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Education Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all your efforts and contributions this academic year and wish you a peaceful break. I also want to send my best wishes to those who are retiring or moving on to new challenges. A big thank you to you all.

It was lovely to see so many of you join us recently for our virtual Headteacher Briefing for the summer term. If you were unable to attend or would like to watch the briefing back on demand, you can do so via the following links: [WCF Headteacher Summer Term Briefing – 27 June 2024 \(Part One\)](#) and [WCF Headteacher Summer Term Briefing – 27 June 2024 \(Part Two\)](#).

Following the General Election last Thursday, it was confirmed on Friday 5th July that Bridget Phillipson MP has been appointed as Secretary of State for Education. She has written a [letter to all those working in early years, children's services, schools, further and higher education](#) to express her excitement to work with you to break down barriers to opportunity.

You are also invited to join the [live event taking place on Tuesday 16th July at 4pm](#) with the new Secretary of State where she will share her vision for education, children's services and skills, and through a live chat function you will be able to share your views too.

[The Department for Education has today \(8 July\) announced that it will immediately resume – and expand – its teacher recruitment campaign, Every Lesson Shapes a Life](#). It will also restart its further education recruitment campaign, Share Your Skills, to help deliver the government's pledge to recruit 6,500 new teachers. [Every Lesson Shapes a Life](#) directs potential candidates to the 'Get into Teaching' website, where they can access support and advice from teacher training advisers, a dedicated contact centre and a national programme of events.

And finally, congratulations to all pupils, staff, governors, parents and carers at The Beacon PRU, Redditch on your OPAL Platinum award. This is a significant achievement and recognises The Beacon's outdoor play provision as some of the very best in the country. For more information about OPAL and how they can help schools, please visit the [Outdoor Play And Learning website](#).

Wishing you all a restful summer.

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Latest staffing news and updates

In with the new...

Please see message below on behalf of Tina Russell.

The time has come for me to formally say a very fond farewell to Worcestershire as I leave the post of DCS on the 30th of June. Having spent the last seven years here in Worcestershire working closely with you as my education partners, particularly through the children's social care improvement journey and in the last three years as DCS and through COVID, I am grateful for your support and very proud of what we have achieved together.

Many of you will know Adam Johnston who, like me, has been with us since 2016 and has played a fundamental part in the improvement journey and the delivery of safeguarding services, so I'm pleased to let you know that Adam will be taking over DCS on the 1st of July.

I can also formally announce, my apologies that some of you will have heard this already through the grapevine, the departure too of our Director of All Age Disability Mel Barnett. We are pleased and proud that Mel has been appointed as a DCS in a new local authority and so will be leaving us mid-July. I'm sure you join me in passing on our congratulations and best wishes. Mel has been an exceptional driver for change and improvement and will be hard shoes to fill but filled them we have and I'm very pleased to announce that following a competitive process we have successfully appointed Daniela Carson as the new Director of All Age Disability. Daniela will take over from Mel so there will be a seamless handover to Daniela who will lead the All Age Disability and SEND improvement plan going forward.

Daniela will join Adam's senior leadership alongside Emma Brittain, Director for FFD, Early Help and Supporting Families/CIN, Sarah Wilkins, Director of Education and Early Years and Chris Bird, Interim Director of Resources, who continue to bring a great depth of professional skills, knowledge and experience to the leadership team who will lead WCF back into the council and continue to lead the delivery of our services and improvement plans.

A new organisational structure chart will be available for the start of the new term in September.

Latest attendance news and updates

Working together to improve school attendance

The new '[Working together to improve school attendance](#)' guidance is set to become mandatory from 19th August 2024.

Alongside the guidance is a handy summary table of responsibilities, both of which can be found at the link above.

The 10 key new attendance rules are covered in this useful [article from Schools Week](#).

This guidance and a variety of other key items including penalty notices will be covered in our half-day **Attendance Network Forum training session** on 23rd September, with sessions running in the morning and afternoon. A few spaces remain and can be booked via [WCF:CPD](#).

