

Dear Parent/Carers,

In this DSPL8 Parent/Carers Communication please find the following:

Course/Support	Booking Link/Website
Share your views and experience to support an animation for parents/carers who need guidance on where to access support for children, young people and their families who are living with ADHD and/or Autism.	Email - kate@hertsparentcarers.org.uk
SEND Surgery – 27.01.2022	www.dspl8.eventbrite.com
Parent Representative Vacancies for DSPL8 Board/Autism Sub Group	Email – masonr@kls.herts.sch.uk
Young People's Health Wellbeing Survey	https://www.hertshealthevidence.org/yphws/yphws.aspx

Please also view the most recent Dacorum Parent/Carers Courses and Support PDF for local updates. Both documents can be downloaded from our website, via the following link: <http://www.dacorumdspl.org.uk/online-resources-for-parents-and-carers-2/>

Stay safe and take care,

DSPL 8 Team – Carole Hassell, Ruth Mason & Ashley Fabray

Website: www.dacorumdspl.org.uk

Email: dspl@kls.herts.sch.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dspldacorum

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum/

Share your views and experience to support an animation for parents/carers who need guidance on where to access support for children, young people and their families who are living with ADHD and/or Autism.



If you think you could contribute to this work - please do sign up! We'd love to have as many views and experiences represented as possible... ✨

HPCI are working with the Local Authority and the NHS as they put together an animation for parents/carers who need guidance on where to access support for children, young people and their families who are living with ADHD

If you would like to register for our mailing list, or be removed, please email dspl@kls.herts.sch.uk

and/or Autism. They are keen to address some of the myths around support and so would like to give you the opportunity to contribute your views and experiences. Ideally, they are looking for parents/carers who are early on in their journey.



- Has your child been recently diagnosed with ADHD or Autism?
- Do you suspect your child to have ADHD or Autism?
- Are you unsure where you can access support for your child's neurodiverse needs?
- Are there myths that you have been told that has prevented you from accessing support or getting a diagnosis for your child?
- Are you early on in your journey and keen to learn more about the Hertfordshire support pathway that is currently accessible to families and children with neurodiverse needs?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, then please come and join us on Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 10.30am - 12.30pm (via Zoom), where you will have the opportunity in small groups to share your experiences, views and expectations, all of which will contribute towards the new animation project.

If you are interested, please send an email to kate@hertsparentcarers.org.uk and let me have your name, email address, your child's age and whether your child does or does not have a diagnosis.

SEND Surgery – 27th January 2022

Booking Link - www.dspl8.eventbrite.com

SEND Surgery
Thursday 27th January 2022

Dacorum Family Services North & East are offering a 30 minute session with our SEND School Family Workers to answer questions and to offer support and signposting for parents/carers of children with additional needs.

Topics for discussion:

- Strategies to help support your child at home with challenging behaviour
- EHCP queries
- Liaising with schools and other professionals
- Navigating the SEND world

To book, please go to www.dspl8.eventbrite.com and choose a 30 minute session, providing details of the topic that you would like to cover.

Dates are released termly on Eventbrite.

The SEND Surgeries will be held with
Sam Leenders and Nicola Long, SEND School Family Workers

Surgeries may be held either by phone or Zoom/Teams. We will be in touch once your session has been confirmed

Note: At present these surgeries can only be offered to parents/carers of those children/young people who attend a DFS North & East Partnership School:

St Albert the Great, Adeyfield, Aldbury, Ashlyns, Astley Cooper, Aycliffe Drive, Belswains, Brockwood, Chambersbury, Bishop Wood, Bridgewater, Broadfield, DESC, Dundale, Flamstead, Gaddesden Row, Goldfield, Great Gaddesden, Greenway, Grove Road, Hammond, Haywood Grove, Hobbs Hill Wood, Hobletts Manor Infant, Hobletts Manor Junior, Holtsmere End Infants, Holtsmere End Junior, Jupiter, Leverstock Green, Lime Walk, Longdean, Little Gaddesden, Long Marston, Maple Grove, Markyate, Potten End, Reddings, Roman Fields, St Bartholomews, St Mary's, St Thomas More, Swing Gate, The Thomas Coram, Tring, Tudor, Victoria, Westfield, Woodfield School, Yewtree

Parent Representative Vacancies for DSPL8 Board and Autism Sub Group

Email – masonr@kls.herts.sch.uk

Parent Representative Vacancies for DSPL8 Board and Autism Sub Group



Do you have a child / children with SEN in schools in Dacorum?
Do you have ideas about how schools could support children with SEN?

