ISSUE 29

HILLINGDON
LONDON

SEND and Inclusion Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026



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SEND Advisory Service (SAS)

Service updates

We're excited to be refreshing the SAS offer to make support more accessible, flexible and impactful for schools and settings.

Our new model will provide:
Watch – Topic-based training videos
Reflect – Practical learning resources
Apply – SENCO-led or independent learning
Develop – Bespoke follow-up support from your SAS Adviser

The refreshed offer will enable more whole-school support, helping staff at all levels develop inclusive practice.

Thank you to the schools and PVI settings that contributed to our recent working group. Your feedback is helping to shape the future of SAS, and we'll share further updates soon.

Upcoming training

Details and future training can be found in our Centralised Training Brochure.

MAKING SENSE OF AUTISM IN EYS	GOOD AUTISM PRACTICE IN EYS	INTENSIVE INTERACTION	GOOD AUTISM PRACTICE
11 AND 18 NOVEMBER 2026	25 NOVEMBER AND 2 DECEMBER 2026	1 DECEMBER 2026	8 DECEMBER 2026
6-7.30pm, Virtual Click here to book.	6-7.30pm, Virtual Click here to book.	9.30-11.30am, Civic Centre Click here to book.	9.30am-3.30pm, Civic Centre Click here to book.

ANXIOUS NON-ATTENDANCE	BUILDING BLOCKS INTERVENTION	DEVELOPING TOILETING
19 JANUARY 2027	2 FEBRUARY 2027	4 FEBRUARY 2027
9.30am-3pm, Civic Centre Click here to book.	9.30-11.30am, Civic Centre Click here to book.	9.30am-3pm, Virtual Click here to book.

If you are interested in bespoke training for your school, please contact you linked SAS Advisor to arrange this.

Recruitment

We are pleased to announce the recruitment of two new members of the team as maternity cover for Parveen (Early Years Advisor) and Nataliah (SEN Specialist Advisory Teacher).

Tesni Hurley (Early Years Advisor)
I am excited to have joined the SEND Advisory Service as an Early Years SEND Advisor. Before this, I worked as an Early Years Teacher in schools across the UK and abroad. I am passionate about the power of the early years and the difference that positive early experiences can make to children's lives.

Christine Richmond (SEND Specialist Advisory Teacher)
Christine has over 20 years' experience in education, SEND leadership and school improvement, including roles as a Deputy Headteacher, SENCO, SEND Adviser and NASENCO tutor. She has worked extensively with schools across London to develop inclusive practice and improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND. Currently, Christine leads whole-school inclusion initiatives, including the Neurodiversity Profile pilot, with a particular interest in strengths-based approaches, oracy and metacognition.

Festive tips for autistic people and families

National Autistic Society

Daily life can change a lot at Christmas, from who you see and where you go, to the food you eat and how your home is decorated. For some autistic people, these changes to routine, the sensory environment and social expectations can be challenging.



Click here to fint ips from the National Autistic Society that may help: Christmas tips

Inclusion network for education

Thank you to those of you who attended our Inclusion Network for Education on 3rd November. It was a privilege to welcome Natasha Palldino from, **Voice 21**, an oracy charity who shared how schools can develop students' oracy. We would also like to thank **McMillan Nursery School**, **Oak Farm Primary School** and **Lady Bankes Primary School** for sharing examples of good practice.



Future inclusion networks are on:
Tuesday 9 March
Tuesday 8 June

If you have not already, please complete our impact form:

Together for DLD: DLD day 2026



On 16 October, colleagues from across Hillingdon marked Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) Day 2026 through a collaborative event bringing together education, health, social care and early years partners.

The morning highlighted the importance of recognising DLD early, understanding its impact, and taking practical action to support children and young people. Attendees also made individual 'petal pledges' to help children with language needs thrive.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and took part.

EHCP+ team

If a school has concerns, questions, or is seeking further support for a child or young person with an EHCP, they may be eligible for support from the EHCP+ Team.

All referrals are reviewed collaboratively to ensure they:

- Meet the criteria for EHCP Plus.
- Have clear, measurable outcomes.
- Demonstrate that multi-agency support has been fully utilised and exhausted.
- Relate to an EHCP that has been in place for at least 12 months.
- Require input at Targeted Plus level expertise.
- Are not requests for reassessment through the Annual Review process.
- Are submitted with careful consideration and clear rationale to the SEND Team.

If you feel this support may be suitable, please contact your EHCCo.

Right support, right time, right level of intervention.

ELSA training 2027

The Educational Psychology Service is pleased to confirm that ELSA Training, including the first year of supervision for trained ELSAs, will commence in January 2027. Thank you to all schools that have already registered their interest.

To support the development of ELSA provision, we are offering **one free training place**, plus the **first year of supervision**, to the school that submits the most compelling case for why an ELSA-trained member of staff would benefit their pupils and wider school community.