In line with national updates, Worcestershire's new **Penalty Notice Code of Conduct** will be issued shortly. Details will be covered in the sessions linked above and in specific training sessions in the new academic year (dates will be shared once confirmed).

Updates to the Children's Services Portal:

Over the summer holidays, we are making some changes to the Joiner, Leaver, Absence and Irregular Attendance, and Part Time Timetable and Flexi-Schooling Notification Forms. These include:

- 1) Changing the leaving reasons to reflect regulation 9 of the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024, applicable from 19th August 2024 – these are described in detail in the Working Together to Improve School Attendance Guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>)
- 2) Additional options to indicate a child's social care/early help status
- 3) Additional options on the Absence and Irregular Attendance Form to indicate health services involvement with a child.

Further information will be provided in the new academic year.

Also please can schools use their full DFE registered school name (or consistently use the same name) when completing the notification forms – abbreviations or multiple variations of spellings makes it difficult to organise and manage effectively.

School leavers - reminder to schools

As a statutory requirement all schools are expected to advise WCF of in-year leavers and choose an appropriate reason for de-rolling via the Children's Services Portal. The portal is the expected method of notifying the local authority of school leavers and should always be completed even if another service/team in the authority has also been advised. These notifications also need to include children who leave the school during the summer holidays due to changing schools (outside of normal transition), moving away/leaving the country, moving into the Independent sector, or where parents have chosen to Electively Home Educate (EHE).

Last year the Children's Commissioner contacted all local authorities to undertake an exercise in confirming children's destinations who were at a school in the January 2022 census but not in the January 2023 census. Whilst providing the data for this response, it became evident that Worcestershire children who have a change of circumstances during the summer holidays are the most likely not to be notified to us and as such, we are asking that if a school is aware of a child that has moved away/left the country, changed schools, entered the independent sector, or left to EHE during the recent (and future) summer holidays, a portal leaving notification is completed as soon as possible.

Please do not send notifications for children transitioning between phases unless the child is no longer transitioning to their expected/allocated school due to the reasons above.

Latest education news and updates

Edenred Portal access will be available for the Summer Holiday 2024

During the Summer Holiday, eligible students will receive free school meals through the voucher system provided by Edenred. Edenred is the council's contracted provider to issue free school meal vouchers for the school holidays, and no other platforms are authorised to issue them.

All vouchers issued during this period will have a validity period of **one month** from the date of delivery. Schools are instructed to issue vouchers only for the corresponding holiday period.

Schools will have access to the Edenred portal from **Monday 08 Jul 2024** until **Friday 06 Sep 2024**. This will allow a window for placing orders for the holiday.

Vouchers cannot exceed **£85** per eligible FSM pupil for the whole period.

Vouchers are **not available** for nursery age children or 6th form students (vouchers to be issued to years reception to year 11, providing the child is aged 4 and above after 31 Aug 23), and vouchers must not be ordered to replace term time meals.

You must use the WCC ordering site with your existing WCC account (22463), the login page can be accessed here: [Edenred Online Ordering](#)

Please ensure you have the correct recipient email address and that parent/carers are notified they will be in receipt of a voucher to ensure they are expecting it and do not leave vouchers to expire.

To help monitor the vouchers issued under this scheme please can you ensure you include the URN or UKPRN for the school when placing the order.

No voucher which has previously been ordered and expired can be re-issued by schools. For any queries regarding the re-issuing of vouchers please contact FSMHolidayVouchers@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

It is important to remind schools that as eligibility is linked to FSM status there maybe families who although have FSM status their circumstances have changed. This is a finite pot of government funding and with the government protection on FSM status, regardless of circumstance change, there are families that may no longer require the vouchers. Please ensure that vouchers are issued to those children and families who require the support and who are receiving FSM.

Below are lots of helpful links and guides to answer common questions and issues:

- Forgotten password – please reset your password using [password reset](#)
- Forgotten email address – contact FSMHolidayVouchers@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk and we will advise of the email address your account is set up with.
- Edenred [user guide](#) – including supermarket details and how to order.

