

SUPPORTING LEARNERS WITH SEND

In this leaflet you will find:

- Links and contact details to organisations to advise and assist you
- Social stories and children friendly news sites to help discuss COVID-19,
- Links aimed more specifically towards individual special needs, such as fine and gross, motor skills, dyslexia and autism spectrum disorder and more,
- Something for everyone! Links to websites offering a huge variety of fun home learning activities.

Hertfordshire's SEND Offer

Hertfordshire's website for families of young people aged 0 -25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), has a resources area where parents and families can find materials and resources they can use to help their child learn key skills. The resources area specifically looks to support those families whose child has an additional need, but it can be used by any family, and may have certain educational activities that can help any pupil to develop a skill they may be struggling with.

The resources area includes:

- Activity sheets and ideas provided by the Specific Learning Difficulties team, which can help progress in key areas including writing, memory, numbers and spelling
- Practical help for children who are struggling with their mental health, either as a result of COVID19 or more generally
- Help with explaining COVID-19 to younger children and young people with autism, including social stories and easy read documents
- Materials which help young people to develop their independence, including cooking activities
- Lots of fun ideas for your children to do independently or as a family at home to encourage them to explore and use their imagination

Advice and Support

The local SEND offer has a **SEND Specialist Advice and Support Line** which runs every day between 10am-2pm during school term-time with either an Educational Psychologist or Specialist Advisory Teacher to speak to.

Telephone 01442 453920. They also have a comprehensive range of resources to explore on their [website](#).

Educational Psychology Service

if you wish to contact an Educational Psychologist about a child or young person's development, learning or emotional wellbeing. This line is available Monday-Friday 2pm-4.30pm. Telephone 01992 588574

DSPL9, (Delivering Specialist Provision Locally)

Visit their website providing links local advice.

<http://dsplarea9.org.uk/coronavirus-resources-for-parents-and-carers/>

Contact

The charity for families with disabled children has advice covering benefits, social care as well as educational advice. <https://www.contact.org.uk/>

Your School Support Line

If you are worried about the Mental Health and Wellbeing of you or your family, if you require support and advice about your child's behaviour at home or if you are isolated and need a familiar person to talk to we have provided a dedicated phone number for each school which will be operating Monday to Friday from 9.00am until 5.00pm.

Please send a text with your name and the name of your child/children. Staff will respond to the text by calling you back within 24 hours. Where a text is received on a Friday, expect to be called the following Monday. If it is urgent and you need a quicker response, please type URGENT at the beginning of the text. Thank you to our amazing Pastoral Leads who have set this great service up.

Beechfield - 07535 177903

Cherry Tree - 07535 177 881

Laurance Haines - 07960 014104

Resources

Use the code CVDTWINKLHELPS for free access to all the activities on Twinkl
<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/send-school-closure-home-learning-resource-pack-t-s-2548769>

Audible has free audible books for children (no subscription or personal details needed):

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Food and craft ideas in:

<https://www.highlightskids.com/activities>

Social Stories

Social stories are a way to discuss a particular need in a child friendly and positive way. They often have pictures or images to make them clear to the child. Here are some that have been written about COVID-19 which can help you to answer questions your children may ask you. Please read through the stories before you decide which one to share with your child to ensure it is right for you

[Coronavirus school closure story, how will this affect me.](#) (Hertfordshire.gov.uk)

[Pandemics and the Coronavirus](#) (carolgraysocialstories.com)

[Covid-19 FAQ's for kids](#) (riseandshine.childrensnational.org)

[Coronavirus Social Story](#) (theautismeducator.ie)

[Coronavirus Social Story](#) (sccoe.org)

[Coronavirus Social Story](#) (paautism.org)

Additionally, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround> provides a child friendly presentation of the news.

Links for Autism Spectrum Disorder and Sensory Needs

The following are a variety of links which may be beneficial for children with ASD and sensory needs:

Transition:

<http://dsplarea9.org.uk/download/managing-the-transition-to-home-schooling/>

Below is a school closure toolkit from Easterseals school with useful picture cards to make your own now/next boards or visual timetables for planning your day.

https://qrcgcustomers.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/account4876975/6552095_2.pdf?0.11589340381807767

Apps for use on I pads:

<http://www.brainparade.com/products/see-touch-learn-free/>

<https://www.helpkidzlearn.com/>

<https://www.sensoryapphouse.com/>

<https://www.visuals2go.com/>

Get Active!

There are lots of ideas in the Activities for All section to keep you busy, including cookery, gardening and indoor activities. Here's a couple of movement sites:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga/Videos>

<https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html>

ASD - Social Communication

Autism.org website has a number of resources and videos to help you, these are links to just a few:

https://www.autism.org.uk/~media/nas/get-involved/waaw/2020/school-resources-2020/nas_ey%20resource%20daisyandollie_20200302.ashx?la=en-gb

https://www.autism.org.uk/~media/nas/get-involved/waaw/2020/school-resources-2020/nas_primary%20activities_final_20200302_3.ashx?la=en-gb

<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/family-life/parents-carers.aspx>

<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/strategies/social-stories-comic-strips.aspx>

Makaton signing

The BBC Something Special programmes on CBeebies are a fun way to learn the Makaton signs. There are lots of programmes featuring Mr Tumble to choose from on the BBC IPlayer. Here's a taster:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/playlist-something-special-really-useful-makaton-signs>

If you prefer there is some of this content on YouTube.

