

**Sarah Wilkins**

**Assistant Director for Education, Early Years, Inclusion and Pupil Place Planning**

Email: [swilkins@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:swilkins@worcestershire.gov.uk)

Tel: 01905 846082

Our Ref: CV199

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## Education Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had a relaxing Easter break.

As we begin the summer term, I hope that preparations for upcoming assessments and exams are going smoothly for both children and staff. This is a busy and important time in schools, and I would like to thank everyone for their continued hard work and dedication in supporting pupils to achieve their best.

This week the Government has announced [new measures to reduce school uniform costs for families](#). As part of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, schools in England will be limited to requiring no more than three branded uniform items, excluding ties. This change is expected to save families an estimated £73 million annually, benefiting parents of over 4 million children. The initiative aims to alleviate financial pressure on families, ensuring that uniform costs do not hinder children's access to education.

A full programme of First Aid and Health and Safety training is now available for the summer term, including Emergency First Aid, Paediatric First Aid, Fire Warden Training, and Managing Safely courses. Whether you are leading visits, supporting day-to-day school operations, or acting as a designated first aider, there is training to suit your role. Full course details and booking instructions can be found in our [First Aid and Health and Safety training flyer](#).

Don't miss the exciting lineup of conferences happening this year covering leadership, inclusion, safeguarding, writing, and more. For full details and to find the events that best suit you and your team, please see our latest [conferences flyer](#). Don't miss out - [book your place now](#).

Wishing you all the best for the summer term.

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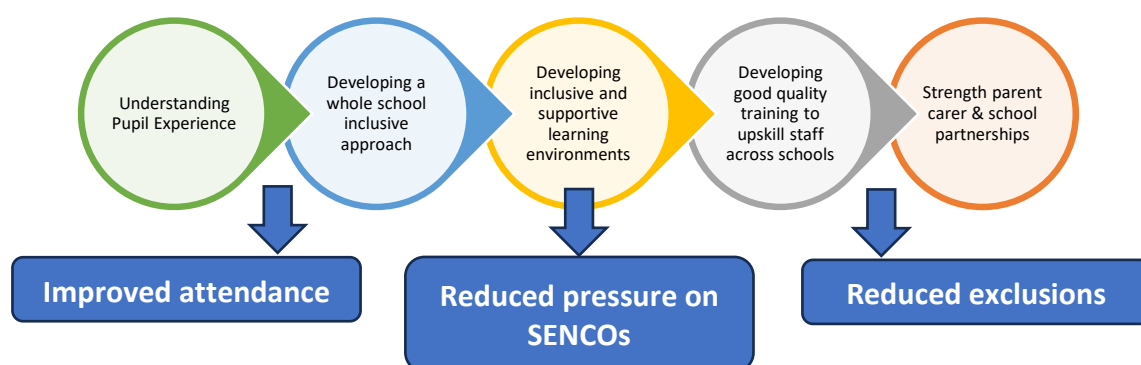
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## Latest SEND news and updates

### Creating Inclusive Practice through 'PINS' so ALL Children Thrive (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools)

We all have different thought patterns and processes; it is part of the natural variation of neurodiversity. The Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) project is a new national initiative to support good outcomes for all pupils in mainstream primary schools, by embracing neurodiversity. Worcestershire has an exciting opportunity for 30 primary schools to join the national PINS programme and be part of this new way of thinking.

By recognising we all have different cognitive processes, PINS benefits all pupils because the changes in practice will provide the conditions for **all** pupils to thrive. PINS aims to work in partnership with primary schools, parent carer forums and local services to develop inclusive provision. The project will focus on strengthening knowledge, skills and improving learning environments to better meet the needs of ALL pupils and improve outcomes for children with neurodiverse needs. It achieves this by:



What does each school receive?

- Support to Develop Co-production with Parent Carers
- 37 hours of funded external expert support
- Resources & New Ways of Working
- Networking Across Schools & Services

To identify support needs schools will complete a self-assessment tool. A multi-agency project group (made of up Local Authority, NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire and Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum) will work with schools to understand what is working well and where support is needed. A package of support will be discussed with the school and commissioned by the project group. Support will be purchased by LA/NHS from a combination of local system providers (health, education etc), external programmes and private providers.

## Eligibility, Selection & Timescale

We intend to allocate PINS to 5 primary schools in each of the 6 Worcestershire Districts. All schools will be eligible to submit an expression of interest. The programme will run from April 2025-March 2026.

Join us on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May to find out more...

We will hold a Teams meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 4.00pm – 5.00pm to provide more information about PINS and provide an opportunity for Q&As.

