



The Additional Learning Needs Support Assistant Champion | 2019/2020



An Annual Programme of Professional Development

Learning Support Assistants play an important role in school life assisting in the promoting of children's learning and personal development within the classroom. Part of their role is to work with groups of children with Additional Needs.

The overall aim of this programme is to give Learning Support Assistants the opportunity to develop their skills and improve their knowledge and understanding of a range of strategies to support children and young people with Additional Learning Needs in their schools.

It provides a network for LSAs and facilitates peer-to-peer support as well as the opportunity of sharing experiences.

LSAs, who have participated in at least six of the ten modules, will receive a certificate and an invitation to an achievements Ceremony with the Chief Executive and senior leaders of the Education Directorate.

Number of Places Available Places are limited to a maximum of 2 LSAs from any one school. However, if there is a high demand this will be limited to 1 LSA from each school.

Module	Topic	Date	Time	Providers
1	Introduction An introduction to the Additional Learning Needs Professional Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction and Welcome• About the programme• ALN Statutory Reform• The role of the Learning Support Assistant• Wellbeing and the Teaching Assistant	23/10/2019	1.00-3.00pm	Heidi Evans Olga Phelps Liz Western
2	ALN Reform This session provides an overview of the Statutory Reform and the key implications for the changes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Person Centred Approaches• The Individual Development Plan• Transition• Working with Parents	26/11/2019	12.45-3.45pm	Heidi Evans Olga Phelps

Module	Topic	Date	Time	Providers
3	<p>Specific Learning Difficulties – Dyslexia</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff working with children with SpLD. It will cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of Dyslexia and other SpLDs • ‘Put yourself in their shoes’ activities • Implications for classroom setting • Practical support strategies. The Learning Differences Toolkit • Assistive Technology 	03/12/2019	12.45-3.45pm	Emma Wilson
4	<p>Autistic Spectrum Condition</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff working with children with ASC. It will cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of ASC • ‘Put yourself in their shoes’ activities • Implications for classroom setting – Resources in The Learning Differences Toolkit • Practical support strategies • Assistive technology 	21/01/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Claire Bullock Sally Evans
5	<p>Speech and Language Difficulties</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff working with children with Speech & Language Difficulties. It will cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of Speech & Language Difficulties • ‘Put yourself in their shoes’ activities • Implications for classroom setting • Practical support strategies • Assistive technology 	11/02/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Pip Large
6	<p>An Introduction to Sensory Processing</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff who would like to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an awareness of sensory processing through practical activities • Develop an awareness of the impact of sensory processing difficulties on daily living skills • Generalised strategies and considerations that may be used to adapt activities and the environment • The Learning Differences Toolkit 	11/03/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Melanie Ferrier

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7	<p>Handwriting</p> <p>To explore a range of handwriting difficulties, how these difficulties can relate to motor difficulties and poor posture and strategies for support in the classroom. It covers the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of handwriting difficulties • Factors influencing handwriting ability • Intervention • Support strategies • Support Aids. The learning Differences Toolkit 	29/04/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Emma Wilson Melanie Ferrier
8	<p>Behavioural Emotional and Social Difficulties</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff working with children with behavioural difficulties. It will cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of behavioural difficulties • 'Put yourself in their shoes' activities • Implications for classroom setting • Practical support strategies • Assistive Technology 	13/05/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Terina Thomas
9	<p>Working with Parents</p> <p>This course considers the importance of developing effective Parent Partnerships including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of effective communication • The development of positive channels of communication between home and school • The barriers and obstacles parents/carers face. 	09/06/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Leonie Rayner
10	<p>Supporting Young People with Co-ordination difficulties</p> <p>This course is aimed at support staff who would like to learn more about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination difficulties through practical activities • Strategies to help young people who may have co-ordination difficulties participate in activities they want to do or are expected of them in school (i.e. lessons/P.E./mealtimes/play). • The Learning Differences Toolkit 	08/07/2020	12.45-3.45pm	Melanie Ferrier