



# Delivering Special Provision Locally

Spring 2  
Newsletter  
for Parents/Carers

## DSPL3 Website and Facebook page

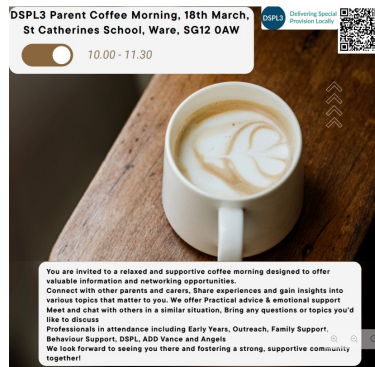
- ◆ The DSPL3 Website and Facebook page are now live.
- ◆ Please click here to view the [website](#)
- ◆ Please click here to view the [Facebook page](#)

## Workshops, Courses and Training

Please click here to view [workshops, courses and training](#) available for this academic year.

## DSPL3 SEND Coffee Mornings

- ◆ **18th March 10-11:30am**—St Catherines School, Ware
- ◆ **20th May 10-11:30am**—St Michaels School, Bishops Stortford
- ◆ **15th July 10-11:30am**—Buntingford First School, Buntingford



## Alison Whenman (DSPL3 Family Support Worker)

- ◆ Alison will not be accepting any new referrals from schools this term.
- ◆ Alison has seen her caseload double over recent years with more families than ever needing her wonderful support and expertise. But it is only a good service if we can get to your families in a timely manner.
- ◆ Alison's waiting list is currently around 8+ weeks and this short break will enable her to reduce that down and get to you quicker in the future. Referrals will be accepted again from April. Many schools pay into a Local Schools Partnership or there are other Teams you can access if appropriate.

## New Flexi Schooling Guide:

- ◆ Hertfordshire have updated the Flexi Schooling Guidance which has been developed to support schools in responding to flexi schooling requests and to ensure that decision-making is consistent, well-informed, and firmly centred on the best interests of the child or young person.
- ◆ The guidance has been developed with the support of schools, parent carer representatives, and Local Authority professionals, reflecting shared learning and practice across Hertfordshire. [Click here](#) to view.

## HCC Consultation on Post-16 SEND Transport

- ◆ Hertfordshire are proposing that young people between the age of 16-18 in need of travel support to access education will usually be offered a Personal Travel Budget, rather than travelling in a vehicle provided by the council (i.e. taxi or small vehicle from home to school/college).
- ◆ They are proposing to implement this change from September 2026 and it will apply to everyone needing travel support from the age of 16. This will mostly affect young people with EHCPs as very few young people without an EHCP benefit from post 16 travel support.
- ◆ To find out more information, as well as how to respond to the consultation, please [click here](#)

DSPL3

Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)  
Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth,  
Buntingford, Watton-at-Stone,  
Hertford, and Ware

**DSPL 3 Area Manager: Katie Algate**  
[dspl3manager@amwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:dspl3manager@amwell.herts.sch.uk)

**DSPL3 SEND Lead: Lisa Lee**  
[dspl3sendlead@amwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:dspl3sendlead@amwell.herts.sch.uk)

**DSPL3 Admin**  
[dspl3admin@amwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:dspl3admin@amwell.herts.sch.uk)

**Lead School:**  
[Amwell View School](#)  
& [Specialist Sports College](#)

**Website:**  
[dspl3.org.uk](http://dspl3.org.uk)

**Facebook:** [DSPL3](#)

**Useful Links:**  
[The Hertfordshire SEND Local Offer](#)

[SENDIASS Hertfordshire](#)

[IPSEA \(Independent Provider of Special Education Advice\)](#)

[SOS SEN](#)

[Herts Parent Carer Involvement](#)

[EHCP Support](#)

[Children and Young People's Speech & Language Therapy Service](#)

Advice line for parents:  
01923 470 680, choose option 3,  
then option 1 and leave a message.



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## DS Achieve Play and Learn Hub

- ◆ Play and Learn Hub is a relaxed Stay and Play group where primary age children with Down Syndrome can play and explore.
- ◆ The group runs weekly on Saturday afternoons during term time and is supported by a team including a play leader and Support Workers
- ◆ Location: Applecroft School, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JZ
- ◆ Time: 2:30-4pm (Saturdays, term time)
- ◆ Please contact [info@dsachieve.org](mailto:info@dsachieve.org) or call 07824 467471

**DSACHIEVE** **Play and Learn Hub**   
Stay and Play for primary age children with Down Syndrome

**What is Play and Learn Hub?**

Play & Learn Hub is a relaxed Stay & Play group where primary age children with Down Syndrome can play, explore and build friendships, supported by their parents and our team.

The group is all about friendship, fun and positivity, helping children feel confident and included.

The group runs weekly on Saturday afternoons during term time and is supported by a team including a Play Leader and Support Workers.

**At Play and Learn Hub you can expect:**

- Play-based activities including crafts, games and sensory play
- Opportunities for children to build friendships and practise social skills
- A welcoming space for families to connect and share experiences
- Visits from private therapists (Physio / OT / SaLT) and other professionals
- A relaxed, supportive environment for children and parents

**Where is Play and Learn Hub?**

Venue: Applecroft School, WGC, AL8 6JZ

Time: 2:30-4pm on Saturdays (term time only)

**Come and Join Us!**

To make a booking or find out more, please contact: [info@dsachieve.org](mailto:info@dsachieve.org) or call 07824 467471



## Rucksack—Early Years Autism Programme for Families

- ◆ This course is designed specifically for parents/carers of autistic children or children (aged 0-5) on the autism pathway. It aims to provide you with the essential knowledge, practical strategies and valuable resources to support both you and your child in navigating everyday life.
- ◆ [Click here](#) to self register an interest in the upcoming course running in September 2026

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