Please join the meeting via the following link to MS Team: [Join the Teams meeting](#)

Following this we will ask interested schools to submit a short 'Expression of Interest'. From this information schools will be selected based on analysis of education and health data to inform and understanding of need. A full list will be published on the SEND Local Offer.

## Preparing for Independence

**Please share the following with your parents and carers**

Preparing for independence offers the opportunity to parent carers to connect with local services and support networks that will support young people as they move into adulthood. Parent carers can speak with professionals and other families to gain advice and support.

The event will take place on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May from 4pm-6pm at Kidderminster College**, Market Street, Kidderminster.

For more information please download the [Preparing for Independence Flyer](#)

Parent carers can book their place via the following link: [Preparing for Independence Parents and Carers Evening](#)

## Latest Public Health news and updates

### Lumi Nova - First, Primary and Middle schools

**FAO: All teaching staff, Pastoral Leads, SENCos, DSLs.**

Action: Please share widely with parents.

Over 70% of families heard about [Lumi Nova](#) through schools. So, a massive thank you to all those schools that have been promoting Lumi Nova to parents of children with mild to moderate anxieties. The most common goal set by children have been to:

- address anxieties around making a mistake on schoolwork or in a test and
- worries about feeling comfortable going to school.

Many schools have accessed either a [Lumi Nova Discovery webinar](#) to learn more or shared Lumi Nova with parents broadly or through one to one parent/teacher conversations. The next professional's webinars are on Tuesday 13 May, 2pm and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1pm.

Parents can find out more including signing up for a parents' webinar via this link: [For parents - How it works — Lumi Nova: Tales of Courage](#) or sign up to access the App for free, using this link: [Free for families in Herefordshire & Worcestershire — Lumi Nova: Tales of Courage](#)

To bring Lumi Nova to life we ask that all primary, first and middle schools share the one-minute animation (link below) with parents through newsletters, websites, messaging services and social media.

[Introducing Lumi Nova With captions HandW.mp4 - Google Drive](#)

Schools can also access a resource pack here: [Parent Resources — Lumi Nova: Tales of Courage](#)

Thank you for your support. To date approximately 730 families across the county have signed up to Lumi Nova for their children.

### Free KOOTH webinars for professionals.

**FAO Pastoral Leads, PSHE Leads plus all class teachers**

If you work with young people and would like to learn more about KOOTH and how they support children and young people's mental health, please join either webinar. The sessions will provide a clear overview of KOOTH services and how they help the young people you work with to access free, safe, and anonymous support.

[Sign up for webinar at 2pm on 12<sup>th</sup> May](#)

[Sign up for webinar at 10am on 15<sup>th</sup> May](#)

## Best Start Worcestershire

We have launched our new Best Start Worcestershire Website ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/beststart](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/beststart)) which brings together the wide-ranging support, information and services for expectant parents and families with babies and young children. This includes:

- Pregnancy and postnatal
- Feeding; sleep; bonding; crying; toilet training etc
- Child development including speech and language; milestones and behaviour
- Timetables of baby and toddler groups
- Family hubs single point of access
- Workshops; courses and groups for parents/ carers
- Support for dads
- Health and wellbeing, housing, finance etc

[Download Best Start Worcestershire leaflet](#)

[Download Best Start Worcestershire plasma slide](#)

Please can you share this information where appropriate. If you require any printed leaflets, posters, or support in displaying the information on your plasma screen (if applicable) then please contact [jwilliams4@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jwilliams4@worcestershire.gov.uk).

## Worcestershire Family Hubs

Family Hubs provide a welcoming place for families and expectant parents to access information, signposting, and services in the community. There are nine family hubs across the county and a number of outreach locations, providing a range of support to families with babies and children. To find out more, refer a family, or get in touch with your local hub visit:

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs)

Services and support offered from Family Hubs could include:

- Midwifery
- Health visiting
- Speech and Language
- Infant feeding
- Baby and toddler groups
- Healthy start vitamins
- Workshops, courses and groups for parents/ carers
- Health and wellbeing, housing, finance and debt support

Family Hubs are also running [free webinars](#) for organisations to attend to find out everything they may need to know about Family Hubs. For more information, please download the Family Hub leaflet, assets and webinar flyer from [Google Drive](#).

## Latest Government news and updates

### Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law) receives Royal Assent

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, known as Martyn's Law, received Royal Assent on Thursday 3 April 2025.

This Act delivers the Government's manifesto commitment to strengthen the security of public premises and events, including education settings. The Government intends for there to be an implementation period of at least 24 months before the Act comes into force.

For more information, please refer to the [factsheets and documentation](#).

### Free breakfast clubs - early adopters begin rollout

Early adopter breakfast clubs are launching from the beginning of this term as part of the Government's Plan for Change.

750 schools have been funded to provide access to a free, universal breakfast club lasting at least 30 minutes that includes food. [Find out more on the breakfast clubs page](#).

