



Delivering Special Provision Locally

**Autumn 1
Newsletter
for SENCOs**

DSPL3 Useful Links

- ◆ The DSPL3 Website and Facebook page are now live.
- ◆ Please click here to view the [website](#)
- ◆ Please click here to view the [Facebook page](#)—We regularly post flyers for training courses so please check regularly so you aren't missing out.
- ◆ To view upcoming training, courses or workshops please [click here](#)

Dates for the diary

- ◆ **2026-2027 SEND Briefing events**
 - ◇ **Autumn term:** Tuesday 10th November 2026 9:30-11:30am (online)
 - ◇ **Spring term:** Tuesday 16th March 2027 1:30-3:30pm (online)
 - ◇ **Summer term:** Wednesday 30th June 2027 9:30-11:30am (online)

FIF (Focused Intervention Funding)

- ◆ Application deadlines are as follows:
- ◆ *21st September 2026*
- ◆ *16th November 2026*
- ◆ *11th January 2027*
- ◆ *22nd February 2027*

Update from SENDSAS

- ◆ The SEND Specialist Advice & Support Service (SENDSAS) is pleased to announce that, following a review of its training offer, all **Cognition and Learning training will be available free of charge to Hertfordshire schools and settings from September 2026.**
- ◆ This development reflects SENDSAS's commitment to strengthening inclusive practice, supporting workforce development, and helping more children and young people with SEND to thrive within their local communities.
- ◆ Alongside existing popular courses such as *Assessing and Teaching Reading*, *Multisensory Spelling Strategies* and *Diagnostic Literacy Assessment*, new training on *Phonological Awareness* and *Memory* will be launched this autumn.
- ◆ The Cognition and Learning Team also continues to provide targeted Early Intervention Whole-School support for settings with higher numbers of pupils at risk of reduced timetables or permanent exclusion.
- ◆ SENDSAS remains committed to working closely with schools, DSPLs and partners to ensure its support continues to meet emerging needs and promote best practice across Hertfordshire.
- ◆ For further information, please contact Gemma Cannon Jones, Lead Teacher on Gemma.CannonJones@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Important changes to Rivers ESC Support for Primary Schools

- ◆ There is now a new team in place which will work across DSPL3&4. DSPL3 will be able to access in-reach (Little Rivers) as well as the usual outreach on offer (subject to capacity).
- ◆ Referrals can be made now, however the team will not be supporting until 30th September. There are 3 new referral forms available on the Rivers website - all of these must be completed and returned to:
poadmin@riversesc.herts.sch.uk. (Please note that referrals will not be accepted on the old form or to any other email address).

My Baby's Brain Training—Upcoming courses

- ◆ Free online training for professionals working with families and children aged 0-3 years.
- ◆ [Universal training](#)
- ◆ [Targeted training](#)

DSPL3

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(DSPL)

Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth,
Buntingford, Watton-at-Stone,
Hertford, and Ware

DSPL 3 Area Manager: Katie Algate
dspl3manager@amwell.herts.sch.uk

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Lead School:
[Amwell View School](#)
& [Specialist Sports College](#)

DSPL3 Website:
<https://www.dspl3.org.uk/>

Facebook: [DSPL3](#)

[Training, Courses and Workshops](#)

Useful Links:

Ask SALI
The SEND Advice Line for Inclusions
Call: 01438 843310 8.30am – 5pm
Monday to Friday.
Email: asksali@hertfordshire.gov.uk

[Mental Health Service Directory](#)

[NESSie](#)

**[Children and Young People's Speech
& Language Therapy Service](#)**
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01923 470 680, choose option 3,
then option 1 and leave a message.

[Hertfordshire Support Offer](#)



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Hertfordshire Induction for SENCOs

- ◆ HFL is offering a fully funded new-to-role SENCO Induction Programme introducing Hertfordshire SENCOs to local systems and support. It aims to build knowledge, expertise and confidence to strengthen inclusive practice and help every child achieve and thrive.
- ◆ To book onto the programme, please [click here](#)

CYPT Speech and Language Therapy Service

- ◆ From 13th July 2026, the CYPT Speech and Language Therapy Service will be launching updated referral guidelines and a new referral form.
- ◆ They have worked closely with Hertfordshire Parents Carers Involvement and school representatives to improve and simplify the referral process for schools.
- ◆ The updated guidelines:
 - ◇ Provide clearer information about when to refer a child or young person to Speech and Language Therapy, including age-specific referral criteria.
 - ◇ Outline the universal and targeted support and advice that should be accessed before making a referral.
 - ◇ Reflect the latest evidence-based practice
- ◆ Please [click here](#) to find the guidance and referral form.

My Teen Brain

- ◆ My Teen Brain is a 1-day CPD course for those working with parents of teenagers and/or working with teenagers in Hertfordshire. It includes ideas and strategies for professionals working with teenagers and their parents to help them cope with challenging feelings and behaviour and to support young people in an emotionally healthy context. For more information on how to book on to the course please email CSStrategic.Partnerships@hertfordshire.gov.uk
- ◆ If you are interested in booking on to the course, please ensure that you ONLY reserve your place if you have the capacity to attend the training on your preferred day and for the entire duration of the session, which is from 10am – 3pm.