We have two vacancies for parents on our Autism sub group and full DSPL8 Board.

These groups support planning how DSPL provide support to schools and parents in our area.

The Autism sub group meets once a term on a Thursday morning.

The DSPL8 Board meets twice a term on a Wednesday morning.


Full training from HCPI is provided and funding allowance to cover your time and/or childcare is available.

DSPL 8 Parent Representatives also meet once a term to support each other.


For more information, contact Ruth Mason: masonr@kls.herts.sch.uk

Young People's Health Wellbeing Survey

Survey Link: <https://www.hertshealthevidence.org/yphws/yphws.aspx>




Young People's Health & Wellbeing Survey




In November Hertfordshire County Council and partners are running a **20 minute anonymous online** survey across secondary school aged pupils in the county to help us plan services and support for young people. This is the second year of running the survey after a successful run in 2020 with nearly 13,000 responses.

The link to the survey can be found below. The survey will go 'live' at 9am Monday 22nd November, and close on Friday 17th December. A reminder will be sent to schools.




For more information please contact yphws@hertfordshire.gov.uk



wellbeing
lifestyle
mental health
safety
education



#JUSTTALK



www.hertshealthevidence.org/yphws

DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support – Spring Term 2022

DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support 2021-22

Please find below the support available to parent/carers of a child with SEND who attends a school or resides in Dacorum

Spring 2022 Term

ADD-vance Mini Consultation		12.01.2022 01.02.2022 03.03.2022 30.03.2022	10.00-11:30 19:00-20:30 10.00-11:30 10.00-11:30	Online (see booking link below) You will receive an online meeting link directly from ADD-vance
SEND Surgeries		Thursday's 27.01.2022 24.03.2022	09:30-12:30	Online (see booking link below)
Compassion & Resilience - 3 week course By Bounce Forward		25.01.2022- 08.02.2022	11:00-12:00	Online Booking Link: https://bounceforward.com/compassion-and-resilience/

ADD-vance Mini Consultation

Free mini consultations for parent/carers in Dacorum. Facilitated by ADHD/Autism Specialist Coaches from ADD-vance. DSP18 will be funding ½ hour individual sessions for parents of children with ADHD and/or Autism (diagnosed or suspected). This session will be with a trained ADD-vance coach to address one issue in your family life you would like advice or support on. The session will take place over Zoom. **Dates are released termly on Eventbrite. Book a 30 minute session at [Eventbrite: www.dsp18.eventbrite.com](https://www.dsp18.eventbrite.com)**

SEND Surgeries

Dacorum Family Services North & East: are offering a 30 minute session with our SEND School Family Workers to answer questions and to offer support and signposting for parents/carers of children with additional needs. To book, please go to www.dspl8.eventbrite.com and choose a 30 minute session, providing details of the topic that you would like to cover. Dates are released termly on Eventbrite.

Gade support School Family Support and Kings Langley Partnership: our Partnership has a specialist Family Support worker who works with families of children with SEND. We will support parents in school and with parents at home, will provide practical advice, guidance and support on all aspects of SEND. We offer SEND surgeries in our community offices and these can be booked by contacting your school and requesting support.

See the end of the document for a list of schools in each Partnership.

Website - www.dacorumdspl.org.uk
Facebook - www.facebook.com/dspldacorum

Email – dspl@kls.herts.sch.uk
Instagram – https://www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum/

DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support 2021-22

Local Schools Partnership Schools

DFS North & East Partnership Schools:

St Albert the Great, at Ayrshire, Ashlyns, Astley Cooper, Belswains, Chambersbury, Bishop Wood, Bridgewater, Broadfield, DESC, Dundale, Flamsted, Gaddesden Row, Goldfield, Great Gaddesden, Greenway, Grove Road, Hammond, Haywood Grove, Hobbs Hill Wood, Hobletts Manor Infant, Hobletts Manor Junior, Holsmeier End Infants, Holsmeier End Junior, Jupiter, Leverstock Green, Lime Walk Little Gaddesden, Long Marston, Markyate, Potten End, Reddings, Roman Fields, St Bartholomews, St Mary's, St Thomas More, Swing Gate, The Thomas Coram, Tring, Tudor, Victoria, Westfield, Woodfield School, Wyntree.