- Order “pending” – you will need to agree to the terms and conditions and confirm your order for it to be processed.
- Order “held” – we will ensure any held orders are released.
- “Ordering window is closed” – please check you are logged into the correct portal. The DfE portal is closed, but the WCC portal is open.
- Redeem eCodes – Visit the Edenred [redeem eCodes webpage](#). Please note, we are unable to control which supermarkets you can redeem vouchers at.
- Once a voucher has been redeemed by a parent/carer, we are unable to assist with errors with the eCode itself. Queries will need to be directed either to the supermarket or Edenred. Please advise the parent/carer to check all the supporting information on their voucher email before raising a query.
- Parent/carer FAQ’s can be found here: [Parent Carer FAQs](#)

The [user guide](#) will answer many of your common questions and should be your first point of call for any queries. If after reading the user guide and links, you still need assistance then please contact FSMHolidayVouchers@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk where we will be happy to help you. Please be aware however that you will not receive an instant response as this inbox is one of many that are manned by our team. The fastest way therefore to resolve your issues will always be to read the guides and links in the majority of cases.

[Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme](#) at the County Council is available to signpost families to other local sources of support.

For support around the cost of living please signpost parents/carers to our [Cost of living support](#) webpage.

Early Years Inclusion Supplement Funding – Apply now for September 2024

Early Years Inclusion Funding Supplement deadline, for any new children for Autumn Term 24/25 applications, was 27th June 2024. If you have missed this, please do not worry. Please continue to submit up until 26th September 2024. We aim to give you confirmation of any funding awarded in advance of the term as soon as possible following your applications. All providers who have already applied, should now have received confirmation of inclusion supplement awarded for September.

[Access all Inclusion Supplement Applications online](#)

This funding is applied for once an academic year for children who receive NEF and once a term for any children who are too young to receive NEF. Payments received begin the term which you have applied for, and will continue for subsequent terms, until the end of that same academic year (unless you are completing the termly application). Payments will be received at the end of each term, in line with your NEF payments for each term, and will be shown on your NEF statements.

[Access Inclusion Funding Criteria](#)

The providers must:

- For both GR4 Challenge and Exceptional funding applications, the providers **must return the termly** Inclusion Supplement Monitoring form. There is no exception.
- The document is an online forms document only. No other version will be accepted without prior authorisation.
- These forms are **only available within a window each academic year.**
 - Autumn Term: 1st – 15th November
 - Spring Term: 1st – 15th February
 - Summer Term: 1st – 15th June
- [Access monitoring forms online](#)
- The aim of the monitoring process is to monitor the impact of the funding upon the child's progress in the **same term** of which you are completing it.
- **Failure to submit your monitoring form will result in funding being withheld.**

Exceptional Funding

Please note: We have had an increased number of providers choosing 'Exceptional Funding' when submitting their NEF 'Actuals', who have not applied and / or met criteria for Exceptional funding. Please be aware that exceptional funding requires an application form and criteria must be met. There are no exceptions. Failure to do so will result in no funding being awarded.

Any questions regarding Inclusion funding, please contact eyinclusion@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
Please give us your name, email address and telephone number for us to answer your queries.

Early Years Capital Funding

Worcestershire has been awarded approximately £850,000 of capital funding to support the expansion of funded Early Years provision. As previously communicated, we intend to open applications for capital funding in the Autumn Term. To enable you to start preparing your application, we are publishing the criteria and an outline of the process now.

Capital funding encompasses building work and the installation of fixed assets and equipment with a shelf life of more than one year and costing more than £500. It cannot fund running costs, routine maintenance or refurbishment of premises. Further information about the use of capital funding for the Childcare Expansion can be accessed via the following link.

[Download Childcare Expansion Capital Guidance](#)

Criteria

To be considered for capital funding, projects must:

- Create additional funded early years places
- Be in areas of Worcestershire where WCC/WCF have identified sufficiency risk/issue **or** provide places for families from an area with a sufficiency risk/issue, demonstrated through previous take-up of places
- Evidence high quality Early Years provision
- Evidence ongoing viability/sustainability
- Evidence good value for money

Application Process

An online application form will be published in September and will remain open for applications until Friday 25th October; this will be the only method of applying. All applications will be assessed before any decisions are made with consideration given to a variety of factors, including local sufficiency risk/issues, total cost of the project and the cost per place.