🏆 The winning school will be announced ahead of the January 2027 cohort.

📧 Submit your entry to using the QR code by 30 November 2026.

Aim High



Our SEND Youth Forum is now entering its third year and has already achieved so much! We are always looking for more young people to join our group and we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 4.30-6.30pm at the Civic Centre.
Find out more here: **Aim High**

This year we are expanding and looking to collect even more young people's views. We are hoping to hold 'sub meetings' in schools where students with SEND from neighbouring schools can attend.

Do you think you could host a sub-forum?
Email SENDYouthForum@Hillingdon.gov.uk

SEND expert by experience appointed!



We are delighted to appoint Faysal Awan to the new role of SEND Expert by Experience! Faysal will be working with us to collect young person views and engaging in upcoming work at Hillingdon.

A bit about Faysal:

- A member of Aim High
- Attended school in Hillingdon and has grown up in the borough
- Was supported at SEN Support; an EHCP was applied for but declined
- Took part in the non-EHCP Supported Internship trial at the Civic Centre

I am sure you will join us in congratulating Faysal and supporting him to empower more young people to share their voice and to improve services across Hillingdon.

Nessy

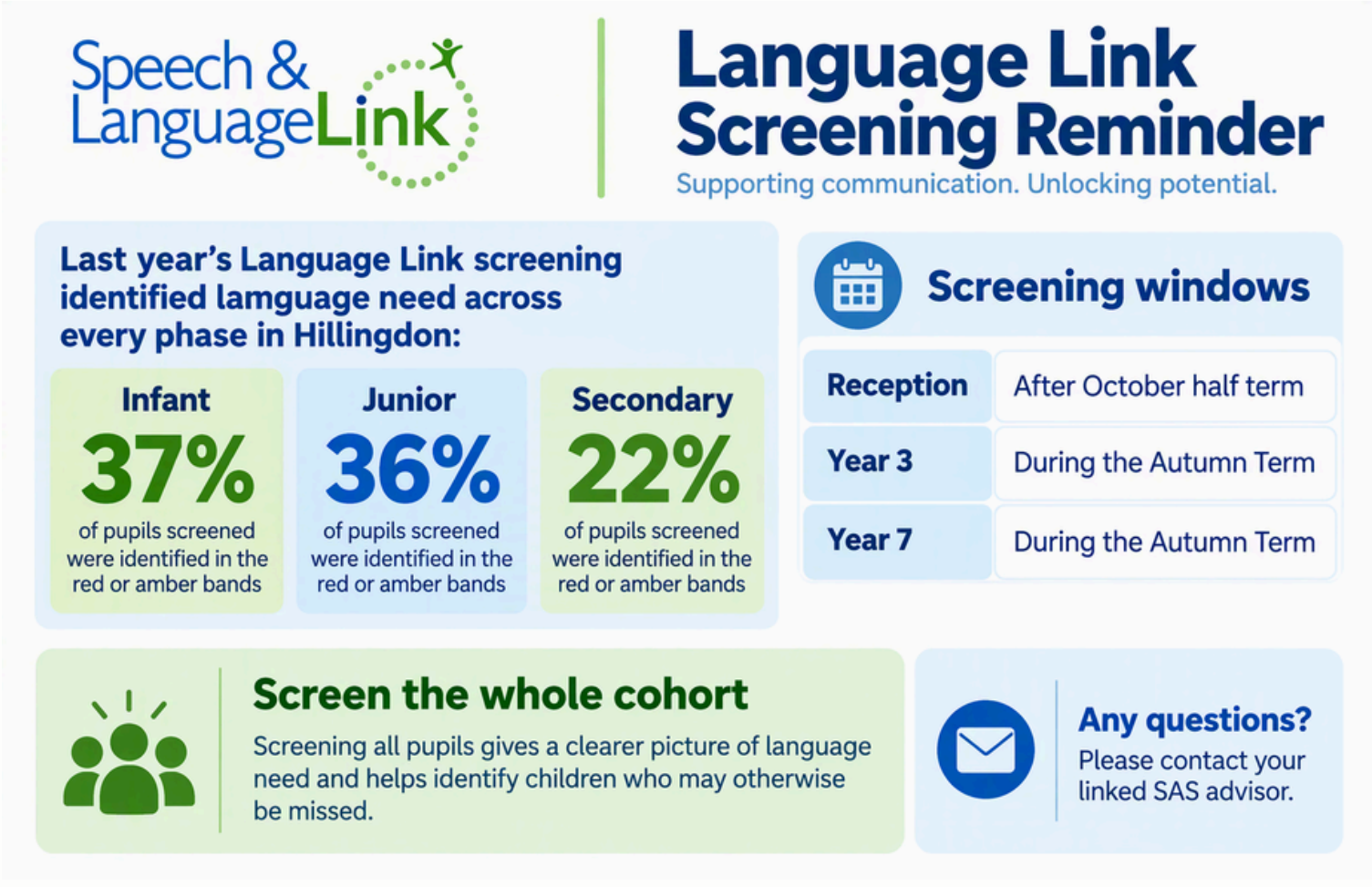
In partnership with ILT Education UK, Hillingdon Council has fully funded access to Nessy's Universal Literacy offer for all primary schools across the borough.

