



Telford & Wrekin  
Co-operative Council

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# Telford & Wrekin Local Offer **Newsletter**



## SEND Newsletter July 2024

Discover all the current news and information  
about Special Educational Needs and Disability in  
Telford & Wrekin

### Welcome from the SEND & Alternative Provision, Interim, Service Delivery Manager

Hello, and welcome to our SEND newsletter.

I hope your summer term is progressing well and that you are looking forward to a well-deserved rest when the summer holidays finally arrive.

I have enjoyed a busy and eventful term in the interim position as Service Delivery Manager for SEND. I have particularly valued the opportunity to visit schools and groups of teachers and headteachers, thank you for the valuable conversations to help shape our vision for SEND moving forward.

I have been heartened by some amazing examples of support in mainstream schools for our young people. In particular, we heard of some great work in schools at the SENCo Network Meeting and how making modifications to meet the needs of individual children has led to changes in whole school practice to benefit all children.

We have also opened the dialogue about how we can work together to redistribute resources and support to build on this great work in place across

schools. In this newsletter we have highlighted some of the changes to the Inclusive Schools Forum which provides one of the mechanisms to redirect resources into schools. I would also like to remind you of the deadline of 12th July for any requests for Fair Share Funding.

There is always so much information that we need to share with you; some of this month's highlights include:

Sharing a proud moment of celebration with you, marking an outstanding first year for Jordan Lee-Haldron at Telford College, the deserving winner of the High Sheriff of Shropshire award for Outstanding Young Citizen. Congratulations Jordan, thank you for being a fantastic role model.

**Save the dates.** For next terms Inclusive School Forum, SENCo network meetings for next academic year. Transport updates and there are many CPD and training courses available for you.

It is wonderful to hear that **Cycling Is about to Become More Inclusive** in Telford and Wrekin and we have new **Youth Clubs** open for our young people to enjoy in Randlay.

*At the last SENCo Network Meeting we asked you for feedback from our questionnaire on the SEND Newsletter and Network meetings. Thank you to those of you who completed this, there is still an opportunity to complete it up to end of July 2024, please use the QR code on the Network meeting slides, below. There were some exiting ideas suggested that we will take on board.*

### **Andy Cooke**

Interim Service Delivery Manager

SEND & Alternative Provision

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## Outstanding achiever celebrations

Jordan Lee-Haldron at Telford College

Jordan, who is profoundly deaf, is studying on the Prince's Trust programme. He has now completed his first year of college and is described as a fantastic role model. Jordan has made huge strides in his confidence, joining clubs, and becoming an independent learner. Everyone is proud of his approach and attitude to learning. He hasn't allowed his profound deafness to prevent him from embracing all aspects of college life and was the deserving winner of the High Sheriff of Shropshire award for Outstanding Young Citizen.

Outside of college Jordan has become an important and popular member of the local community, volunteering as 'Mawley the Lawley Mole', a community mascot who attends local events in support of local projects. He has attended community safety events, festive celebrations and other local festivals. He also teaches line dancing with his family at the Lawley Village Line Dance Club, encouraging people from his local area to meet new people, learn a new skill and have lots of fun.

Jordan is going on to study for a Level 2 Art and Design Diploma in September, and we wish him the very best of luck with his studies.



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# Inclusive School Forum

2024-25 paperwork and further information on ISF is on Telford and Wrekin Local Offer page, link below.

## Next Academic Year

**New for 2024-25 from September there will be a new Secondary ISF panel, led by Secondary SENCOs. This will be opportunity to for secondary schools to come for guidance, resources and request outreach support from Southall school.**

The Inclusive School Forum is a school led forum within Telford and Wrekin that provides support and challenge to mainstream schools regarding the provision and practice they deliver for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). It aims to provide an opportunity to network and deliver peer to peer guidance. The focus is, through **sharing best practice**, to develop an inclusive education system within Telford and Wrekin whereby children with increasingly complex needs achieve and succeed within mainstream schools.

A key function of the forum will be to support a school's delivery of its graduated approach, through assess, plan, do and review cycles. To enable schools to intervene early and with pace, the forum has an allocation of high need top up funding (to be known as Additional Inclusion Funding or AIF) from the Local Authority which can be accessed where criteria is met and documentation required has been completed. An Education Health and Care Plan will not be required to access AIF funding.

The Inclusive School Forum has been developed in response to the views of Telford and Wrekin Schools.

Forum will meet on the first Tuesday of every month during term time. Where this is not possible, due to a school holiday for example, forum will meet on the first Tuesday of the new term/half term.