As part of the applications, the following information must be supplied:

- Minimum of 3 quotes for projects under £20,000 or 4 quotes for projects over £20,000
- Cash-Flow Forecast for the next 3 years (2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27)

All successful applications will be subject to a clawback agreement, the length of which will depend on the total funding awarded.

Support

If you want to discuss your proposal or need any support, please email EYCC@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.

Transforming Public Procurement

Procurement legislation is changing and as of 28th October 2024 there will be new rules that we have to adhere to, especially around transparency notices.

How procurement will change for some schools and trusts

Transforming Public Procurement will also have [implications for school buyers](#). Here are some key areas to consider before the new regulations come into force:

1. **Understanding the new procurement rules:** school buyers should familiarise themselves with the new procurement rules and guidelines outlined in the Act. This includes the revised tendering processes, evaluation criteria, and contract management practices.
2. **Taking a strategic approach:** the Act encourages a more strategic approach to procurement, moving beyond just compliance to prioritise value for money and long-term outcomes. School buyers are encouraged to develop clear procurement strategies aligned with school and trust objectives and consider social value factors.
3. **Engaging with suppliers:** effective communication and collaboration with suppliers will be crucial under the new Act. School buyers should foster open dialogue, provide clear procurement information, and encourage feedback from potential suppliers. [Get help buying for schools](#) can advise on how best to do this.
4. **Continuous learning:** the public procurement landscape is constantly evolving. Undertake the training available and engage with [school business professional peer networks](#) to discuss how you will prepare for and implement the changes.

If a maintained school has adopted the latest version of the model finance policy (September 2023) these have already taken into account these change and you will not need to make any changes.

Latest SEND news and updates

SENCo Network Events 2024/2525

Feedback received from SENCOs about the blended approach of virtual and face-to-face SENCO network events has been overwhelmingly positive. SENCOs have reported that they appreciate the shared space together to discuss topics pertinent to their role and problem-solve creative approaches to shared issues or experiences. SENCOs also fed back that information received from a range of partners provided them with updated information about services, guidance and met training needs which enabled them to feel confident in carrying out their role.

The blended approach to the SENCO network will continue in 2024/25 with FREE membership for all Worcestershire schools with the slight change that there will be two locality meetings each term for the North and South of the County (rather than 3 locality meetings). This change is based on feedback received regarding travel.

The 24/25 SENCO network will consist of the following events:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Autumn 1 | National and Local SEND updates
Tuesday 1st October 2024 3:30 – 5:00pm Virtual Meeting |
| Autumn 2 | Locality Meetings (North and South)
Monday 18th November or Tuesday 19th November 2024 1:00-4:00pm
Venues TBC |
| Spring 1 | National and Local SEND updates
Tuesday 4th February 2025 3:30-5:00pm Virtual Meeting |
| Spring 2 | Locality Meetings (North and South)
Monday 24th March or Tuesday 25th March 2025 1:00-4:00pm Venues TBC |
| Summer 1 | National and Local SEND updates
Tuesday 20th May 2025 3:30 – 5:00pm Virtual Meeting |
| Summer 2 | Inclusion Conference (fee payable)
Tuesday 24th June 2025 Venue TBC |

Once dates and venues have been finalised, schools will need to **book a place for individual event via the CPD Portal**. This will enable us to track membership and ensure venues are able to accommodate delegates.

Finalised dates, venues and further booking instructions will be provided early in the Autumn Term. We look forward to you joining us for this series of events!

SENCO Survey 2024

Worcestershire Children First are seeking the views of SENCOs from across Worcestershire to help us:

1. Understand your views of what support and CPD is on offer to ensure communication is clear, and getting to the right people
2. Establish what areas SENCOs are/are not engaging with (and why), to ensure we remove barriers to engagement
3. Understand the impact that the support & CPD has had on practice, so that we know that you are equipped to undertake your role, and what we are doing makes a difference for children and young people
4. Identify further areas of support/CPD required to inform our planning and future provision

Please take 10-15 minutes to complete this survey before Friday 25th July 2024.

