked after child (with any of the above concerns)
9. Known history of lack of engagement with interventions/agencies
10. Other vulnerable children i.e. low income, low self-esteem, bullied, DV, lack of parental input

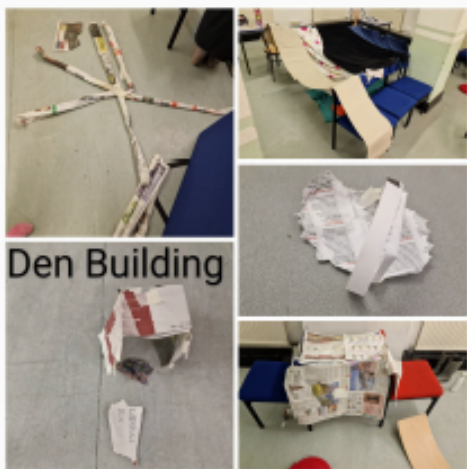
We are asking for a maximum of 8 nominations from your school for this programme. Once all school nominations have been collated, a short-list of 100 pupils will be selected and you will be informed of the outcome in due course. If any of your Year 6 pupils are successful, it will be the responsibility of the home school to inform and get permission from parents. Find an example of nomination form and referral attached.



NEURODIVERGENT POWER YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays 5-6.15pm
(Term Time only)

For girls and AFAB, aged 10-14, diagnosed or non-diagnosed neurodivergent (ASD, ASC, ADHD, dyslexia etc) or those who think they might be.



Den Building

Engaging, confidence-building sessions, developed in collaboration with group members. Activities may range from craft-based problem-solving and creative expression, to journalling and climbing. Email Nichola@thebigredbusclub.com to find out more.



Clockhouse Community Centre, SE18 5QL

This project has kindly been funded by the Royal Borough of Greenwich and is run by The Big Red Bus Club



Big Red Bus Club
Free Family Wellbeing Charity



With support from:





Y6-7 TRANSITION DAY

23rd May 2024

Please note that the Y6-7 transition day will be held at the PDC on 23rd May 2024. We would like to ensure that all SENCOs are in attendance as well as secondary DSLs. Please extend the invite to your DSL, unless you as the SENCO are the named safeguarding lead.

At the next upcoming SENCO Network meeting, we would like to discuss how best to manage the transition day and the current transition form (attached to the newsletter). We would like to ensure that the form covers all your requirements in order to avoid either additional or duplication of information, requested of Primary SENCOs by individual schools. We have allocated time for both primary and secondary SENCOs to discuss this on 23rd January, so please do attend. We would like mixed groups of primary and secondary colleagues at the tables to allow for these discussions.

At the SENCO Network meeting, we will also be hearing from both a primary and secondary SENCO on how they effectively manage their transition arrangements, in order to support their most vulnerable learners.

Offer day

We have been informed that secondary schools are often contacted directly by parents once they have been notified of their child's Y7 school place. This year the SEND Assessment and Review Team alongside the Virtual School and the ASD transition coordinator, aim to contact secondary schools as soon as they have been made aware of any vulnerable pupils attending their school (once parents have accepted a place). Primary SENCOs will also be notified so that information can be handed over at the earliest opportunity and to ensure that the above transition day can focus on the remaining SEND pupils.





There have been some changes within the Virtual School and Inclusive Services.

Please find attached updated contact details below.

Primary Inclusion Service - Primary-Behaviour-Support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Secondary Inclusion Service - Secondary-Behaviour-Support@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Attendance advisory Service - School-Attendance-Advisory@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Virtual School – please visit website for specific officers and duties [Our Team | \(virtualschoolgreenwich.org.uk\)](#) or email looked-after-children-education@royalgreenwich.gov.uk



Refresher session for trained Early Boost Practitioners.

We have been asked by RBG Children's Services Inclusion, Learning and Achievement division to provide refresher sessions for ETB trained practitioners who would like to get ETB assessments and interventions up and running this academic year.

We are running the following session for trained ETB practitioners:

January 17th 3.30-5pm (Topic – refresher for intervention groups – structure; timings; number of children; organising resources; how to follow the intervention manual; tips re increasing children's talking time. Followed by Q & A)

NB – this is not suitable for EYPs who haven't received the original training. Dates for the full ETB training will likely be circulated next term in the newsletter.

Please email Jenny on admin@talkingoutcomes.co.uk if you would like to join one or both sessions. Joining for part of a session is fine too. The link is attached below.

