



DSPL | Delivering Special
Provision Locally
Achieving quality outcomes

Early Years Group

Early Years Newsletter

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

DSPL 8 (Delivering Special Provision Locally in Dacorum) have set up a group made up of parents, teachers and other professionals to look at provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in nursery settings within Dacorum.

The aim is to identify gaps in provision and to further improve services and support via early identification and intervention, including speech and language support.

Attached in this first Early Years Newsletter are a range of resources that parents, carers and professionals can use to help the 0- 5 years children they support. In this issue we are focusing on speech and language and toilet training.

Early Years resources

Speech and language

Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. Almost everything we do involves communication; everyday tasks such as learning at school, asking for food and drink, sorting out problems, making friends and having fun. These all rely on our ability to communicate with each other.

The Communication Trust has published a very useful booklet on the stages of children's communication development from birth to 5 years. It includes lots of great ideas to encourage young children to talk. You can download this booklet by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/resources/resources/resources-for-practitioners/universally-speaking.aspx>

Makaton

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

To view a variety of resources and courses available to parents, carers and professionals visit the Makaton official website <https://www.makaton.org/aboutMakaton/>

The "Singing Hands" website offers a range of Makaton resources including courses, DVD's and books to purchase. Visit their website at

<https://singinghands.co.uk/> and search for "Singing Hands" on "You tube".

The CBeebies website also contains information about Makaton. Click on the attached link for more details: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/something-special-what-is-makaton?collection=parenthood-tips-and-tricks>

Potty and toilet training

For lots of advice on potty and toilet training for parents, carers and professionals visit: <https://www.eric.org.uk/factsheets>

Early years settings and schools must make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of each child and children should not be excluded nor treated less favourably because of incontinence.

Hertfordshire County Council has adopted guidance that was developed by The Council for Disabled Children and Leicester City LEA. This guidance is available to all settings, as well as to parents and carers through Hertfordshire County Councils website. An internet search of “Hertfordshire County Council Continence Guidance” will bring up the full guidance document.

General information and help

The attached link gives information on the following support and services:

Finding free early education and childcare.

Family Centre Services (was Childrens’ Centres)

Parents and Family Support

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/childcare-and-advice-for-parents/childcare-and-advice-for-parents.aspx>



The Hertfordshire Local Offer

Hertfordshire's SEND Local Offer is your one-stop shop for information, support, services and activities available for children and young people with special educational needs, and their families. The Local Offer has been created by parents and professionals.

To access the “Hertfordshire Local Offer” click on the attached link:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/Local-Offer/The-Hertfordshire-Local-Offer.aspx>