<https://forms.office.com/r/NUcfa7Dfy1>

Latest health and wellbeing news and updates

Suicide Prevention: Free crisis intervention software for your students and staff

Death by suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death in young people worldwide. Over 20% of suicide cases in under 20s had a suicide-related search history (The Lancet and University of Manchester).

Ripple is an interceptive tool designed to present a visual prompt when a person searches for harmful keywords or phrases relating to the topic of self-harm or suicide. These phrases include any words or terminology which have been identified as displaying potentially damaging online content. It works alongside any filtering solution already in place without collecting data on your organisation or making your IT systems vulnerable to attack.

For more information and a video of how it works please visit the Ripple suicide prevention educators' area: [Educators - Ripple Suicide Prevention \(ripplesuicideprevention.com\)](https://ripplesuicideprevention.com)

For more information on Suicide Prevention, please visit our [Suicide Prevention](#) Page or [Self-Harm](#) page on our Inclusion in Educational Settings website.

Bereavement services: 2WISH

FAO: Senior Teachers, Welfare staff, PSHE Leads, Designated Safeguarding Leads

2WISH bereavement support services offer free support to anyone affected by a sudden or unexpected death of a child or young person (aged 25 and under). Immediate support, ongoing support, play therapy, peer support groups, family days out, counselling and more is offered for free by 2WISH. Their offer of free support includes professionals/staff too:

- **Networking meet ups**
- **Training**
- **Debriefing**
- **Counselling**

For more information please visit the website: [Home - 2 Wish](https://www.2wish.org.uk) or contact: info@2wish.org.uk

For support please contact: support@2wish.org.uk

Wellbeing & Emotional Support Teams (WEST)

As of January 2024, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust's Wellbeing & Emotional Support Teams (WEST) now provide services to 118 schools and colleges across Herefordshire & Worcestershire.

Please download the latest [WEST newsletter](#) for your information.

Free Drug And Alcohol Training For School Staff

Worcestershire Public Health have commissioned Hope UK to deliver free drug and alcohol training for school staff (teaching and non-teaching).

Worcestershire school feedback has been excellent including:

“Really informative, personal, tailored to our questions”

“Superb, really well planned, engaging delivery and resources”

“Perfect – very professional and knowledgeable”

The course aims and learning outcomes are based on the responses from Worcestershire schools and youth services, and the experience of Hope UK. The overall aim of this training is to equip professionals to better support young people, reducing the risk of them becoming involved in drugs, alcohol and criminality. Further details of the course content can be found at <https://hopeuk.org/wcc/>.

The training will be delivered in-person (two-hour session approximately) at your school site or location, at a time suitable for you. You are free to include all relevant staff, anyone you feel would benefit from this programme. Please note: We can deliver this just for your school or we (and you) can invite others to join you – please indicate this on the booking form.

If you would like to arrange to host a two-hour, face-to-face course at your school or organisation at a time that is convenient for your staff, please complete the online booking form at: <https://hopeuk.org/wcc-booking> or use the attached form and email to training@hopeuk.org.

There are a limited number of courses that can be delivered, and these must be between now and March 2025. Please make contact soon to book!

[Download Hope UK booking form](#)

Promoting and supporting integration and wellbeing of refugee children in schools

To mark World Day of Migrants and Refugees, the charity Caritas, in partnership with the Caritas Social Action Network, will be hosting a national webinar aimed at supporting schools as they welcome refugee children into their community.

The webinar will take place on Wednesday 25th September at 4pm.

The ‘Welcoming classrooms: Promoting and supporting integration and wellbeing of refugee children in schools’ online event will seek to equip school leaders, teachers and other staff with the knowledge, skills and resources to effectively support children who are refugees or seeking asylum.