Topic: Early Talk Boost Support Drop-In

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8079054293?pwd=L2pNZGdLcXVNMEIWW5neGc3OXM3dz09>

Meeting ID: 807 905 4293



Passcode: WqKJ7B




SEND Admissions Panel - Spring Term 2024			
Provision	Panel Date & Time	School Submission Date For Application Form and Supporting Documenta- tion	Circulation Date of Appli- cations to Panel Mem- bers
Primary Transition			
Greenacres	Thursday 25 January @ 09:00	Thursday 11 January	Thursday 18 January
Sensory	Thursday 25 January @ 10:00	Thursday 11 January	Thursday 18 January
Willow Dene	Thursday 25 January @ 11:00	Thursday 11 January	Thursday 18 January

SEND Admissions Panel - Summer Term 2024			
Provision	Panel Date & Time	School Submission Date For Application Form and Supporting Documenta- tion	Circulation Date of Appli- cations to Panel Mem- bers
Primary			
Greenacres	Thursday 20 June @ 09:00	Thursday 6 June	Thursday 13 June
ASD DSP	Thursday 20 June @ 10:00	Thursday 6 June	Thursday 13 June
Waterside	Thursday 20 June @ 13:00	Thursday 6 June	Thursday 13 June
The Nook	Thursday 20 June @ 14:00	Thursday 6 June	Thursday 13 June
Secondary			
ASD DSP	Thursday 27 June @ 10:00	Thursday 13 June	Thursday 20 June
MLD DSP	Thursday 27 June @ 11:30	Thursday 13 June	Thursday 20 June

STEPS Down Syndrome Support




SEND Outreach Services/STEPS
King's Park Campus
Eltham Palace Road
LONDON SE9 5LX
020 8921 3311

STEPS training session for parents/carers of pupils with Down Syndrome

Friday 2nd Feb, 2024 @ 9.30am – 11.00am

Everyone is a reader. Some just haven't found their favorite book yet.



The Researcher Reads

Calling **all parents/carers** of pupils with **Down Syndrome!**

Please join us for an **informal** training session to **discuss how to support your child with reading.**

If you would like to **join** this session – please **contact me via email:** Claire.large@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

The **location** for the session will take place at:

STEPS
SEND Outreach
Kings Park Campus
Eltham Palace Road
London
SE9 5LX

I look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Look ...

STEPS Down Syndrome Training dates		
Suitable for all staff supporting pupils with Down Syndrome		
Bookable via Services to Schools website: http://servicestoschools.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/		
25.3.24	Down Syndrome Support Group – behaviour and SALT	9.30 – 12pm free
10.6.24	Down Syndrome Support Group – handwriting and assistive technology	9.30 – 12pm free

Did you know ...

WDSD 2024 theme:

The WDSD theme is the message that we are asking supporters around the world to share on and around 21 March.

For World Down Syndrome Day 2024, we call for people around the world to

End The Stereotypes



STEPS Training		
January 24		
Level 7 updating skills	16/01/24	4.00pm – 6.00pm
PIVATS 5 Writing Moderation Workshop	23/01/24	9.30am -12.30pm
February 24		
‘WORD UP’ approach	06/02/24	9.30am – 3.00pm
Assistive technology for inclusive literacy learning	20/02/24	9.30am – 12.30
Assistive technology Surgery	20/02/24	1.30pm – 3.00pm
Story/Maths Box	27/02/24 10/18/19y correct from date of print 01/03/19t	9.30am – 11.00am
March 24		
PIVAT 5 Maths Moderation Workshop	12/03/24	9.30am -12.30pm
Phonics programme ‘STEPS to Success’	19/03/24	9.00am – 3.30pm
STEPS Down Syndrome Support Group - Behaviour and SALT	25/03/24	9.30am -12

ASD Training		
January 24		
Supporting Students with an ASD in Primary Schools x5 weeks	11/01/24 18/01/24 25/01/24 01/02/24 08/02/24	9.30am 12.30pm
SENCO Network Meeting	23/01/24	2-5pm
Supporting Students with an ASD in Foundation stage ALL DAY COURSE	15/01/24	9.30am 4.00pm
ASD and girls	29/01/24	9.30am 3.30pm
February 24		
Using Social Interventions to support children with an ASD in schools	05/02/24	9.30am 12.30pm
March 24		
Using Intensive Interaction to support students with an ASD in school	06/03/24	9.30am- 12.30pm
Setting up a Sensory Programme for children with an ASD in your school: To include sensory circuits and sensory diets ALL DAY COURSE	26/03/24	9.30am 4.00pm
Analysing and Managing behaviour for Children with an ASD in a school setting	27/03/24	9.30am 4.00pm