Gade Support School Family Support and Kings Langley Partnership:

Kings Langley Partnership: Kings Langley Secondary, Kings Langley Primary, Sarratt Primary, St Pauls School, Chipperfield, Bovingdon Primary Academy, Nash Mills Primary, Bedmond Village Primary

Gade Schools Family Support: John F Kennedy, Hemel Hempstead School, The Cavendish

School, Chaulden Infants and Junior Schools, Boxmoor Primary, St Roses Infants, Micklem Primary, Galley Hill Primary, South Hill Primary, George Street School, Gade Valley School, St Cuthbert Mayne, Two Waters Primary, Pixies Hill Primary, Heath Lane Nursery, The Collett School

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Local School Partnership's

Student and Family Support Services

Gade Schools Family Support and Kings Langley Partnership



As part of the Partnership of Dacorum Schools Gade and Kings Langley Schools Family Support are able to provide families with a range of support services.

- ❖ **Parent Support Services**—We have a team of Family Support workers who are available to work in school and with parents at home. Our support workers can work with families on any range of issues and will provide practical advice, guidance and support.
- ❖ **Pupil Support Services**—Our Partnership has Pupil Support workers who are available to work with children in school to support them with their behaviour, emotional wellbeing and how to overcome difficulties they may be facing. Our workers offer support groups in school or will work with children on a one to one basis at school. If you feel your child needs support, please contact your school directly to request this support.
- ❖ **SEND Support**—Our Partnership has a specialist Family Support worker who works with families of children with SEND. We will support parents in school and with parents at home, will provide practical advice, guidance and

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support on all aspects of SEND. We offer SEND surgeries in our community offices and these can be booked by contacting your school and requesting support.

- ❖ **Parent Courses and Workshops** – We will regularly host a range of courses and workshops for families on a range of different themes including managing challenging behaviour, managing teens, transition to secondary school, developing confidence and self-esteem and a range of other themes.
- ❖ **Parent Surgeries** – As a Service we host a range of one to one advice surgeries on Housing Advice, Debt Management Advice, Autism Support and Advice, SEND Support and Advice. Various dates are available and are published on our web site www.gadeschoolsfamilysupport.co.uk

Schools can refer families to our Services however families can refer directly if they would like to speak with a member of staff directly and in confidence please contact the Partnership Office on 01442 278793.

Our Service is only able to work with Parents who have children in one of our Partnership Schools. Schools in our Partnership are:

Kings Langley Partnership: Kings Langley Secondary, Kings Langley Primary, Sarratt Primary, St Pauls School, Chipperfield, Bovingdon Primary Academy, Nash Mills Primary, Bedmond Village Primary



Gade Schools Family Support: John F Kennedy, Hemel Hempstead School, The Cavendish School, Chaulden Infants and Junior Schools, Boxmoor Primary, St Roses Infants, Micklem Primary, Galley Hill Primary, South Hill Primary, George Street School, Gade Valley School, St Cuthbert Mayne, Two Waters Primary, Pixies Hill Primary, Heath Lane Nursery, The Collett School

www.gadeschoolsfamilysupport.co.uk
Partnership Office: 01442 278793

Dacorum Family Services

DFS North & East Partnership Schools: St Albert the Great, Adeyfield*, Aldbury, Ashlyns, Astley Cooper, Aycliffe Drive*, Belswains, Brockswood*, Chambersbury, Bishop Wood, Bridgewater, Broadfield, DESC, Dundale, Flamstead, Gaddesden Row, Goldfield, Great Gaddesden, Greenway, Grove Road, Hammond, Haywood Grove, Hobbs Hill Wood, Hobletts Manor Infant, Hobletts Manor Junior, Holtsmere End Infants, Holtsmere End Junior, Jupiter, Leverstock Green, Lime Walk, Longdean*, Little Gaddesden, Long Marston, Maple Grove*, Markyate, Potten End, Reddings, Roman Fields, St Bartholomews, St Mary's, St Thomas More, Swing Gate, The Thomas Coram, Tring, Tudor, Victoria, Westfield, Woodfield School, Yewtree

****Signposting Service only***

Dacorum Family Services

A Free, Confidential
Advice and Support Service
for DFS North & East Schools'
Families

Dacorum Family Services North & East
Supporting Communities in DFS Schools

Berkhamsted, Hemel Hempstead East, Link & Tring Family Services

ABOUT OUR SERVICE
Dacorum Family Services offers a term time + service to parents and their children attending schools within the partnership. School Family Workers can assist parents to resolve their concerns by working in partnership with them and/or by finding the support they need and help them to get in touch with organisations with the specialist skills and knowledge to help.

