



To All Headteachers

Children, Young People and Education

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Dear Colleagues

Protective measures for holiday or after school clubs.

In a recent update from the DfE, It was highlighted that [Section 9 of Protective measures for holiday or after school clubs and other out of school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) guidance now includes the following statement:

If operating on, or linked to, a school, including maintained nursery sites, then you should discuss with that school or nursery how your staff can access regular asymptomatic testing. Schools and nurseries should offer testing to all staff who are working in their settings including contractors or peripatetic staff. They should also offer testing to those supporting with wraparound childcare to children currently attending school, as well as other staff members such as clinical practitioners, therapists, other support staff, caterers and volunteers.

SEND and Learning Behaviours

We are reopening a round of evidence-based training on SEND and Learning Behaviours. This training is now being match-funded by both the Effective Kent Project fund and the Kent Inclusion Fund, **making it fully funded to schools***.

The programme of training consists of 12 two-hour modules which will be delivered fully remotely. Participants will engage with the evidence base and will be supported to implement change in their setting. Wrap-around one- to-one support from an Evidence Leader of Education (ELE) will be available and participants will be encouraged to take part in peer review practice, linked with the Kent Inclusion Strategy.

This fully funded* (free to your school) training will take place between 3 May and 7 July. The programme is aimed at Headteachers and senior leaders, SENCos, pastoral leaders with responsibility for implementing whole-school strategic change and is hosted by Jemima Rhys-Evans, Director of Charles Dickens Research School.

Programme content overview:

The SEND and Learning Behaviours training has emerged from the rich and diverse evidence base in the EEF guidance reports on **improving behaviour, metacognition and self-regulation, special educational needs in mainstream schools, working with parents, and social and emotional learning**. They form a crucial interconnecting puzzle of useable evidence. Successful learning behaviours rely on layering all these areas to wrap around every child in our schools.

To request a place, please complete a [Booking Request Form](#). Requests are open from 15 March to 21 April. This is a time-sensitive offer which will require your Headteacher to read, sign and return an agreement by 5pm on Tuesday 27 April. Schools who complete a request form before 29 March will hear back from us before the easter break.

There is an opportunity to dip into the content of the programme by watching the hour-long taster session we recorded in October. Simply click [here](#) and you'll be taken to YouTube. For more details, please visit the programme [Sway](#). Alternatively you can contact the Effective Kent Project team at EEFfectiveKentProject@kent.gov.uk.

*schools who have already applied for funding on two or more evidence-based training courses do not qualify and will need to pay half the programme costs, totalling no more than £563.33.

STLS Working Group

There is currently a review of the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, with the ambition to collaboratively redesign and develop the service specification for implementation from April 2022.

Mainstream schools and early years settings are critical stakeholders impacted by this provision and whose engagement will ensure the service meets the needs and demands on schools and settings. Any school or early years setting interested in supporting the development of the STLS, are invited to join the STLS Redesign Working Group.

Please contact Sholeh Soleimanifar, the lead Commissioner, to express your interest to sholeh.soleimanifar@kent.gov.uk. This work will commence in Term 5, with all meetings expected to be held virtually via MS Teams. The anticipated time requirement at this stage will be up to 3 sessions to allow views to be sought and fully understood.

Yours sincerely



Christine McInnes
Director of Education