



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Newsletter

Summer 2025



In addition to this Newsletter you can also find information on the Parent Support page on our website: <https://www.rosherville.kent.sch.uk/our-school/parent-support/>

As always, if you have any concerns about SEND matters or simply need a chat please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at email: send@rosherville.kent.sch.uk

Kind regards
Mrs Tracy Macfarlane
Inclusion Manager



Parent courses at Ifield SMILE, Gravesend



Autistic Girls – exploring difference

Tuesday 6th May 2025

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Objectives:

- This course will explore how autistic girls and women can present differently to autistic boys.
- It will help parents improve their understanding on how to recognise issues relevant to their autistic girls that may need additional support.
- It will help parents think through ways that they may need to adapt their girl's experiences and what they may need to advocate for to help their girls to thrive.

Content:

Recent research tells us that there are marked differences in the ways that autism presents in females. The course will explore why autism has been under represented and under diagnosed in female populations and how this is changing. It will also draw on the lived experience of autistic females whose experiences can challenge what we currently think and help us to shape more inclusive spaces for our girls.

Target Audience:





Any parent with a daughter on the autism pathway or with an existing diagnosis.
Any interested or concerned wider family/friend/carer who wishes to build their understanding.
The content will mostly be relevant to parents of school age girls where autism is their primary need.

Presented by:

Claire Noordally, Specialist Teacher Communication and Interaction
Gravesend Specialist Teaching and Learning Service

Self-service refreshments are provided





MAKATON WORKSHOP
Level 1 Training

Date: Monday 9th June 2025
Time: 9am -3.30pm
Arrival from 8.45am

Workshop Objectives:
The Level 1 Workshop provides a practical introduction to the Makaton Language Programme.

Workshop Content:

1. Know about the history, design and structure of Makaton and the Makaton Core Vocabulary
2. Be able to use signs and symbols from Stages 1, 2 and half of the Additional Vocabulary in their daily environment, and use techniques for placement, directionality and movement.
3. Know how the signs used with the Makaton Vocabulary are derived.
4. Have a knowledge of the different approaches to develop the communication skills of a wide range of Makaton users.
5. Be informed about the other Makaton Training Courses and Workshops.

You will receive a Participant's Manual. This manual is designed to be used as a workbook and supports participants when you are putting your learning into practice after the Workshop, which includes the Makaton symbols and signs that you learn in the workshop.

You will receive a certificate of attendance. Please remember to keep your Level 1 training certificate in case you want to attend further Makaton training.

Target Audience:

Level 1 is for those interested in learning about the first steps of Makaton and those who wish to continue onto Level 2.

Presented by:
Kirsty Jewell – Director of Therapy, Lead Speech and Language Therapist, Ifield School

Self-service refreshments provided

Booking details:

<https://www.ifieldschool.com/site/data/files/users/27/421351F206C4F5E637E0C2F5B8D38BBE.pdf>



Parent support at Ifield SMILE, Gravesend

FAMILY ADVICE SUPPORT GROUP – BEAMS

We are Beams will be running a Family Advice Support Group at Ifield Smile

10.00am – 12 noon

15th October 2024

3rd December 2024

4th February 2025

1st April 2025

20th May 2025

1st July 2025

This support group is led by our Family Advice Team at Beams and is for parent and carers of children with disabilities – everyone welcome.

To book a place, please telephone 01474 536924 and request a booking form. On booking, an email and contact telephone number must be given. Booking forms are also available on the Ifield website www.ifieldschool.com

<https://www.ifieldschool.com/site/data/files/users/27/files/620F2C5AACD6F3CBF6CD A43743117178.pdf>



Rosherville

Church of England Academy

Flourishing Through Faith and Fellowship to
'Achieve, Believe and Aspire'

KCC SEND Newsletter – for updates, resources and activities



You can find the latest KCC Newsletter and sign up to the mailing list here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs/listening-to-your-voice-and-taking-action/send-newsletter>



Self-referrals:

Kent Educational Psychology

Offers a free parent/carers consultation line with an Educational Psychologist.

The aim of this service is to provide advice and guidance to parents and carers to support children's wellbeing and learning.

Topics or areas that you may wish to discuss might include:

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

kepscommunitysupport@kent.gov.uk

If you would like to make use of this service please send a message to the email address above including the following information:

- your name;
- phone number;
- a convenient time to call (morning or afternoon)
- your child's education phase e.g. early years, primary school, secondary school; - a brief description of what you wish to discuss.
- the district in Kent in which you live.

We will do our best to respond within 10 working days but this is subject to availability, particularly during school holidays.



KCC Early Help (support for families)

Providing services that can be accessed at a time and place that suits families to help them to do well, stay safe and resolve problems at the earliest possible opportunity, before they become more serious.

Early Help means taking action to support a child, young person or their family early in the life of a problem or as soon as it emerges.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/early-help-support-for-families>

Kent School Health



Kent School Health support children and young people aged four to nineteen.

They can help with a range of issues young people might face including:

- toileting
- sleep
- behaviour
- healthy lifestyle
- puberty and growing up
- emotional health and wellbeing

Parents can find further information on services offered and complete an online referral form here:

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/school-health/>



OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES

<https://www.iask.org.uk/> free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support about special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) for children, young people up to age 25, parents and carers in Kent.

<https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/parents> to support all autistic children to reach their full potential.

<https://www.autismsoutheast.co.uk/info/local-services-organisations/> a great source of information and events supporting autistic adults, children and their families.

<https://wearebeams.org.uk/> for information for parents and carers to help them make the best choices for their child.

<https://adhdfoundation.org.uk/> for people who live with ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia and Tourette's syndrome.

<https://www.ifieldschool.com/page/?title=SMILE&pid=11> for information and advice on understanding autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, language and communication difficulties, Downs syndrome and behaviour management.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs> for KCC information, advice and support for families with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25.

www.kentcht.nhs.uk/childrens-therapies-the-pod/ for details on resources and links for physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech and language from the NHS.

www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/school-health/counselling-and-emotional-health/ for mental health and well-being services from the NHS.

<https://kentresiliencehub.org.uk/> helping to understand wellbeing and resilience

<https://childmind.org/article/sensory-processing-issues-explained/>