

## **REGIONAL SEND DEVELOPMENT**

Nasen and University College London (UCL), on behalf of the Whole School SEND consortium, have been awarded a new contract to equip the workforce to deliver high quality teaching across all types of SEN.

Whole School SEND's strategy focusses on embedding SEND into school improvement with the development of a Community of Practice. This growing Community of Practice currently has more than 4500 schools/settings and providers and is set to rise to 10,000 by the end of the contract.

The Whole School SEND Schools' Workforce contract is committed to improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND by networking, collaborating and unlocking the answers that exist within the system.

There are 4 aims to be addressed:

**Aim 1:** Drive education institutions to prioritise SEND within their CPD and school improvement plans including facilitating greater links between mainstream and special schools

**Aim 2:** Equip schools to identify and meet their training needs in relation to SEND.

**Aim 3:** Build the skills of teachers working in mainstream and special schools and of SENCOs and teachers of classes of children and young people with sensory impairments by promoting best practice

**Aim 4:** Identify and respond to any gaps in the training and resources available to schools.

To achieve this, Nasen and Whole School SEND have appointed;

**Judith Smith, Executive Head, Talbot Specialist School and Fusion TSA as The Regional SEND Lead and Jane Starbuck, Inclusion Lead, Newark Schools as the Deputy regional SEND lead for EMSYH.**

Judith and Jane would like to draw your attention to the following developments in our region

### **Local networks**

We have visited all sub-regions and met with colleagues from TSA's, MATs and LA's to build partnerships, highlight the SEND Review Framework and to build links between all phases, but especially mainstream and special schools.

- EMSYH Sub Regional Leads are looking to establish 4 sub-regional SEND leads. Please contact your Sub Regional Lead if this is something you would be interested in supporting.

- Special TSA network of TSA's led by Specialist Schools. This group consists of 10 TSA's from across the region. This new network is planning to meet regularly. If you are not currently involved and you would like to join, please contact Judith or Jane (details below)

All Special TSA's are invited to join a National Special Teaching School Network, which meets 3 times a year at Swiss Cottage School, London. These meetings are growing in strength and influence, attracting speakers on a regular basis from the DFE. Gill Robinson attends and recent contributors have included Ofsted, Diane Rochford OBE. Anyone wishing to join this should contact:

hprosser3.202@swisscottage.camden.sch.uk

### **Capacity Building**

Together with Gill Robinson, Vice- Chair, Teaching School Council a number of SLE events were held for those with a specialism in SEND. Special TSA's have a wealth of expertise in SEND and combined, they can support through 30 NLE's, 4 LLE's and 85 SLE's.

Please contact any of them for additional support in addressing SEND and outcomes for Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Learners.

Shared CPD for all these system leaders is being discussed, increasing the capacity and skills distributed across the region.

Please get in touch if you would like to access this.

### **Professional Development and Training**

There has been enormous interest in SEND Reviewer Training and we have delivered courses across the whole region. Many LA's recognise how this programme can support their strategic development of SEND by implementing a Peer Review process. By using the expertise found in both mainstream and specialist settings and building on these outcomes, Communities of Practice are beginning to flourish, examples of good practice are identified and TSA's can address CPD needs.

We have also started to work with a number of TSAs introducing a SEND element into their NPQH and governor programmes. These sorts of programmes will ensure that future school leaders will have a greater understanding of strategic leadership of SEND.

Anyone wishing to access training, should contact Judith or Jane direct.

### **Data Hub**

University College London are a key partner of Whole School Send and have produced the SEND Index for 2019. This can be downloaded via this link:

<https://www.sendgateway.org.uk/whole-school-send/send-research/>

In addition, the Council for Disabled Children has also set up a data Dashboard, which colleagues could find useful to support with identification and planning of delivery for their community. This can be downloaded via this link:

<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/help-resources/resources/0-25-multi-agency-send-data-dashboard>.

Our role in the region is to provide:

- Localised operational capacity and intelligence.
- A key point of contact for RSCs, Regional HMIs and LAs
- Support in the prioritisation of SEND in schools across the region
- Expertise in expanding and embedding good practice in the quality of SEND provision.

Judith Smith: [RSL.EMSYH@wholeschoolsend.com](mailto:RSL.EMSYH@wholeschoolsend.com)

Jane Starbuck: [DRSL.EMSYH@wholeschoolsend.com](mailto:DRSL.EMSYH@wholeschoolsend.com)