

*Achieving quality outcomes***DSPL3 News**

As many of you are aware Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will be carrying out a joint inspection of the Hertfordshire area's effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of, and improving outcomes for, children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities from **4 July 2016 to 8 July 2016**.

- This new type of inspection covers the local AREA (Hertfordshire) and not just the Local Authority as in the past so now it will include Health services in the area. Inspections are jointly carried out by Ofsted (same organisation that inspects schools and colleges) and CQC (Care Quality Commission).
- Inspections teams will consist of HMI, a CQC Inspector and up to two other local authority inspectors (not from Hertfordshire). They will look at national data and inspections by CQC & Ofsted in Herts before they arrive. Local Areas will be expected to know how effective they are and be able to demonstrate it.
- All 152 areas in England will be inspected over the next 5 Academic years (started May 2016). The plan is to inspect 30 areas a year but NOT in the school holidays. 8 Local Areas will be inspected from May to July 2016 – they will be selected to cover all 5 regions and type of council structure/size and then August will be a period of reflection and review for Ofsted/CQC.
- Local Areas will be judged by the SEND Reforms and so if the Local Area is doing right by the reforms it will be fine. The SEND reforms were brought in with the Children and Families Act September 2014.

What will they look at?

- The inspection will look at ALL children and young people 0-25 years who have special educational needs and/or disabilities NOT just those with the most complex needs, statements or EHCs (Education, Health and Care plans). It will also include CYP (children and young people) who are Out of County, Home Educated with SEND and not in education
- They will visit a small sample of education settings ie schools, colleges etc that they choose but are not inspecting the school or college. They will want to meet parents and CYP there.
- They will visit Health and Social Care services focusing on their contribution and ability to work collaboratively to meet children and young people's needs. They will not be inspecting the service.
- There will be a strong emphasis on gathering the views of young people and parents and carers. This is an entirely new aspect of the inspection and will involve meeting parents during visits to settings, meeting with established parent and carer groups. There will also be webinar for parents and carers during the inspection week.
- They will also meet with elected members, key officers for Health, Education and Social Care, leaders of Early Years settings, schools, colleges and specialist services.

Inspection Results

This will be a written report and not a grade like you have for schools. Depending on the inspection report Local Areas may need to produce an action plan on how they are going to improve. There may also be some follow-up inspection activity from either Ofsted or CQC.

AUTUMN COURSES

Information has been sent to schools and settings about the following courses. Spaces are going fast, so do book quickly:

Our fourth Annual SENCO Conference is on Friday 14th October. The focus will be on Autism, with sessions on SCERTS, sensory issues, communication and social interaction. **(2 SPACES LEFT)**

'An Introduction to Children and Young People's Mental Health in Schools' Tuesday 1st November **(2 SPACES LEFT)** and Friday 3rd February **(14 SPACES LEFT)**

'Promoting Positive Mental Health in Early Years' for PVI's & CCs only Monday 14th November **(7 SPACES LEFT)**

'Attachment Aware Schools: Supporting learning, promoting resilience' Tuesday 22nd November **(20 SPACES LEFT)**

MINDFULNESS PROJECT 2016/17

Twenty schools are taking part in our Mindfulness Project. Lead staff from each school have attended four twilight training sessions during June and received a range of resources and books to support their projects back in school. Each school has identified specific key areas of improvement that they are hoping to achieve through being part of the project. Some examples are:

- ◆ To provide relevant pupils with SEND with the tools to achieve greater emotional regulation and develop a more positive outlook.
- ◆ Increase resilience of our children.
- ◆ Children need to understand the importance of good mental health and where they can go for support.
- ◆ Supporting those children (and staff) whom are prone to anxiety.
- ◆ We are hoping that the promotion of mindfulness across the school will have a positive impact on behaviour, supporting pupils to feel more content, calm and in control.
- ◆ Support the changing emotional needs of the children
- ◆ To further enhance our children's well being and resilience in their learning to ensure they embrace mistakes and enjoy the challenges they face in learning.

We will update you on the progress of the projects over the coming months.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH FACEBOOK

Click below to go to our Facebook Page to be kept up to date with all that is happening in the DSPL3 area.



DSPL3 AET AUTISM STANDARDS' PROJECT

The AET Autism Standards **enable educational settings to evaluate their practice in addressing the needs of pupils on the autism spectrum.**

The standards have been designed for use across all types of educational settings from mainstream to special and specialist, for pupils from the ages of 5 – 16 years, at all levels of ability. The standards mirror the categories established by the [AET training hubs materials](#). There are interactive links from the set of standards to resources that demonstrate how a school or provider might implement practice or policy. The standards also link to the [AET schools autism competency framework](#), the SEND code of practice and the Ofsted framework.

The project will have tranches of schools and settings meeting to use the Autism Standards as a way of self-review and planning developments. SENCOs and/or Setting Autism Leads will meet for a morning at the beginning of a half-term to look at the standards together to develop their understanding of them. This session will be led by Julia Carmichael, Specialist Teacher for Autism (Communication and Autism Team). It is then expected that the SENCOs/ Autism Leads will carry out a review back in their schools before meeting again a month later to support each other with development planning, again facilitated by Julia.

Participating schools and settings will receive funding towards supply cover when their action plan is submitted and also be able to apply for 50% funding grants towards resources.

The meetings will be from 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. at Wodson Park, Ware. Dates for each tranche are:

Primary and Secondary Tranche 1 Autumn 2016

Initial meeting: Tuesday 13th September

Planning meeting: Tuesday 11th October

[To apply click here](#)

Primary and Secondary Tranche 2 Autumn 2016

Initial meeting: Tuesday 8th November

Planning meeting: Tuesday 6th December

[To apply click here](#)

Primary and Secondary Tranche 3 Spring 2017

Initial meeting: Tuesday 28th February

Planning meeting: Tuesday 28th March

[To apply click here](#)

Primary and Secondary Tranche 4 Summer 2017

Initial meeting: Tuesday 25th April

Planning meeting: Monday 22nd May

[To apply click here](#)

Early Years (PVI) Tranche 1 Spring 2017

Initial meeting: Tuesday 10th January

Planning meeting: Monday 6th February

[To apply click here](#)

Early Years (PVI) Tranche 2 Summer 2017

Initial meeting: Tuesday 6th June

Planning meeting: Tuesday 4th July

[To apply click here](#)

Schools and settings signed up already are:

Christ Church	Ralph Sadleir	Angels at Play	St Josephs Pre School, BS
Hollybush	St Joseph's, H/ford	Hunsdon Ducklings	Stepping Stones
Millfield	St Mary's Junior	Leapfrogs Pre School	Tewin U5s Pre School
Morgans	Thorn Grove	St Joseph's Play-	
Presdales	Tower	group, Hertford	