



DSPL 9 (Local Offer)

What is Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)?

There are nine DSPL Area Groups across the county that meet regularly to discuss what services are available and to influence how services are shaped and developed to ensure the children and young people with SEND in their area receive the right support in their educational activities.

DSPL is a Hertfordshire-wide partnership approach where parents, carers, staff in early years settings and schools, further education colleges, local authority officers and representatives from other agencies, work together as part of an Area Group, to ensure that there is a range of provision and support services available in their local community that :

- Meets the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25, as close to home as possible.
- Improves outcomes for wellbeing and attainment
- Widens choice for children and parents/carers
- Removes barriers to learning
- Uses resources more effectively

Bournehall Primary School is the lead school for DSPL 9 (Watford, Three Rivers, Bushey and Radlett). If you are a parent and are interested in attending DSPL 9 board meetings, please contact the Gemma Hall at gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk

How will DSPL help me to support my child?

- The DSPL has 5 main workstreams supporting and developing provision across the area:
 - Triage Service
 - Primary Behaviour Partnership
 - SLCN Partnership
 - Attachment Awareness
 - SEND/Autism

Each of these areas are discussed on a half termly basis to ensure the provision being provided to appropriate to the needs within the local area.

- The DSPL Board members work closely with a range of different agencies, eg Childrens Centres, ISL, support groups to ensure children and young people with SEND within DSPL 9 have access to support and provision.
- The DSPL members will use the high needs funding to deliver and support children and young people across the locality.
- The DSPL 9 Triage Team is a service dedicated to supporting Families, Children & Young People with multi-complex needs, through Early Years Settings, Schools, Colleges and the Community. The aim is to provide a service that finds positive solutions to multi-complex needs. The Team will consider service requests to support families, children or young people with multi-complex/agency needs that require intensive involvement. Initially a triage technique is applied to identify services or organisations that will meet the need. In cases where this cannot be accomplished the team endeavour to design and apply an appropriate solution.

- DSPL 9 hosts an annual conference as well as workshops for parents and professionals with guest speakers throughout the academic year with a focus on the needs within the local area.
- Parenting courses/advice within settings and schools, eg transition workshops, Back to basics – Mental Health training.
- The DSPL 9 website (<http://dsplarea9.org.uk/>) will provide a range of information for parents and professionals along with referral forms for the relevant services available.

What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

Through the Triage Service, DSPL 9 offers a wide variety of pastoral support for pupils as well as support for pupil's social, emotional and mental health.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by DSPL?

DSPL 9 meets with members of ISL (Integrated Services for Learning) regularly. ISL is the multi-professional service working in five integrated area teams across the county helping schools, settings and families to improve outcomes for children with SEND. ISL managers make up the constitution of board members within DSPL 9.

What training are the staff within DSPL 9 had or are having?

DSPL 9 provides high quality training and support to enable all staff to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND. The aim of providing training to schools and settings across Watford, Three Rivers, Bushey and Radlett is to increase skills and confidence of staff as well as to develop networks of shared practice across educational staff to support local provision. Members of staff working in schools and Early Years settings continues to receive training related to all aspects of SEND.

These include:

- Promoting the AET (Autism Education Trust) across the DSPL 9 area to ensure all schools have accessed the 'Making Sense of Autism' training and have embedded it into their school ethos. Encouraging settings to access the Good Autism Practice and Leading Good Autism Practice training sessions.
- Early Years Autism Training to develop increased understanding and awareness of autism & social communication needs through exploring strategies to support learning and development and enhancing good practice across Early Years settings
- Termly Autism Lead meetings to support colleagues in this role through the sharing of resources, good practice and attendance by guest speakers.
- Supporting pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs through the Attachment Awareness School Project. This project enables settings to develop a greater understanding of children and young people's emotional needs and enables an increased number of children and young people with significant needs affecting their behaviour and/or mental health to have their needs met in universal settings (with a continuum of provision).
- Supporting pupils with Speech, Language and Communication difficulties. Increasing skills and confidence of staff within DSPL 9 through termly training sessions from our SLCN base at Central Primary.
- Termly training provided through the Primary Behaviour Partnership.
- Termly SENCo/INCo forums where guest speakers share valuable information about provision and services (ISL) as well as good networking opportunities.
- One year Wellcomm project within PVI and school nursery settings to enable settings to access, understand and implement the speech and language toolkit.
- Bespoke training to schools (primary and secondary) through the DSPL 9 Triage team.

How will DSPL support my child when transferring to a new school?

DSPL 9 funds a Transition worker to support schools, children and families in the transition from year 6 to year 7. Schools and parents can make referrals to support pupils with SEND to ensure that they have access to an extensive transition package as they move into the next stage of their education.

How are the DSPL resources allocated and matched to children’s special educational needs?

The budget is allocated each financial year. The money is used to provide additional support or resources dependant on needs within the area. The budget is allocated into each specific area of need, eg ASD, SLCN and SEMH (including Protective Behaviours and Herts Steps).

Who can I contact for further information?

If you wish to discuss anything, please email: gemmahall@dsplarea9.org.uk

How can I find information about the Local Authority’s Local Offer of services and provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disability?

The local authority, Hertfordshire County Council, has published its local offer of services and provision for children and young people with SEND. This is available at:

www.hertsdirect.org/localoffer