Book your place at: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvd-grpjogGdDrSMYVpUh8Xj_sf3Qrko-k

Don't let bugs play on your mind

If your child is unwell, use the HANDi App to check their symptoms and get instant, NHS-approved medical advice.

Developed and approved by local Paediatric Consultants, the HANDi App provides expert advice on how best to manage the most common childhood illnesses, including:

- Diarrhoea and vomiting
- High temperature
- 'Chesty baby' illnesses, such as bronchiolitis, asthma and croup
- 'Chesty child' illnesses such as wheezing and asthma
- Abdominal pain
- Common newborn problems.

The app is free, and can be downloaded to any Apple or Android smartphone or tablet.

Why use HANDi?

HANDi is designed to help you know what to do when your child is unwell - whether that's looking after them at home, taking them to see a GP, using the NHS 111 service, or visiting an urgent care service.

If your child is unwell, HANDi will ask you questions about your child's condition to help you decide the best course of action - and with all the advice on HANDi developed and approved by local NHS paediatricians and other healthcare professionals, you can rest assured that you're getting the best possible advice.

For more information, to download the app and to hear from our Clinical Lead for Children and Young People, Dr Louise Bramble, please visit the website <https://www.hwics.org.uk/our-services/handi-app>

Design your Ugly Bug this summer!

As part of their 'Clean Hands, Safe Hands' campaign Worcestershire County Council's Public Health team are continuing to promote good handwashing. The team are asking schools to help encourage children to get creative and design their own 'ugly bug'. All the ugly bugs will feature on a gallery on the County Council's website and social media.

[Download the create your own ugly bug form](#)

All ugly bugs designs can be posted to Public Health, Worcestershire County Council, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP or digital copies can be emailed to PHcomms@worcestershire.gov.uk.

There are more resources such as activity packs, posters, and information on the following website: [Clean hands, safe hands \(Worcestershire County Council\)](#)

Giving your PSHE smoking prevention lessons impact

It is one thing delivering information and learning about smoking and the health harms, it is another delivering lessons that also prevent the uptake of smoking. The INTENT smoking prevention teaching resource is different to other programmes because it combines education **WITH** behaviour change methodology. It is evidence-based through extensive research, so **we know it works!**

To find out more about the resource and the programme you are invited to join a free 30 minute webinar delivered by the CEO of Evidence to Impact and ex teacher to find out more.

Evidence to Impact is a social enterprise that develops and delivers impact from research. They collaborate with academics to expand the reach and significance of their work, bridging the gap between research and the people who need it most.

INTENT School Information Sessions

16th July 3.30pm - 4pm: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/7d7d9310-52b2-4382-b0b5-5701511c3e53@d57f851b-e479-4be7-ba5b-fa4ea8cbd06d>

11th September 12.15pm - 12.45pm - <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ee4b8e36-09a9-4bd4-81fe-864a68d5b434@d57f851b-e479-4be7-ba5b-fa4ea8cbd06d>

Latest news from School Teaching Hubs

Prince Henry's Teaching School Hub

Initial Teacher Training

Please be reminded that all ITT mentors are expected to complete the 7-hour tier one training before September. Dates for this training are available on the websites of the University of Worcester, Stourport SCITT, Tudor Grange SCITT and Prince Henry's and South Worcestershire ITT.

ECF Update

For colleagues enrolled on the Prince Henry's ECF programme with Ambition Institute, please note the following upcoming dates for next academic year. Guidance to book onto the events will be sent out in due course.

Year 1 ECT Events:

Conference 1 – October 2024
Conference 2 – January 2025
Clinic 1 – 14th November 2024
Clinic 2 – 6th March 2025
Clinic 3 – 12th June 2025

Year 2 ECT Events:

Conference 3 – November 2024
Clinic 4 – 17th October 2024
Clinic 5 – 20th March 2025
Clinic 6 – 19th June 2025

ECT Mentor Events:

Conference 1 for Year 1 Mentors – 18th September 2024
Conference 2 for Year 1 Mentors – June / July 2025
Clinic 1 for Year 1 Mentors – 6th February 2025
Clinic 2 for Year 1 Mentors – 6th November 2024
Clinic 3 for Year 2 Mentors – 7th November 2024

AB Update

DfE registrations for the 2024-25 cohort are now open. Please follow the link below for guidance on how to register your ECTs with Prince Henry's TSH.