The government is committed to offering a free breakfast club in every state-funded school with primary-aged pupils in England. Further details on the national rollout will be available in due course.

### Raising awareness of discounted social broadband tariffs

Home broadband is increasingly essential for supporting learning. Households receiving benefits such as Universal Credit could be eligible for discounted social tariffs, helping them stay connected at lower costs.

The Government recognise the role of schools, colleges and others in engaging students and their families and encourage you to signpost these offers to eligible households.

For more information, please visit [Ofcom's website](#).

## Latest training news and conferences

### Including breastfeeding learning in your PSHE curriculum: webinar for secondary schools - why and how?

A webinar to share teaching resources designed to raise awareness and normalise breastfeeding for use in secondary school and will include why teaching about breastfeeding is important for young people and the health of future generations.

Secondary Schools may wonder why... but did you know:

- The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health recommends integrating breastfeeding education into Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) classes, particularly in secondary schools.
- Statutory guidance for Relationship, Sex and Health Education requires pupils, by the end of secondary school to know.
  - the roles and responsibilities of parents with respect to raising of children including the characteristics of successful parenting and
  - the characteristics and evidence of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle and
  - how to maintain healthy eating and the links between a poor diet and health risks

Learning outcomes:

- Understand the data about breastfeeding nationally and locally
- Why teach breastfeeding?
- Understand where breastfeeding learning fits into the curriculum
- Feel confident to deliver breastfeeding sessions as part of PSHE lessons in safe and non-judgemental environments
- Deliver breastfeeding teaching sessions

WCC Public Health Team highly recommend that Secondary Schools attend this 50-minute webinar to develop and support their PSHE curriculum

Cost: Free

- 18 June 2025, 3.45pm to 4.35pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10572 / 91415



## Applying the Mental Health Policy template to your school

This webinar will explain the policy content and how to amend the policy, so it reflects your school's ethos and approach to mental health. All schools who do not currently have a mental health and wellbeing policy are encouraged to join this webinar. Schools with a policy in place may like to join to gather ideas for their policies when they are reviewed.

The webinar will include the mental health policy audit tool. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions and understand the flexibility of the template in preparation for your policy review and development.

The webinar will be delivered by Public Health Practitioners in the Children and Young People and Mental Wellbeing Teams at WCC Public Health.

Cost: Free

- 1 July 2025, 4pm to 5pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10551 / 91414

## Art of Modelling – cultivating a learning narrative

This webinar will revisit the principles of an effective modelling' strategy to support and promote pupils' learning. We will review current research and its' implications for effective classroom practice. Colleagues will be encouraged to share examples of their modelling practices too. Colleagues will take away a toolkit of strategies/resources to support this practice in their classroom.

Cost: £28 + VAT per delegate

- 19 May 2025, 3.30pm to 4.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10505 / 90334

## KS2: Year 6 Writing Moderation Surgery

This session will give you the opportunity to bring the work of 3 pupils for our team of moderators to look at. They will be able to guide you as to whether you are presenting enough evidence, the right sort of evidence and what more might be needed. Whilst this is not formal moderation, the team will be able to consider judgements and offer support and guidance.

Cost: £43.50 + VAT per delegate

- 20 May 2025, 2.30pm to 4pm, Worcester, course code 10371 / 91508
- 20 May 2025, 4.15pm to 5.45pm, Worcester, course code 10371 / 91519

## Moderation - progress and assessment in Reception **\*NEW\***

This session supports the quality assurance of teacher assessment judgements and provides a valuable opportunity for professional discussion and development through collaboration with colleagues. "It is important for teachers to build a shared understanding of the ELG's and the EYFS statutory framework."

These sessions for teachers will enable Head teachers to meet their duty for ensuring their teachers attend training courses and moderation meetings within schools and with other schools and to use quality assurance processes to ensure that the data accurately reflects the attainment of the current cohort of children.

The sessions will provide an opportunity to discuss and gain a shared view of the consistency and accuracy of judgements being made. They are also an opportunity to discuss different ways to share information with Year 1 colleagues of the children's strengths and areas of development so that colleagues can meet their needs and carry on their learning.

Cost: £45 + VAT per delegate

- 4 June 2025, 9am to 11.30am, Worcester, course code: 10581 / 91559
- 4 June 2025, 1pm to 3.30pm, Worcester, course code: 10581 / 91560
- 5 June 2025, 9am to 11.30am, Worcester, course code: 10581 / 91561
- 5 June 2025, 1pm to 3.30pm, Worcester, course code: 10581 / 91562

Book your place on our training and conferences via [CPD](#) using your school CPD leader login details. Confirmations are issued at the point of booking and go to the delegate email provided.