One to One Family Support	Drop In Surgery Support	Group Work
Completing needs assessments from the Families' perspective Creating an action plan of SMART actions for the family to work to In home working with families Supporting community appointments	Working with the school to provide a one stop shop for advice, guidance and support. Fortnightly surgeries at each school. Regular communication with School Single Point Of Contact (SPC)	Facilitating parental workshop presentations Offering a parental workshop presentation every half term Covering a range of parenting specific subjects Pupil group support programmes

How does this help DFS Schools?

✓ Families First Early Help continuum within social care provision, step up/down, referral, EHM etc.	✓ Reduced work load for school staff	✓ Emotional and mental health parent and pupil programmes, supporting new government directives.
✓ Support from a team of experienced workers with identified specialisms.	✓ Supporting staff well-being	
	✓ In home support for families	✓ Supporting best practice and staff development, peer supervision sessions

Flexible Support for

Your School Community



SEND Support Worker
Specialist support for higher need SEND families SEND Screening to support diagnosis assessment



School Family Worker
A personal and confidential service that addresses any needs or concerns raised by the family



Pupil Support Worker
Specialist support for pupils to address an identified concern highlighted by the school or family. Using one to one and group work time specific programmes.

What do our Dacorum Family Services Users Say:

Families:

- "Being listened to and put in touch with different courses that I can attend"
- Very helpful friendly service. Most helpful: home visits"
- Parents evening: DFS SFW was an excellent help. Understanding and compassionate but offering practical support"

Schools:

"DFS SFW was an excellent support to this family and without her caring attitude and determination we wouldn't have got so far with this family"


"DFS SFW was outstanding with regard to her involvement with this family and was part of the reason this family moved up to CP eventually. DFS certainly went "above and beyond" while working with this family including staying late one evening to support me as the Head teacher, as well as mum while we waited for social services and the police arrived."

"SFW was great at being an advocate for the family helping set meeting agendas and also working with the family to manage their expectations within the limits of the school system"

The Team:

Dacorum Family Services North & East
c/o Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School
Peascroft Rd, Hemel Hempstead,
Herts,
HP3 8ER
Phone: 01442 401222 Ext 5
Email:
jan.nethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk
www.dacorumfamilyservices.org.uk

Team Manager: Lyndsey Hooper
SEND SFW: Nicola Long & Sam Leenders
Pupil Support Workers: Natalie Beard & Claire Abercrombie
School Family Worker: Chrissie Phillips
School Family Worker: Katie Chamberlain
School Family Worker: Lisa MacGovern
School Family Worker: Lisa Williams
School Family Worker: Sam Lindars
School Family Worker: Shelley Bright



ISL SEND Duty Lines & SEND advice lines for Parents/Carers

Statutory SEND Team (for queries about your EHCP)

This academic year our SEND Duty lines will be available:

8.45am - 5.30pm Monday - Thursday, and 8.45am - 5pm Fridays.

East Herts, Broxbourne Welwyn and Hatfield - 01992 588562
easthertsbroxbourne.senteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

North Herts and Stevenage - 01438 843758
northhertsstevenage.senteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

St Albans and Dacorum - 01442 453 300
stadsendteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Watford, Three Rivers and Hertsmere - 01442 454012
watfordthreerivers.senteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Wherever possible, we will always try to answer your query there and then, but if this is not possible (or you wish to speak with a specific officer), we will be operating a call back consultation offer. This model will provide you with the opportunity to arrange with the call handler, a pre-booked "call back" with a named officer across a range of available slots each week.