<https://www.princehenryshub.co.uk/registering-your-ect/>

If schools are unsure then please contact Andy Duffy, the Teaching School Hub Director, at ad@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk.

NPQ Update

In Autumn 2024, we will be running the following cohorts.

NPQH

NPQSL

NPQLBC

NPQLTD

There are a very limited number of funded spaces available for schools in the top 50% for PP funding. Please see our website for further details relating to funding.

<https://www.princehenryshub.co.uk/npq-2/>

If you are interested in the NPQ for SENCO, please contact tsh@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk

Tudor Grange Teaching School Hub

Appropriate Body

Reminder: it is a statutory requirement that ECTs are registered with an Appropriate Body for their induction and with the DfE to access their Early Career Framework. [Find out more here.](#)

Additionally, please ensure all ECT, mentor, induction tutor and head teacher details are up to date on ECT Manager where possible ahead of September.

NPQs

Applications for the Autumn 2024 cohort close on 24th September 2024.

They have a very limited number of fully-funded NPQ places left for the following courses (for those who are eligible): NPQ Leading Teaching, NPQ Leading Literacy, NPQ Leading Primary Mathematics.

Non-funded (paid) places are not currently capped for any NPQ course, and they are welcoming applications.

If you are not sure if you are eligible for a fully funded place, please get in touch at:

tsh@tgacademy.org.uk

If you are looking for a place on the NPQH, NPQSL or NPQEL courses, you might want to consider a [Leadership Apprenticeship with NPQ](#), covered by the apprenticeship levy.

For more information, please call Billie Stewart on 0121 703 8250.

Latest training news and conferences

Change of email address for training and conferences

To support our schools and settings and the team, we are streamlining our emails to provide an enhanced service. Therefore, from 25th August 2024, we will be stopping our use of our conferences@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk email address. Emails to this account will continue to be monitored and will be forwarded to our alternative address.

From now, you can email the Training and Conferences Team directly on workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk.

We are also still receiving emails on workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk however in advance of the return of Children's Services back in to the County Council, we have our new @worcestershire.gov.uk address ready to go.

Rachael and Charlotte in our Training and Conferences Team will respond to all queries via workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk and can be contacted on 01905 844420 or 01905 844030 if you require immediate support.

Supporting Children Who Cannot Attend School: A WCF Multi-Disciplinary Training

This is an exciting new approach to our previous Emotionally-Based School Non-Attendance Training (EBSN) with a broader focus on Children Who Cannot Attend School (CCAS).

This training will be predominantly delivered by the Educational Psychology Service over two days with guest speakers from a range of different teams involved in supporting children with a variety of needs that prevent them from attending school full-time or regularly, as well as those children who might be in school but still struggling to access all of the opportunities available within school.

Cost: 94.50 + VAT per delegate

- 23 October and 20 November 2024, 9.30am to 3.30pm, Worcester, course code: SCH 10502 / 90282

SENCo Leadership Development Programme

Our leadership programme has been designed and developed around the SEN Code of Practice, Ofsted Education Inspection Framework and evidence-based research to ensure schools are meeting their statutory duties and provide highly effective support for children and young people with SEND.

The programme will equip participants with skills to develop a more strategic approach to leading SEND/Inclusion. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on current practices and consider how approaches can be adapted to greater influence the quality of provision and develop a wholly inclusive culture.

This programme has been designed to provide practical support to SENCos/Inclusion Leaders in their role, to gain:

- a secure understanding of their leadership role and influence in developing whole school policy, practice and culture
- leadership knowledge, skills and confidence to engage purposefully with school leaders and wider partners and provide support and challenge to staff
- access to a range of practical tools, approaches and resources to implement the Graduated Response and monitor and evaluate the impact of provision on pupil outcomes
- an understanding of how the SENCo can drive improvement to address the local and national agenda to ensure high quality education for all

The Leadership Programme is designed to cater for all levels of experience, whether you are a member of the Inclusion Team, an aspiring SENCo, newly appointed SENCo or more experienced SENCo looking for a refresher course.

