

SENCO Newsletter



THE NEWSLETTER FOR COORDINATORS WHO WORK IN SETTINGS WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (0-25) WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND).

June 2021



City of London Local Offer



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Hello...

Welcome to the SENDCO Newsletter from the City of London.

We are pleased to welcome Anne Hayward, our new SEND Consultant, to the City. She has been a Headteacher, Deputy Director of Education and a former Ofsted Inspector. She has worked for many local authorities, schools, colleges and settings advising on SEND.

Anne and her colleague, Kay Charles, who is Executive Principal of two outstanding special schools in Brent – The Village School and Woodfield School – are undertaking visits to all schools who have City of London pupils who have an Education Health Care (EHC) Plan.

The visits will commence w/b 28 June. You will have received notification of this visit and details are in a letter from Theresa Shortland, Head of Education and Early Years. If you require any further details please [email Anne](#).

This is a visit to support SENDCOs and to share best practice nationally with a wealth of resources that both Anne and Kay have

written or collected during their work. They will be using an amended London [Leadership SEND Review Audit tool](#) and [Nasen's Whole School SEND review](#) which is excellent.

Anne is developing our SEND Hub – 'Going the extra square mile' – a dedicated page on our website for professionals and parents in order that we can share high quality resources and research. This should be up and running by September and will be a source of invaluable resources.

Anne is also chairing the City of London Academy Trust and Family of Schools SENDCO Network.

Anne and Laurence Hime, the City of London's Principal Educational Psychologist, are looking for ideas and feedback from you. Let us know what support and/or access you need so we can put relevant packages together for you.

We look forward to working with all of you for the rest of the academic year!



Anne Hayward
anne.hayward@cityoflondon.gov.uk



Kay Charles
kay.charles@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Contact the City of London's SEND Team:
EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Info & resources...

Update on OFSTED

There are some changes to the inspection handbook. Key aspects are:

- Recognising the COVID-19 context | impact on the school
- The curriculum | how it has been adapted and prioritised; filling the gaps in pupils knowledge, integrating remote learning into the curriculum
- Community | how leaders supported the school community and how vulnerable pupils were kept safe and prioritised for face to face education and how staff and pupils well-being have been promoted
- Best possible attendance | how this was achieved

Anne and Kay have put together an Ofsted inspection overview - Evaluating the education inspection framework - that you might find useful.

COVID-19 recovery

Woodfield School has a [good recovery curriculum for pupils and students with SEND and rationale](#) which SENCOs will find useful. They also have a great presentation on their [Mental Health Strategy](#), which you can also download.

Addressing challenging behaviour

We are including a link to a useful handbook, [Positive Behaviour Support](#). It includes information about positive behaviour support and addressing challenging behaviour with tiers of support, zones of regulation and creating positive behaviour plans. It has been produced by The Village School, in partnership with Compass Learning and Woodfield School.

Update on Supported Internships

There are going to be 500 more NHS supported internship opportunities for young adults with Education, Health and Care plans. Project SEARCH strategic partnership with NHS England, Health Education England, NHS Improvement and NHS Employers are to set up 42 new funded supported internships programme providing 500 placements in hospital trusts across England by September 2022.

City of London Parent Carer Forum

The City Parent Carer Forum (CPCF) represents and is made up of parents and carers of children and young people with SEND. Email: info@cityparentcarers.org | Phone: 07939 069 220 | www.cityparentcarers.org



Research...

[Identifying Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities](#) by Jo Hutchinson. This research talks about the post code lottery of the identification of children with SEND and the issues around Academies and low identification of need.

The Council for Disabled Children, KIDS and the DfE are running a programme "Making Participation Work" and how to elicit the Young Person's Voice. For further details email [Charlotte O'Halloran](mailto:Charlotte.O'Halloran@cdcc.org.uk).

The training catalogue on the [Council for Disabled Children's website](#) is excellent and has really useful free training on EHCP Outcomes, Expert Parenting programme, social care and SEND, Health Advice and delivering quality Annual Reviews.

There is also some really good information on ADHD, Autism and Mental Health from the [Young Minds website](#).

If you would like to share other research papers and information with your colleagues and would like to see it in the next newsletter, please [email Anne](mailto:anne@woodfield-school.co.uk).

Upcoming events...

In this section of the newsletter, we will highlight events and activities in and around the Square Mile for you and your families to get involved. Email the [City of London's Family Information Service](#) if you know or are hosting events.

The Virtual London Careers Festival

Hosted by the City of London Corporation between the 28 June to 2 July for primary, secondary and Post-16 pupils. The event is designed to connect students with the world of work and skill building opportunities. The festival offers webinars and easily accessible resources to support pupils to explore a wide range of skills and career related opportunities as well as to help schools to meet their Gatsby benchmarks. [Visit website](#).



Mental Health and Wellbeing Focus Groups

Healthwatch City of London will hold a focus group on 16 June from 10:30am to 11:30am so City of London residents can discuss mental health care. Join on Zoom: bit.ly/2Qya5Zz | Meeting ID: 918 7411 1747 Passcode: 276063 | Dial in: 0203 481 5240.



Library Outdoor Rhyme Time

A weekly event for early years children and their parents/carers. In line with Government guidelines, space is limited to 12 adults (no limits for children) and will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. Events will be moved to Zoom in case of rain. Bring your own protective gear to suit the weather. Please don't attend if you feel unwell. Adults will need to wear a mask (unless exempt).



[Email Shoe Lane Library](#) for information.

Huddleston Centre - a hub for disabled young people in the City of London to connect and express themselves

Cool Gang Club

The Cool Gang Club is our disabled young people (9-15yrs) youth club. Members have fun, socialise, play games and learn things. We also go on trips.

Tuesdays @ 5.30pm

Social Club

A youth club for disabled young people (16-25yrs). Members participate in a range of activities including outings, learning about health and independence, play games, do sports and film nights.

Fridays @ 6pm.

Short Breaks

A wide range of activities for young people with disabilities (9-17yrs) to access during the holidays. Includes cinema trips, ice-skating, adventure walks, cooking...

Half terms, Easter and Summer holidays.

Monday to Friday @ 9.30am-4.30pm

Access Project

Exercise and swimming for users (9-17yrs) who have profound disabilities. Short Breaks receivers go free.

Wednesdays @ 3.30pm

Our Village

A week-long intensive performing arts, music and drama project for disabled youths (11-25yrs) held annually in partnership with Hackney Empire. 20-25 places, with advance booking.

August 2021.

Bus Service

We encourage independent travel by users to and from all activities. However, a bus service is provided for users in need of travel support - very limited spaces. Suitability for this service is assessed at referral meeting.

For venue details contact 020 8985 9087 or info@huddlestoncentre.org



Tower Hamlets & City SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs Information, Advice and Support Service)

The SENDIASS Team offers free and impartial advice to parents and young people with SEND who are residents within Tower Hamlets or City of London. Some of the ways we can support you are:

- Attending meetings with schools/professionals
- Applying for an Education Health and Care Plan
- Mediation with the Local Authority
- Preparing and attending SEND Tribunals
- Providing information about other support services and departments.

Our team also runs workshops for parents around the EHCP process, Annual Reviews, and Secondary School Transitions.

If your query can not be resolved during the telephone consultation, we will take a referral and you will be allocated a caseworker who will contact you within 10 working days.

We have a dedicated telephone line, **020 7364 6489**, that you can call to speak to an advisor Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m-17:00 p.m.

You can also email us at:
towerhamlets&city.sendiass
@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can visit our website at:
<https://www.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>