The dates for next term are:

Date of Secondary forum	Time	Venue	Papers due in
Thursday 17th October 2025	9am - 1pm	Charlton School	Thursday 3rd October 2025

Thursday 12th December 2025	9am - 1pm	Telford Langley	Thursday 28th November 2025
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Date of Primary forum	Time	Venue	Papers due in
10 September 2024	9am - 1pm	MS Teams	03 September 2024
01 October 2024	9am - 1pm	MS Teams	24 September 2024
05 November 2024	9am - 1pm	MS Teams	29 October 2024
03 December 2024	9am - 1pm	MS Teams	26 November 2024

[Read more here](#)

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## Education Health and Care Plans

### Thinking of requesting an EHC assessment?

With regard to any possible new EHC need assessment requests we ask that all educational settings first discuss these with your allocated SEND officer before starting an application. They will work with you to discuss how best to get SEND support and provision in place for children and young people.

**Thank you for your support.**

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## SENCo Network meetings and workshops.

## SENCo Network Meetings

### Save the dates...

SENCo Network Meetings are an opportunity to find out the latest information from SEND 0-25, to network and to provide and receive support from other professionals.

They are an opportunity for SENCo's, senior and middle leaders from primary, secondary and specialist maintained schools to share collaborative working, best practice, policy changes and good news stories of how we all can make a difference to Children & Young People living in Telford & Wrekin.

[Read more here](#)

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## Sensory Inclusion Service

### Transition request

As you know this is an important time for CYP who are transitioning either to primary, secondary, or further education. There may also be CYP moving settings who will also benefit from transition support.

**It is important for settings to liaise with SIS to discuss transition.** It may be that some CYP require a lot more input than others with regards to transition support. Teacher of the Deaf and Qualified Teacher of the Visually Impaired, can advise around what would be most appropriate for CYP with a hearing loss, visual impairment or for those with a multi-sensory impairment.

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## School & Post 16 Travel Assistance update

*Telford & Wrekin Council looks to parents and carers to make arrangements for their (child)ren and young people to travel safely to their allocated school and/or post 16 provider, where possible.*

*If you are unable to transport your child or young person and you meet eligibility criteria listed on the [council's website](#), the council can provide travel assistance.*

If you have applied for transport.

***When will travel arrangements be in place?***

*The council aims put travel arrangements in place by the start of the new term, however, they can only start making arrangements after all applications were received. You will receive notification of travel arrangements before the start of the new term.*

***If my child/young person already have travel assistance do I need to re-apply?***

*You only need to re-apply in the following circumstances:*

*If you have moved house since you initially applied or your child is moving school, as your eligibility could have changed.*

*Parents/carers for children over the age of 16 must re-apply for assisted travel every academic year. If you received travel assistance for your young person in a post 16 setting this year you will be notified this by email.*

If you have created an account and submitted your application, you will receive regular notifications on your application progress, you can log on at any point to see the progress. If you need support, please call 01952 384545 (Monday to Friday, 7.15am-5pm).

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## SEND and AP Change Programme

### July update

**Get involved in testing the reforms.** Further information is available on the Local Offer SEND and AP Change programme page: [SEND and AP Change Programme - SEND - Local offer \(telfordsend.org.uk\)](#)

### Learning Lunches

We are launching some virtual 'Learning Lunches' to keep Schools, Post-16 providers and Early Years settings up to date with progress on each of the reforms being tested as part of the SEND and AP Change Programme. Each session will focus on a different theme/reform which will be advertised on this page prior to the event. The sessions will be fortnightly this term and will move

to monthly from September. So grab your lunch and join us for key updates around the reforms.

Date	Time and Venue	Theme
Tuesday 24th September 2024	12.30 – 1.00pm, MS Teams	Early Language Support for Every Child (ELSEC)

To book your place at these learning lunch sessions, simply send an email to [cpdschoolimprovement@telford.gov.uk](mailto:cpdschoolimprovement@telford.gov.uk), stating your name, school/setting name, email address and the date of the session you wish to attend. As these sessions are free of charge there is no need to send a completed CPD booking form on this occasion.

The link on the local offer for updates is below.

[Read more here](#)

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## SEND CPD Opportunities

### New mandatory qualification for SENCOs

Following on from the new National Professional Qualification for

SEN Co-Ordinators as the mandatory SENDCO qualification, take a look at this communications toolkit which contains more information to help you!