Cost: £350 + VAT per delegate

- **6 sessions:** 25 September, 07 October, 22 October, 05 November, 19 November and 03 December 2024
- Times: 9am to 12pm
- Location: Worcester
- CPD course code: 10287

Book your place on the above training via [WCF:CPD](#) using your school CPD leader login details. Confirmations are issued at the point of booking and go to the delegate email provided. If your school requires support when booking, please contact the training team on 01905 844 420 or email workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Other local news and events

Learning Services Worcestershire

On behalf of can you please share the following with your appropriate pupils, parents and carers.

Know someone 16-19* that is looking for a college/sixth form alternative?

Young Adult Learning Worcestershire (YAL) are accepting learners aged 16-19 (up to 24 with EHCP) now for their September term. YAL offer an alternative to sixth form/college with education programmes to support young people who are at risk of not being in education, training or employment. YAL offers a more relaxed and inclusive environment at their learning centres at Fairfield in Warndon, Worcester or at Willow Trees in Church Hill, Redditch.

Alongside gaining Maths and English grades if needed, study programmes include: Skills for Employment & Personal Development, Working in Hair & Beauty, Health & Social Care, Women's Hairdressing, Theatrical Media Makeup, Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools. There are also bespoke traineeship opportunities, as well as Supported Internship placements available within the NHS. For more information or an informal chat, parents/carers/learners can call **01905 728537** or email YoungAdultLearning@worcestershire.gov.uk

Ever thought about working in a school setting?

Adult Learning Worcestershire are offering the chance to gain a Teaching Assistant qualification via their Level 2 Certificate in Support Work in Schools course. This course will develop the knowledge and understanding that all those working in a school setting will need, covering areas such as; safeguarding, pupil welfare, positive behaviour management, learning, communication and understanding the school context. This course will provide learners with the skills required for a role such as a Teaching Assistant.

This weekly course starts in September for 35 weeks and will take place in 4 locations: Evesham Library, The Hive in Worcester, Droitwich Library, and Willow Trees Centre in Church Hill, Redditch. Each session is three hours and start times are (The Hive/Willow Trees) from 9.30am to 12.30pm or (Droitwich/Evesham) 10am to 1pm. For more details or to book your place search **Teaching Assistant** at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/courses or call **01905 728537**.

Get school ready with Worcestershire Libraries

Starting school is a significant milestone in a child's life, and it can be both exciting and daunting for parents and children alike. Libraries understand these challenges and are dedicated to helping families feel prepared and confident as they take this key step into 'big school.' Libraries offer Storytimes to enhance children's literacy and imagination, provide parents with reading guidance, provide information on establishing routines, offer non-fiction parenting books, Summer Reading Challenge for ages 4-11, and distribute special 'Get School Ready' packs.

Libraries play a crucial role in helping children socialise with others. They help to:

- foster the development of essential fine and gross motor skills
- enhance children's thinking and understanding of the world around them
- improve children's coordination and language abilities.

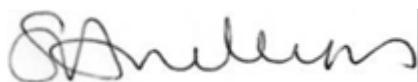
Discover how libraries are helping families feel prepared and confident as they take this key step into 'big school: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/worcestershire-libraries/read-and-discover/get-school-ready-worcestershire-libraries> or arrange a visit to [your local library](#).

Fostering information sessions for parents and carers

Our fostering team would love the opportunity to deliver short presentations at your school in the autumn term for any parents and carers considering fostering, keen to find out more or just looking.

The format would likely be an informal 30-45 minute session just before school pick up with refreshments and cake, an opportunity to ask questions, hear real life stories and meet those involved.

For more information and to express an interest in holding a session, please contact our Fostering Recruitment and Retention Lead, Joy Pollock via email at: JPollock@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk.



Sarah Wilkins
Director for Education, Early Years, Inclusion and Place Planning

