

## SEND and Inclusion Update Spring 2025

### SEND and Inclusion at Loxwood:

We are pleased to announce that we have been working diligently to update our [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) and Inclusion page](#) on our website. This resource is designed to assist you in navigating the support available for your child's learning needs. Within this dedicated section, you will find comprehensive information on what steps to take if you have concerns about your child's educational journey, as well as details regarding Pupil Premium funding. We have included links to all our pertinent policies and reports, ensuring transparency and ease of access.

Our SEND page also highlights the 'Local Offer', a crucial resource that outlines the services available for children and young people with additional needs. A 'Glossary of Acronyms' has been created to demystify SEND terminology, making it easier for parents to engage with this important area of education. Furthermore, we have included essential information regarding Dyslexia and Dyscalculia, outlining effective classroom strategies employed within our school to support children displaying these tendencies. The page elaborates on the role of the Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) and the referral process, alongside details about our newly established SEND hub.

In tandem with these updates, we have also enriched our [Wellbeing page](#), which now features a wealth of current information aimed at supporting our school community's wellbeing. This includes a helpful document titled 'Who to Contact' and links to various reputable organisations, such as NSPCC, Childline, Thriving in Education, and Young Minds, offering support and advice. Additionally, you will find the Parent Leaflet for Mental Health and Wellbeing that I prepared for Mental Health Awareness Week.

We encourage you to explore these valuable resources on our website, as they provide a wealth of tools designed to support you as parents and guardians.

### West Sussex Updates:

#### Ordinarily Available Inclusive Practice guide (OAIP)

We are pleased to announce the release of the 3rd edition of the Ordinarily Available Inclusive Practice Guide 2025 (OAIP) by West Sussex. This significant publication underscores the county's unwavering commitment to inclusive practice in education. Funded by the Department for Education's (DfE) Delivering Better Values (DBV) in SEND programme, the guide will be distributed to all educational settings across West Sussex.



The needs of most children and young people can effectively be met through inclusive Quality First Teaching and reasonable adjustments harnessed from the resources that are already available within their mainstream schools. This approach is conceptualised as 'Ordinarily Available Provision.' The revised guide has been collaboratively developed with contributions from education settings, parents, professionals, and services, emphasising the support and expectations that can be typically extended to children and young people without the requirement for additional resources, including those on 'SEND support' or with no identified SEND.

The SEND Code of Practice (2015) highlights the correlation between high-quality teaching and ordinarily available provision. We recognise the complexities involved in adapting practices to meet diverse needs; however, this accessible resource aims to incite valuable discussions and facilitate effective planning for more inclusive learning environments.

- The refreshed OAIP is uploaded on [Tools for Schools](#) as chunked web pages
- The next stage of this project is to develop a **training programme** for the OAIP with school SENCOs, and we will continue to update you on the progress of this

#### Pilot of the Department for Education template for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)



Many of you will be aware that we have been taking part in the Change Partnership Programme (CPP) pilot of the DfE Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) template. The pilot has now concluded, and we are pleased to announce the adoption of recognised good practices within the West Sussex EHCP form.

#### Support While You Wait for an Assessment

NHS Sussex have been working with colleagues across West Sussex to support SEND inclusion.

In partnership with West Sussex County Council and the WSPCF, we have developed a dedicated "[support while you wait for an assessment](#)" page on the West Sussex Local Offer which has detailed guidance, resources and links to a wide range of condition-specific information. This includes Neurodevelopmental Pathways, Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy, Dental, Community Paediatrics and child and adolescent mental health services.

*Local Offer*

The "Support Whilst Waiting" work will continue to be developed through a newly established Task and Finish Group. NHS Sussex recognises the importance of this work and is committed to improving the journey of the child, young person and their families whilst they wait for a specialist health assessment.

## NHS Sussex SEND page on Sussex Health & Care website

The [NHS Sussex SEND](#) page has been refreshed, with additional guidance and information relating to Right to Choose, ADHD medication and support whilst you are waiting for a specialist health assessment.



## Reaching Families NDP Navigation Service



We are very pleased to have received funding from NHS Sussex to continue providing this much-needed navigation service for parents/carers of children and young people who are waiting on, undergoing or have completed an assessment for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions on the West Sussex Neurodevelopmental Pathway.

This service is accessed via referral from a professional working with the child/young person and can support parent-carers in the following ways:

- Initial telephone support to establish the needs of families accessing the service
- Information and resources on your child's condition and needs
- Training workshops and courses on neurodiversity
- Access to a specially trained parent-carer befriender with a similar lived experience
- Access and support in attending one of our parent-carer support groups
- Access to other Reaching Families services
- Signposting to other relevant projects and services

For further information, including the eligibility and referral process, please visit the [Reaching Families website](#).

## Supporting Children and Young People to 'Thrive' in Education

In West Sussex, we describe our approach to supporting mental health in schools under the umbrella of **Thriving in Education**.

The best way to find out more is to visit our [website](#), which takes you through our evidence based approach to supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools.



## Working with Our Partners

### West Sussex Parent Carer Forum (WSPCF)

We had a very busy autumn term here, which included several new projects and events aimed at enhancing our services. One notable initiative is the introduction of the Together for Change Panel. This collaborative space unites West Sussex County Council, NHS Sussex, parents/carers, and various stakeholders to share ideas, provide valuable feedback, and make informed decisions. Through a co-productive approach, the panel has addressed numerous submissions, including short breaks and alternative provisions. If you would like to learn more or attend a panel meeting, please contact us at [tfcpnl@wspcf.org.uk](mailto:tfcpnl@wspcf.org.uk). Your input is invaluable to our ongoing efforts.



### Events for parents and carers

WSPCF are pleased to share that this term has brought exciting new events in West Sussex. Our wellbeing courses for parents and carers have commenced, with one course already completed and another fully booked for the spring!

In addition to these courses, we continue to host regular events, including parent/carers chat sessions that foster valuable peer-to-peer support. Our recent session featured esteemed guests Claire Hayes, Assistant Director of Education and Skills, and Claire Prince, Head of SEND and Inclusion. The feedback from parents and carers was overwhelmingly positive, as they expressed feeling heard and valued.

For any inquiries or to learn more, please contact us at [office@wspcf.org.uk](mailto:office@wspcf.org.uk), or stay connected through our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), or [Instagram](#).