**There is also a wide range of Telford and Wrekin CPD training session now available.**

[Read more here](#)

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# Health

The Children's occupational Therapy Team have enhanced their sensory information.

**Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust have recently developed their universal support for sensory processing difficulties.**

The children's OT team have developed a video called 'Introduction to Sensory Processing'. This video may be helpful for parents/carers and professionals is offered at a Universal level.

When parents access the above page, they can watch the video and there is an offer of further support through a live webinar with the Children's Occupational Therapy team. Instructions are given, on how to book onto a live webinar, should this be required. The live webinar is only open to Telford and Shropshire based families. For further information see link below.

The Children's [Occupational Therapy telephone advice](#) line remains open as before – however, it is advised that parents wishing to find out more about sensory processing should access the sensory video in the first instance.

Email: [shropcom.OT4kids@nhs.net](mailto:shropcom.OT4kids@nhs.net) for advice, however it is recommended that the video is a good starting point for support.

**Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust have also recently developed an information video about what to expect at your child's Multi-Disciplinary Assessment (MDA)** - this short video shares information about where to park, how to access the building and different rooms you might visit. [What to expect at your child's Multi Disciplinary Assessment \(MDA\) - YouTube](#)"

[How to book onto a live webinar with OT](#)

## Children's Occupational Therapy

**Advice Line:** 01743 450800

E-mail: [shropcom.OT4kids@nhs.net](mailto:shropcom.OT4kids@nhs.net)

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## Update from BeeU regarding changes to referral forms for Autism and ADHD assessments

BeeU have recently amended their referral forms for Autism and ADHD assessments. If you are referring a child or young person please complete the new forms which are specific to those assessment pathways. A different referral form should be used to access the Mental Health Pathway. BeeU are hoping to attend a SENCO network meeting in the near future to talk through these changes. Please access via link below.

[Read more here](#)

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## Cycling is about to become more inclusive in Telford and Wrekin.

This July the council are launching 13 brand-new adaptive bikes which will be available to hire from Telford Bike Hub in Telford Town Park– just in time for the summer holidays!

With the aim of making cycling more accessible for everyone in the borough the new range of bikes are for both young people and adults with a variety of learning and physical disabilities, as well as health issues.

The new fleet will be used for a variety of activities including helping more children complete the #10by10 programme.

Telford and Wrekin residents are invited to come to the launch event (below) and have a look what's on offer and talk to the Travel Telford about how these new bikes could be used.

**When:** Saturday 20 July - 11am until 4pm

**Where:** Telford Bike Hub (in Telford Town Park) next to the Visitor Centre

[Read more here](#)



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## Parents Opening Doors (PODS)

### [PODS Parent Carer Forum](#)

PODS Parent Carer Forum is the formally recognised, independent peer-led organisation, founded in 2008, representing and involving families of Children and Young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25years.

The forum is led by Jayne Stevens, our Strategic Co-ordinator, and founder of the Parent Carer Forum. She is supported by a team of volunteer Parent Reps.

PODS, Parent Carer Forum, represent parents and carers from early years, primary, secondary, young adults up to the age of 25 who have a disability, or an additional need.

We gather the views, wishes, feelings and experiences of local parent carers – about the services they access, or would like to, or need to, highlighting opportunities and gaps. Also experiences around their needs and diagnosis, whether this be assessment, diagnosis journey, post diagnosis – we know the importance of sharing experiences and the need for support through the whole journey.

We support parent carers, to ensure they have a voice where it matters most. We aim to improve services that lead to better outcomes and life experiences for their children, young people and wider parent carers. We work in partnership with strategic and senior managers at our Local Authority, where parent carer voice can have the most influence overall, and at a more local and

individual level with schools and services they access directly. For more information -

**Get in Touch with Jayne directly at [jayne@podstelford.org](mailto:jayne@podstelford.org) or 0777 534 2092**



[Read more here](#)

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## Youth Club

### Randlay Community Centre

Barnardo's have set up some youth clubs at Randlay Community Centre on Thursday/Friday's 3.30-5.30PM

[Read more here](#)

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## Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Discover all you need to know about education, health and care services in Telford & Wrekin.  
[www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)

Find clear and accessible SEN advice, information and support on:

Leisure, fun and short breaks activities  
How schools support SEN  
Specialist services  
Personal Budgets  
Travel Assistance  
Health Services



Mental Health and Wellbeing  
Social care  
Preparing for Adulthood  
FAQ's for Parent Carers and Families  
SEND Newsletters  
Local offer for Young People



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