Specialist advice lines

Educational psychology advice line
01992 588 574 Wednesdays 2pm - 4.30pm

Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

01442 453 920 (term time only) Mon and Thurs, 9.30am - 12pm

Speech, Language, Communication and autism Needs (SLCA)

01442 453 920 (term time only) Tues and Weds, 1.30pm - 4pm

Early years (0 - 5)

01442 453 920 (term time only) Weds 9am - 12pm and Thurs 1.30pm - 4pm

Physical and neurological impairment team (PNI)

01442 453 920 (term time only) Mondays, 1.30pm - 4pm

Education Support for Medical Absence (ESMA)

01442 454 802 (school hours, term time only)

esmaenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Children and young people's therapy services

(Advice from occupational therapists, physiotherapists and speech and language therapists)

01923 470680 – select Option 3 for the therapy service. Callers then choose to use the service Advice Line (select 1) or to speak to an administrator (select 2).

Or email hct.cyptherapies1@nhs.net.

SUPPORT



Speech, Language, Communication and Autism - stadac.islteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk



Educational Psychologists - Use our advice line to speak to an educational psychologist or an advisory teacher if you need support. **Wednesday 2 - 4.30pm 01992 588 574**



Autism Helpline 10am – 3pm, Monday to Friday - **0808 800 4104** or via online contact form
<https://www.autism.org.uk/enquiry>



ADD-vance Helpdesk is open from 9am to 1pm every weekday via 01727 833963 or email to **herts@add-vance.org** Website - **www.add-vance.org** Facebook – **www.add-vance.org/parents/**



Hertfordshire Local Offer The Local offer lets parents and young people know what special education needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire and who can access them.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/Local-Offer/The-Hertfordshire-Local-Offer.aspx>



Herts Help a network of community organisations in Hertfordshire working together. We're here to listen and help you find independent support, guidance and information you need to get the most out of life.

Call us on **0300 123 4044** or email **info@hertshelp.net**



Kids Hub support and information to families with children and young people with SEND. We are still open and offer support and advice to families over the phone and emails and our SEN Toy and Equipment is still available to parents. If you would like to get in contact with us please call on 01992 504013/ 01923 676549 or email us at **hub.herts@kids.org.uk**

If you would like to register for our mailing list, or be removed, please email dspl@kls.herts.sch.uk



Hertfordshire SENDIASS is an impartial Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS). Contact SENDIASS on: sendiass@hertfordshire.gov.uk or 01992 555 847



Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database (HAND) voluntary register of disabled children and young people aged 0-25. By joining the register, you can get discounts at places around the county (and beyond). Contact via: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/courses-and-activities-in-hertfordshire/hertfordshire-additional-needs-database.aspx> or email hand@hertfordshire.gov.uk



Families First Hertfordshire for services that work together to support families who need extra help. These are also known as early help services.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/families-first/families-first.aspx>



Benefit entitlement - If you care for a child or young person with a disability or if you have a disability yourself, you may be able to claim a range of benefits including Disability Living Allowance and Carers Allowance. For more information on available benefits and entitlement go to:

<https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/financial-support>



Carers in Hertfordshire provides advice, information and support to unpaid carers.

Website - www.carersinherts.org.uk Telephone – 01992 586969 (9am-5:30pm Mon-Thurs & 9am-4:30pm Fri)



Hertfordshire Mind - If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and would like someone to talk to, you can call our **Crisis Helpline**. Available to provide emotional support 24 hours a day, every day of the week. To contact the helpline please call us on **01923 256391**.



Hertfordshire Wellbeing Service offers free, confidential talking therapy and practical support for people 16+ experiencing a wide range of common emotional difficulties such as, anxiety, worry, low mood, depression and stress.

<http://talkwellbeing.co.uk/>



Healthy Young Minds in Herts - Wellbeing advice and tools for young people, parents and carers.

<https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/>



Just Talk Herts – Mental Health support and advice for young people. www.justtalkherts.org



Family Lives – Parenting and Family support Helpline 0808 800 2222



Foodbanks - <https://dacorum.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>



Health Coronavirus - <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

Self-Isolating Guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Domestic Abuse Help - www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help



Hertfordshire County Council Children's Services - 0300 123 4043



Samaritans - 116 123



ChildLine - 0800 1111



Herts Parent Carer Involvement HPCI – Independent parent carer led organisation which aims to improve services for children and young people who have SEND – 07840 360 245 <https://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk/>