Included Nessy Products:

- Dyslexia Quest
- Reading & Spelling
- Hairy Reading
- Understanding Dyslexia (Online CPD Programme)

By supporting early identification, we hope this offer will enable pupils to access the right support at the right time, helping them achieve their full potential.

Language Link



Children's Integrated Therapy Services

Upcoming workshops

Speech and Language

How to set up and run group interventions in schools

Blanks levels of questioning for professionals

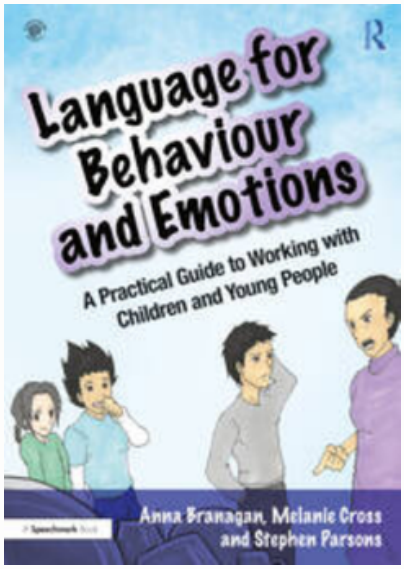
Physiotherapy

Manging hypermobility in CYP

PE adaptations for children in school with disabilities

Resource spotlight: Language for Behaviour and Emotions

This is a useful resource for schools supporting the growing number of children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health and Speech, Language and Communication needs. It provides practical strategies and resources for teaching functional skills.



The book includes an assessment framework, downloadable activities, worksheets and resources. It covers language for emotions and to support behaviour, as well as problem solving and reasoning.

Click here for further information and price: Language for Behaviour and Emotions

For more information

Please visit the CITS website for more information: CITS Website
Find out more about the CITS advice line here: CITS advice line

Hillingdon talks | moves | plays
Children's Integrated Therapy Service

Celebrating Hillingdon settings

Apollo 1: Creating a calming hub for inclusion and connection

by The Breakspear School



THE APPROACH

At Breakspear, we work from the principle that “what is good for SEND is good for all.” To put this into practice, we recently opened Apollo 1 - a dedicated inclusion hub and sensory break-out space designed to support emotional regulation across our school community.

HOW IT WORKS

Equipped with galaxy sky lighting, calming music, flexible seating and a range of tactile tools (from weighted lap pads and spinning chairs to quiet construction and mindfulness tasks), the room offers pupils a predictable, low-arousal environment when they need time to reset. One of our LSA’s said the new space is “warm and inviting for the children” and a pupil in Y5 who regularly uses the space always loves sitting on the bean bags!

THE IMAPCT

A key success has been using Apollo 1 to host our daily Lunch Club. For children who find the sensory load, unstructured nature or noise of the main playground overwhelming, Lunch Club provides a calm, structured alternative. Whether pupils choose to recharge in the reading corner or join in with low-key cooperative play, it gives them a safe base to build social confidence at their own pace.

By embedding targeted sensory support directly into our daily routines, Apollo 1 helps ensure our pupils feel secure, supported and ready to learn.







Hillingdon
Parent Carer Forum

Would you like to find out how you can get involved in shaping the future of SEND services for our children and young people?

Join us for our AGM!

Friday November 20th 2026

10:30 - 12:30



Adult Education Centre
Room 6
Civic Centre
Uxbridge High Street
UB8 1UW

Learn more about:

- Who we are and what we do.
- Our achivements this year.
- Ways you can get involved.

For booking details:

Scan the QR code

or email us at
Hillingdonpcf@gmail.com

We are looking to expand our team and increase our outreach so that we can help more families and ensure the feedback we give is representative of our diverse community.

As school leaders you are uniquely placed to share our information with families. By completing this form to join our mailing list we hope that we can share our updates with the person best placed to pass the information to families.

Please use the link below or scan the QR code.

Link will also lead to a downloadable version of the poster on the left.

https://forms.gle/xC75VAFq1qyQYnBb8

OAP Presentation and coffee mornings

If you would like us to visit your setting to attend coffee mornings please contact us.
We are also happy to share our OAP Presentation with families helping them to understand ADPR and the graduated response.

Hillingdonpcf@gmail.com

Useful links

Ordinarily Available Provision	Early Identification Toolkit	HELLO (SEND Local Offer)	CITS Training
BBC Tiny Happy People	nasen	Education Endowment Foundation	Speech and Language UK