If your school requires support when booking, please contact the training team on **01905 844 420** or email [workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Latest news from School Teaching Hubs

### Prince Henry's Teaching School Hub

#### Initial Teacher Training

Please note that the 20 hours of training for all ITT mentors has now been removed from every provider with immediate effect. However, they will still be offering the tier one training due to positive feedback. Dates for this training are available on the websites of the University of Worcester, Stourport SCITT, Tudor Grange SCITT and Prince Henry's and South Worcestershire ITT.

Applications for the 25-26 cohort are open.

#### **An update from Suzanne Lawson (Head of Strategic Partnerships (Secondary) University of Worcester)**

Will you be looking for a Science, Modern Language or PE ECT in September? Could you grow your own? They are desperately looking for ITT placements in these three subjects for the spring/summer term. If you have any capacity, please contact [c.rowlands@worc.ac.uk](mailto:c.rowlands@worc.ac.uk). Happy to talk about other subjects as well!

#### ECF Update

For colleagues enrolled on the Prince Henry's ECF programme with Ambition Institute, please note the following upcoming dates for this academic year. Please use the following link to book onto these: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/phtsh](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/phtsh). For clinics, you will be sent the details to join via email.

#### **Year 1 ECT Events:**

Clinic 3 – 12th June 2025

#### **Year 2 ECT Events:**

Clinic 6 – 19th June 2025

#### **ECT Mentor Events:**

Conference 2 for Year 1 Mentors – June / July 2025

#### AB Update

DfE registrations for the 2024-25 cohort remain open. Please follow the link for guidance on how to register your ECTs with Prince Henry's TSH: <https://www.princehenryshub.co.uk/registering-your-ect/>

If you have already registered your ECT/s with us, please be sure to complete the Service Level Agreement. If you have not received this via email, please contact [cemms@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:cemms@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk).

#### NPQ Update

Participants enrolled on programmes should be receiving information and a schedule of dates shortly.

## Tudor Grange Teaching School Hub

### Early Career Teacher Entitlement - ECTE Guidance

September 2025 will see the implementation of the ECTE, which sees the ECF and AB framework aligned, and is called the 'Early Career Teacher Entitlement'.

Full details of the changes can be found on the [Tudor Grange TSH website](#).

Please also sign up for one of our upcoming support webinars, where we will discuss the upcoming changes to ECT Provision, for both AB and ECF. The dates and times of these webinars are:

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	3.45pm-4.30pm
Wednesday 21st May	8.30am - 9.15am
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	12.30pm-1.15pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	12.45pm - 1.30pm

The links for these webinars can be found on the [Tudor Grange TSH website](#).

## Latest local news and updates

### Write, record and produce your own songs with Severn Arts

Severn Arts' popular Studio Sessions are back again with a brand-new theme: 'songwriting'!

Students aged 11-16 are invited to sign up to the sessions where they will get the chance to write, record and produce their own songs to an industry standard. Experiment with DJ decks, learn all about mic techniques and have a go at using synths to make your very own song!

Studio Sessions aim to give young people the chance to learn how to record and produce their own music, using state-of-the-art drum machines, synthesizers, midi instruments and Logic Pro software. Students work alongside Severn Arts teachers, who specialise in production and development as well as industry professionals.

Studio Sessions: songwriting will take place across five weeks **every Saturday 9.30-11.30am starting 10<sup>th</sup> May.**

Sessions are split between time on their Music Box bus and using instruments in their offices in Worcester. Places are already filling up fast, so be sure to book soon! The cost is £60 for all five sessions, however there are a limited number of free places for those on lower incomes.

Visit their website to book: <https://www.severnarts.org.uk/studio-sessions-songwriting>

### Inclusion in our digital society research

#### Do you currently teach Upper Key Stage 2 pupils?

If so, our Digital Accessibility Lead at Worcestershire County Council needs your help.

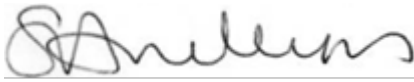
They are conducting research for a PHD about inclusion in our digital society and how we could teach this subject to pupils in school. This may not be a subject you are familiar with, and that is okay because through the survey they are keen to find out what you know (or don't know) about the subject.

The survey:

- is aimed at anyone who teaches pupils at Upper Key Stage 2
- has a total of 30 questions
- is made up of mainly multiple-choice questions
- will take approximately 10 - 15 minutes to complete

For full information about the survey and a link to complete it, please visit: [www.learntoenable.co.uk/survey](http://www.learntoenable.co.uk/survey).

If you could spare the time to help, they would be very grateful for your valuable input.



**Sarah Wilkins**

Assistant Director for Education, Early Years, Inclusion and Pupil Place Planning