Sensory Needs

A useful guide to activities:

<https://inclusiveteach.com/2019/05/13/the-a-z-of-sensory-learning-activities/>

Pass through the adverts, there's some great ideas in:

[https://busytoddler.com/2020/03/indoor-activities/?](https://busytoddler.com/2020/03/indoor-activities/?fbclid=IwAR3tYXAqw7tJRAzLExpPcJo4rApLsKtgLOAwghzxgnhwOajc4auX6o12_xw)

[fbclid=IwAR3tYXAqw7tJRAzLExpPcJo4rApLsKtgLOAwghzxgnhwOajc4auX6o12_xw](https://busytoddler.com/2020/03/indoor-activities/?fbclid=IwAR3tYXAqw7tJRAzLExpPcJo4rApLsKtgLOAwghzxgnhwOajc4auX6o12_xw)

Squishy Play ideas in:

<https://www.learning4kids.net/list-of-sensory-play-ideas/>

Dough disco!:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3K-CQrjI0uY>

Sensory Processing

Understood.org has some interesting articles about children's sensory processing needs. This is some activities to try:

-

www.understood.org/en/learning-thinking-differences/child-learning-disabilities/sensory-processing-issues/heavy-work-activities

ADHD

Transition to home learning:

<http://dsplarea9.org.uk/download/managing-the-transition-to-home-schooling/>

ADDers.org is a charity raising awareness around ADHD and ADD, here is some advice from their website.

<http://www.adders.org/info79.htm>

<http://www.adders.org/info58.htm>

Speech and Language Difficulties

The Local Offer website has a variety of useful resources for Speech and Language including these:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/media-library/documents/resource-area-documents/spld-phonological-skills-rhyming-pictures.pdf>

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/media-library/documents/resource-area-documents/supporting-your-child-with-reading-difficulties-at-home.pdf>

The Communication Trust is a coalition of over 50 not-for-profit organisations. They support everyone who works with children and young people in England to support their speech, language and communication.

<https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/resources/resources/resources-for-parents/>

Chatterpack is a site with a lot of links to resources, you may wish to refer to your teacher or your Speech and Language Therapist's Plan before choosing your activities.

<https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-free-speech-language-communication-and-send-resources-for-schools-and-parent-carers>

NHS Speech and Language Drop-in clinics

The NHS Speech and Language Service have had to suspend their drop-in speech and language therapy clinics for the foreseeable future. All their therapists who run these clinics are being redeployed to support the local NHS response to Covid-19 pandemic. You can still contact their advice line for support on **01992 823093**. This line is open to parents, carers and professionals who have a query about speech and language support.

Dyslexia

The local SEND offer page gives you lots of resources:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/resources-for-parents-and-professionals/send-documents-and-resources.aspx?searchInput=&page=1&resultsPerPage=10&view=card>

Shaded lines paper guides to improve handwriting skills:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/media-library/documents/resource-area-documents/spld-handwriting-and-writing-shaded-lines-paper-blue-narrow.pdf>

For children in Early Years or at KS1 literacy level

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>

Use the code CVDTWINKLHELPS for free access to all the activities on Twinkl

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/send-school-closure-home-learning-resource-pack-t-s-2548769>

Can't or won't read books? Audible has free audible books for children (no subscription or personal details needed):

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Phonics help

<https://new.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

British Dyslexia Association

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/how-can-i-support-my-child>

Supporting your child with reading and spelling difficulties, this is a collection of games to play focusing on phonic sounds.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/nzl3codxoyio081/Phonic%20games%20and%20activities%20E%20C%20free%20resources%20March%202020.pdf?dl=0>

Dyspraxia, gross motor skills and fine motor skills

Do look at the general section as well for lots of ideas for creative activities and physical movement.

An NHS guide to movement, gross and fine motor skills:

https://www.lincolnshirecommunityhealthservices.nhs.uk/application/files/2915/2285/5110/1st_Move.pdf

Yoga for kids:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga/Videos>

Shaded paper guides to improve handwriting skills:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/media-library/documents/resource-area-documents/spld-handwriting-and-writing-shaded-lines-paper-blue-narrow.pdf>

The Dyspraxia Foundation website:

<https://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/>

Dough Disco! A fun way to develop finger strength:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3K-CQrj10uY>

The local SEND offer has a number of resources to help with handwriting:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/resources-for-parents-and-professionals/send-documents-and-resources.aspx?searchInput=&page=1&resultsPerPage=10&view=card>

IMAT | *Inclusive*
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

