

We are highly qualified and experienced teachers and educational practitioners who work with schools to support children and young people (aged 4-16) when learning progress, social, emotional or mental health are causing concern. We work with every school in Wigan.

Free Training – Funded by Wigan Local Authority

Identification of SEND	Primary SENCOS	Wed 29.11.17 (2pm-4.30pm)	The Atrium, Progress House, Westwood Park, Wigan WN3 4HH	To book: Email Targeted Education Support Service tesstrain@wiganmbc.gov.uk
		Tues 05.12.17 (9.30am-12 midday)		
	Secondary SENCOS	Tues 05.12.17 (2pm-4.30pm)		
Critical Incident Awareness training	Headteacher and another Senior Manager (2 places per school)	Tues 28.11.17 (all day)	St Peter's Pavilion Hurst St, Hindley, Wigan WN2 3DN	To book: Phone Educational Psychology Service (01942 486238)
		Thurs 25.01.18 (all day)		

TESS: training venues

As you know, we are now based at the Civic Centre in Wigan town centre but much of our training will take place at Progress House. If there is a change to the advertised venue of a training course, you will **be informed by e-mail**.

To book on any TESS training, please use our training email tesstrain@wiganmbc.gov.uk

Goodbyes

TESS said goodbye last term to some very valued colleagues; Mel Robson – who has taken early retirement to spend much deserved time with her growing brood of grandchildren, Paula Douglas – Paula is off on her travels in her motorhome, Carole Downie – probably cycling her way around the country as we write and also Julie Cook who is moving to pastures new. We wish them all well – they'll be missed.

Hellos

- TESS are welcoming two new colleagues – Debbie Fudge will join our team of TESS Link teachers in October and Joanne Kennedy will join the team in January.
- The Educational Psychology Service would like to welcome two new members of the team from September 2017: Becki Finney and Ness Evans, Trainee Educational Psychologists, who are in the second year of their Doctoral Training.

TESS Referrals/EHC Applications Please can you ensure that the pupil and parent/carer views are included on TESS referrals. This is an important record of your involvement of parents (and pupils). It's also vital that progress and attainment levels are included so that our resulting reports can be as valuable and personalized as possible. Please remember that if EHCP referrals are being submitted, there must be a short paragraph to explain the tracking data in your school. Where explanatory information is omitted, Panel may have to suspend a decision in order to seek clarity.

EHCP Panel

SENCOs are encouraged to attend and take part in EHCP panels. This is a valuable way of observing the process in practice. Panels take place on Wednesday afternoons at Wigan Life Centre South. If you are interested in attending, please contact Annabelle Ashdown on 01942 827388 or e-mail her at A.Ashdown@wigan.gov.uk

Have you updated your SEN Information report?

Consider:

- Date the link – ‘SEN Information Report September 2017’
- Have you sought the views of parents/carers/children? If so, say so: ‘this report was completed in collaboration with parents.....’
- Is the report easy to find on your school website – does it follow the ‘three clicks’ rule?
- Can people leave comments and suggestions?
- **Is there a link to the LA Local Offer? This is a statutory requirement.**
- Think about SEND changes you have made or are planning to make.
- What’s new: training (staff and/or families), new SEND Governor?
- Access to buildings?
- New clubs/groups for SEND pupils?
- Any new policy documents?
- Changes to how parents are involved in school?
- Changes to contact with outside agencies e.g. school nurse?
- Changes to budget allocations?
- How accessible is your school for EAL families?
- Alternative formats for EAL, Visual difficulties etc.?

Wigan Community Book

Wigan Community Book is a growing on-line resource that lists groups and organisations within the Wigan area. It’s a useful resource to support pupils, parents (and staff) who may be looking to get involved in community projects or need support. It’s well worth a look:

<https://www.communitybook.org/>

Leigh Spinners Mill is a working history museum with a working steam engine. The mill are offering free sessions for schools to support the delivery of the curriculum in History, Science, Art and Design. They can be contacted via their website: www.leighspinners.org

‘Enable’ are a branch of the Message Trust. They are a team of people with disabilities who deliver sessions in schools around ‘Respect’, and ‘Dreams and ambitions’ challenging perceptions and recounting their own stories of overcoming barriers. This is an upper KS2 or KS3/4 resource. Details at: www.message.org.uk

Tony Attwood Talks Autism 2018 This is a day’s workshop led by autism specialist Tony Attwood - Date: **Friday 12th January 2018** Time: **9.20am - 4.35pm** (Registration 8.45am-9.20am)
Venue: **AJ Bell Stadium** 1 Stadium Way, Salford, Manchester M30 7EY T. 0141 353 8000 www.medicacpd.com