[16th September 2026](#)

[7th October 2026](#)

[4th November 2026 \(link TBC\)](#)

- ◆ If you would like further information about the course or alternative dates, please email CSStrategic.Partnerships@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Reducing Parental Conflict

- ◆ The council provides a range of free resources and training to help professionals confidently support families experiencing inter parental conflict.
- ◆ [Dedicated webpage](#)
- ◆ [Recognising and Supporting Parents in Parental Conflict eLearning Module.](#)
- ◆ Attend the Families First Induction Sessions for an overview presentation email Families First Support to be added to the next induction session (FamiliesFirst.Support@hertfordshire.gov.uk)
- ◆ The OnePlusOne Getting on Better e-learning is a self-guided course designed to build practitioners' confidence in supporting parents to improve their relationships. [Click here](#) for more information

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Top Tips for TA's Training Day

- ◆ Thursday 24th September (online) 10:30am-2:30pm
- ◆ Fully Funded course for schools and comprises of six online webinars for TAs to attend live or book on and get the recording two days after the event
- ◆ To view the agenda, please [click here](#)
- ◆ To book, please [click here](#)

Free Online Courses

- ◆ We Find Any Learner are offering free online courses. Please click the posters below for more information
- ◆ Please [click here](#) to register your interest

FREE Awarding Body: NCFE / CACHE / TQCF Course Duration: 6 / 12 Weeks

Counselling Skills Level 2

Course Overview

Welcome to the Counselling Skills Level 2 course. This course will provide you with an introduction to the core counselling skills that can be used in a variety of settings and in other helping professions. This course will help you to effectively communicate with clients, build rapport, and create a safe and supportive environment.

What is the cost?

As a result of government funding, this qualification is currently offered at no cost. However, please note that the number of funded places can be limited. To ensure you secure your spot, we recommend booking early.

How do learners benefit?

In addition to learning the practical skills, you will also explore how counselling theory underpins the use of counselling skills. Understanding the theoretical principles behind counselling can help you to better apply the skills in practice and develop a deeper understanding of the client's needs.

This course will also cover the ethical framework that informs the use of counselling skills. You will learn about the importance of maintaining boundaries, confidentiality, and informed consent when working with clients.

Finally, the course will help you develop the skills and qualities necessary to be an effective counsellor. You will learn how to reflect on your practice, receive feedback, and develop your self-awareness. Whether you are new to counselling or looking to enhance your existing skills, this course will provide you with a solid foundation in counselling skills.

01226 958 888
www.wefindanylearner.co.uk
info@wefindanylearner.co.uk

WE FIND ANY LEARNER.co.uk

FREE Awarding Body: NCFE / CACHE / TQCF Course Duration: 6 / 12 Weeks

Understanding Autism Level 2

Course Overview

This Understanding Autism course covers the following topics:

- Sensory Processing: How individuals with autism sensory information, affecting their behaviour and communication.
- Characteristics: The social interaction and communication difficulties and repetitive behaviours or interests that may be present in individuals with autism.
- Co-existing Conditions: The common conditions that occur alongside autism, such as anxiety, ADHD, and generalised anxiety disorder.
- Misconceptions: The common misconceptions surrounding autism that can impact individuals with autism and their families.
- Speech, Language, and Communication: The communication difficulties that individuals with autism may experience, and how to support effective communication.
- Legal Frameworks: The legal frameworks that underpin support for individuals with autism, such as the Equality Act 2010 and guidance from organisations like the NICE.

Completing this course will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of autism and equip you with the knowledge to provide effective support.

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Mental Health First Aid Level 2

Course Overview

Welcome to the Mental Health First Aid Level 2 course. Designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills to support individuals with mental health issues, this course will explore the signs and symptoms of mental health problems, how to provide support, and how to refer individuals to appropriate services.

What is the cost?

As a result of government funding, this qualification is currently offered at no cost. However, please note that the number of funded places can be limited. To ensure you secure your spot, we recommend booking early.

How do learners benefit?

Taking the Mental Health First Aid Level 2 course will benefit learners by equipping them with the skills and knowledge to support individuals experiencing mental health difficulties.

By understanding the signs and symptoms of different mental health conditions, learners will be able to recognise when someone is in distress and provide appropriate support and signposting to resources.

The course will also cover how to create a mentally healthy environment and identify job factors that can impact an individual's mental health.

Overall, learners will develop a deeper understanding of mental health and feel more confident in their ability to support others, creating a more supportive and inclusive community.

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Step 2 Skills Courses

- ◆ Steps 2 Skills are offering a Level 2 fully funded Early Years course
- ◆ For more information, please [click here](#)

Funded by UK Government

STEP 2 SKILLS
PREPARE FOR SUCCESS IN HERTS

SKILLS FOR LIFE
SKILLS BOOTCAMPS

Early Years

FULLY FUNDED ACCREDITED COURSE

Scan the QR code or visit our website to get more details and apply:
www.step2skills.org.uk/SkillsBootcamps

01226 958 888
www.wefindanylearner.co.uk
info@wefindanylearner.co.uk

Skills for Life Bootcamps

Stable Learning
Horsework Caring for Confident Learning

FOUNDATION TO FLOURISH PACKAGE

1:1 THERAPEUTIC TUTORING
1:1 EMOTIONAL REGULATION SUPPORT
SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Our Foundation to Flourish package is a fully inclusive opportunity to help young people gain confidence, re-engage an interest in learning whilst helping them understand their emotions and build confidence via equine assisted support sessions.

WHATS included?

- 1:1 Therapeutic tutoring sessions in Maths and English
- 1:1 Emotional regulation support sessions
- Supported volunteering / work experience to build confidence and resilience
- Equine assisted sessions tailored to be accessible to all

How many hours per week?

x5 Hours per week in support of EOTAS packages

01226 958 888
www.stablelearning.co.uk
info@stablelearning.co.uk

Field 1, Waterhall Farm, Lower Hatfield Road, Hertford, SG13 8LE

Stable Learning Foundation to Flourish Package

- ◆ This is a fully inclusive opportunity to help young people gain confidence, re-engage an interest in learning whilst helping them understand their emotions and build confidence via equine assisted support sessions.
- ◆ For more information, please [click here](#)