

Dear Parent/Carers,

Happy New Year. We hope you had a good Christmas and welcome back to the Spring term.

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

Course/Support	Booking Link/Website
Hertfordshire's new SEND Strategy for 2022-2025	www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDstrategy
Have your say about our new Health and Wellbeing strategy	www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/HWBStrategy
Compassion & Resilience course 25.01.2022-08.02.2022, 11:00-12:00	https://bounceforward.com/compassion-and-resilience/
SEND Surgery – 24.03.2022	https://dspl8.eventbrite.co.uk/

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dspldacorum

Email: dspl@kls.herts.sch.uk

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

Eventbrite: <https://dspl8.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Hertfordshire's new SEND Strategy for 2022-2025

Hertfordshire County Council have created 5 ambitions that professionals across education, health and social care will be living and breathing, to provide SEND services and support to all families in Hertfordshire. They have explained these in their new SEND Strategy for 2022 – 25, and exactly what they are doing to achieve each ambition. www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDstrategy

Have your say about our new Health and Wellbeing strategy

Have your say!



Hertfordshire's Health and Wellbeing strategy aims to improve the health of our residents.

Please help us to make sure we are focusing on the right things by giving your feedback:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/HWBStrategy



Have your say about our new Health and Wellbeing strategy

Hertfordshire's Health and Wellbeing strategy aims to improve the health of our residents. We are renewing the strategy for 2022-26 so that it reflects current health needs in the county, and we need your help to make sure that we are focusing on the right things.

Please help us to shape the strategy by giving your feedback by 13 February at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/HWBStrategy

Compassion and Resilience

Booking link: <https://bounceforward.com/compassion-and-resilience/>



COMPASSION AND RESILIENCE Helping My Child to Develop Compassion

A three session on-line course for parents

January 25th, February 1st and 8th 2022 - All 11:00-12:00

Funded by DSPL 8 Dacorum, supporting parents of children with SEND

What is compassion and why is it going to be more important than ever?

If we go back 50 years we needed physical strength for success. If we go back 20 years we needed intellectual strength, but if we go forward, the next generation of resilient human beings are going to need emotional intelligence, compassion and empathy to succeed.

These are human qualities and characteristics that are essential if we are to tackle the biggest global challenges alongside advances in technology. Its easier to be less compassionate about others from behind a screen and so educating our children to be compassionate is part of the solution.

The sessions will explore compassion in a way that is practical, thought provoking and in the context of helping children to develop resilience, enabling them to thrive now and in the future.

“ Compassion is not something I have really thought about teaching my child before and didn't realise the importance! Thank you!
Parent of two children



LEARN MORE & REGISTER



SEND Surgery – 24th March 2022

Booking link: <https://dspl8.eventbrite.co.uk/>



SEND Surgery Dates for 2021-22

Thursday 24th March 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, SEND School Family Worker

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, 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

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	10.00-11:30	Online (see booking link below) You will receive an online meeting link directly from ADD-vance
	01.02.2022	19:00-20:30	
	03.03.2022 30.03.2022	10.00:11:30 10.00:11:30	
 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. DSPL 8 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.dspl8.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, Aldbury, Ashlyns, Astley Cooper, Belswains, 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 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, Yewtree

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 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.

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

- ❖ **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

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

Drop In Surgery Support

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)

Group Work

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?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Families First Early Help continuum within social care provision, step up/down, referral, EHM etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reduced work load for school staff ✓ Supporting staff well-being | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Emotional and mental health parent and pupil programmes, supporting new government directives. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support from a team of experienced workers with identified specialisms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In home support for families | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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"

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



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:

9am - 5.30pm Monday - Wednesday, and 9am – 4:30pm 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

stadsenteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Watford, Three Rivers and Hertsmere - 01442 454012

watfordthreerivers.senteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Specialist advice lines

Educational psychology advice line

01992 588 574 Wednesdays 2pm - 4.30pm

Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

01442 453 920 (term time only) 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

West team Attendance Duty
01442 454 778 Monday –Friday 9:30am-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.cytherapies1@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



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->

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

[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/>