

Welcome everyone to our term 3 newsletter of the 2021/2022 academic year.

LIFT Meetings for this term will be a mixture of face to face and virtual. Please be aware that the format for referral forms have changed and you can find the updated versions on KELSI or on the STLS tab of the St Nicholas website. Please check the LIFT schedule for deadline dates and venues. If you need the schedule to be resent to you, please email Michayla: m.rapley@stns.org.uk



February is LGBTQ+ History month. The theme this year is Politics in Art- The Arc is long. **Click on the picture to take you to** the website where you will find resources.

For Your Parents/Carers

Training brochure - Please follow this link to our parents section of the STLS tab on the St Nichs website where you will find our training brochure for parents and carers: <u>CLICK HERE</u>

ASC Sibling Group - Suitable for children aged 7 - 14 years. Dates: 9th, 16th & 23rd March 2022 (all 3 days). Time: 13:00 - 15:30 at St Nicholas School. Refreshments will be provided. Absence can be B-coded by the school for education off-site. Booking and enquiries via stls@stns.org.uk

CYGNET- BOOKING INFO: Cygnet 6 week course via early help: Parents should email - PARENTINGPRO-GRAMMES@KENT.GOV.UK. Cygnet Puberty, Sexual well-being & relationships 3 day course: Parents should book via - STLS@STNS.ORG.UK

PowerPoints

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to go to the STLS section of the St Nichs website where you will find many PowerPoints that you might find useful.

Topics Covered Include:

Anxiety, Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Whole Word Approach, The Importance of Play and so much more!



It has been a difficult couple of years in terms of training and we will continue to try and run as many courses as possible either face to face or virtually where possible. We must draw your attention to the cancellation fees. If we cancel there will obviously not be a fee, otherwise please refer to charges on the booking form. For fully funded courses there will be a charge for materials and other necessities that will have been purchased in advance. We understand that situations arise, but would ask you to consider if a member of staff cannot attend, that there maybe someone else that could take the place. Thank you for your consideration.

ELKLAN NEWS!

We have been lucky enough to have been granted funding again to run more ELKLAN courses which is exciting news. The next course starts on 16th May for Verbal ASC. Booking is essential.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to go to our website where you will find our booking form. Email enquiries and completed forms to: stls@stns.org.uk



NQT/ECT COURSE - Implementing SEND

Date: 9th, 10th & 11th February

<u>NOW FULLY BOOKED</u> - Please send an email to stls@stns.org.uk to register your interest for future dates.

* All 3 sessions must be attended. For NQT's & those with 5 or less years experience. One day immersion into specialist provision. Workshop from SALT & Educational Psychology. Free course - can claim £200 supply money per person, providing all 3 dates are attended.

Opportunity

BBC

BBC are making a new show with Chris Packham about lived experiences with ASC. Here is a link for any of our young people who would like to share their experience.

CLICK HERE





Reminder - Please check the Kelsi website for :

- The updated Personalised Plan and Guidance document with the new MAT progress grid.
- The FAQ about the SENIF process <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- The new EY STLS LIFT Referral Form CLICK HERE

EY Forum is 8th February @ Windchimes @ 9.30.

• The focus is updates, a presentation by the Sensory Service, Mindfulness & Brain Calming activities and a Checklist of things to do before coming to LIFT.

Information on the Integrated Review is on KELSI - CLICK HERE

DAF- is available for 2 year Olds and you are able to get a Silver Subscription for Emporium now too.

STLS teachers will continue to visit; please let us know if your risk assessment has been updated.

Making a Referral to Children's Care Coordination Team for a joint developmental assessment- going via your Health Visitor is still recommended as the most ideal route; however you can make a referral yourself via The POD

On-line training for Parents and Professionals around Supporting Children with autism - <u>CLICK HERE</u> - There are presentations about:

- What is ASD?
- · Challenging Behaviour
- · ASD and Sleep
- Emotion Regulation
- Sensory Processing
- ASD and feeding



Coffee Mornings - are still available

EARLYBIRD

The self- referral form is on our STLS website - CLICK HERE - or parents can email : kcht.thanetadmin@nhs.net

New Paperwork

New versions of the Personalised Plan and LIFT request forms should be being used for SENIF and LIFT requests.

EY Training this term:

<u>Early Years Autism Awareness</u> will be offered VIRTUALLY on the 31st January from 9.30-3pm. Cost is for £25 p/ p for EY Settings and £50 for schools. It is FREE to those settings who have had it recommended from a SENIF application at MAP.

<u>Behaviour as Communication</u> has sadly been POSTPONED. A new date will be confirmed shortly. This course will also be delivered virtually.

Intensive Interaction is from 10-12 on the 21st January @ St Nicholas Special School with Sally Mullervy. Cost is £15 p/p. Booking via: stls@stns.org.uk



Free Service For Settings

Kent Educational Psychology Service are providing an intervention for families. This is local authority funded and there is no charge for it. Do you know a parent or family who might benefit from it?

The intervention is called *Video Interaction Guidance* (VIG) - The criteria for the service are:

- Parents of young children with special educational needs who will be starting school in 2022.
- The child has a Child In Need Plan in place
- The service is for parents of children where there are barriers to effective interaction and communication Parents who might not feel confident about their parenting or about their child starting school.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> for some parents' perspectives.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> for more details on KELSI about how VIG works.

VIG is generally delivered 'in situ' by visiting parents at home but we can also deliver it online if parents have access to technology at home. If you have any parents who you think might benefit from this intervention please:

- * Initially discuss it with them It will be important to let them know that this is a strength-based approach to look at what is working well using video which is securely stored and then deleted after the work has taken place.
- * If the parent is interested in finding out more please contact Dr Ben Hayes via email:

Ben.Hayes@kent.gov.uk Provide the name of the parent and child, and parents contact details. One of the VIG team will then be in touch with the parent to further discuss this work and then seek the formal pa-

rental consents.



Children's Mental Health Week -

free resources available HERE.



From the 1st of January 2022, parents who contact KCC to request an EHC needs assessment by email or phone will be referred to the online form to make the request. The request will be managed through a central mailbox advising them that parents are expected to have had discussions with their educational settings SENCO or SEN lead before making a request for an EHC need assessment. The response applicants will receive is included as Appendix A.

If parents are unable to make their request online, they will be referred to the team at IASK (Information and Advisory Service Kent) who can help them to submit the request online.

Free 30 Minute Consultation

The Kent Educational Psychology Service is offering a free 30 minute consultation via telephone or video call for parents. Topics or areas that parents / carers may wish to discuss might include:

- * Social and emotional issues
- Concerns about learning
- Family relationships
- Concerns about behaviour
- * Daily routines including sleep

If you know a parent/carer who would like to make use of this service please ask them to send a message to:

kepscommunitysupport@kent.gov.uk - including the following information: - their name - phone number - a convenient time to call (AM or PM) - their child's education phase e.g. early years, primary or secondary school - a brief description of what they wish to discuss. Aim to respond within 10 working days but this may be subject to availability.