

NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

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Date: 30th September 2016

Dear Colleague

Re: Northumberland training programme for SENCOs, Northumberland SENCO conference and the national SENCO qualification

Thank you to those schools who provided the local authority with feedback on the training needs of SENCOs in our questionnaire in June 2016. We have used this information, along with the feedback we received from our survey of parents and carers in April 2016, to develop a new programme of support and training for our Northumberland SENCOs in 2016-17.

Attached to this letter, you will find a full breakdown of the programme which will be delivered across the year by specialists and professionals. The key focus of the training will be to empower SENCOs and improve their professional knowledge of strategies and practice so that they can lead and support their colleagues in school to meet the needs of your learners. The **Northumberland Education Service SENCO Training (NESST) programme** will also include a **full day conference for SENCOs on Tuesday 1st November 2016 at Woodhorn Museum**, featuring international specialist in social, emotional and mental health, Fin O'Regan. The NESST programme is available at a small cost to schools who have bought into the school improvement service level agreement, to cover the costs of training venues, external speakers, resources and refreshments. Schools who are not part of the Northumberland service level agreement can still participate in the programme at an increased cost.

We recognise that there are some SENCOs who do still need to undertake the national SENCO qualification. To help you to decide how best to approach this, we have collected together a wide range of information from a group of providers which is included in the attached document. Unfortunately, there is no government funding to support schools with the costs of the national SENCO qualification. Hopefully our document will help you to make an informed decision about the best approach for your school, considering programme costs and the time away from school for your SENCO.

I am also delighted to inform you that the specialist local authority SEND teams have been working on a series of guidance documents for schools which will provide an electronic handbook for SENCOs. This will be issued to schools via the e-courier next week.

I hope this information is useful to help you to continue to improve SEND provision in your school. If you have any questions or would like to give us feedback on this offer to schools, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued support,



Claire Brown
Senior Manager
Education & Skills

No Two Children the Same- meeting the needs of Northumberland learners

A One Day Conference for SENCOs

Tuesday 1st November, 8.30am-4.0pm at Woodhorn Museum

Keynote Speaker – Fintan O’Regan

Fin is one of the leading behaviour and learning specialists in the UK. He is currently an SEN and Behaviour Consultant for the Schools Network and an associate lecturer for Leicester University, the National Association of Special Needs, Tribal Education and the Institute of Education.

He is the Vice Chairman of UKAP and a member of the European ADHD Alliance. He has been the chairperson of the European ADHD Taskforce, and is a current member of the Special Education Consortium and the SpLD Assessment Standards Committee.

Fintan trained as a science and PE teacher. He was the Headmaster of the Centre Academy School, regarded as the first specialist school within the UK for children with ADHD/ODD.

Fin will present a keynote address to the whole audience, followed by individual workshops for primary phase, secondary phase and special schools.

Other workshops will include:

- **What do Ofsted Inspectors want to see?** Preparing for inspection as a SENCO
Claire Brown, Senior Education Manager, Current Ofsted inspector and former HMI
- **The EHCP and High Needs Funding process** – Advice on applying for High Needs funding, schools’ graduated response, how SEND panels work and the EHCP application process.
Alan Carrick, SEND Schools’ Commissioner
- **How can an Educational Psychologist help schools with their graduated response?**
Paula Hesford, SEND team manager for Psychological Services and Jill Sandeman, EP
- **Early help and intervention – identifying and meeting need at an early age – what is school readiness?**
Julie Beattie, Area SENCO, Katie Watson, Early Years Advisor
- **Preparation for Adulthood – middle and high school obligations**
Alan Carrick, SEND Schools’ commissioner, Northumberland Adult Learning Service, Employability and IAG team.
- **SEND learners with additional vulnerabilities** – what services are available to meet the needs of SEND learners who are LAC, at risk of exclusion or in need of alternative provision.
Jane Walker, Head of Inclusion/Virtual Headteacher

1 place on the NESST conference: **£55 (£135 non SLA schools)**

Please book via our google form. Places are limited, so please act quickly.

https://docs.google.com/a/northumberland.gov.uk/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpvekJL48UHPH8Q_Ou0SRllgJRslPQF_H-q8SgGO8ZHqhGuQ/viewform

A discounted price is available to schools booking the conference alongside the NESST modules (see below).

Headteachers and other senior leaders are welcome to attend the conference alongside SENCOs. Please note, places are available on a first come, first served basis.

NESST Programme Modules:

All sessions take place at Choppington Welfare from 1.30-4.30pm

All sessions will include light refreshments and an opportunity to network with colleagues from other schools.

Session	Date	Session Content	Presenters
2	Tuesday 18 th October 1.30-4.30pm	Meeting the needs of learners with specific literacy difficulties/d yslexia - the new Northumberland approach.	Judith Dodds Margaret Shahin
3	Thursday 1 st December 1.30-4.30pm	Social, emotional and mental health needs including the school's graduated response to emerging needs. Support available to schools for SEMH needs through health services.	Fiona Tarn Janice Woods
4	Tuesday 17 th January 1.30-4.30pm	Co-production – engagement with parents/carers/children and young people Person centred planning Maximising the impact of teaching assistants. The role of the SENCO in providing effective professional development for all staff	Paula Hesford Katinka Bryan Alan Carrick
5	Wednesday 8 th March 1.30-4.30pm	Meeting the needs of learners with speech, language and communication difficulties	Judith Dodds Jennie Beckwith
6	Thursday 27 th April 1.30-4.30pm	Meeting the needs of learners with Hearing Impairment/Visual Impairment/Multi-sensory impairment Meeting the needs of learners with medical conditions including care plans and accessibility planning	Nicola Taylor Alan Carrick Rachel Mitcheson
7	Wednesday 14 th June 1.30-4.30pm	Meeting the needs of learners with social communication difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Condition	Fiona Tarn Kath Lennon

Programme Costs:

Attendance at individual module sessions: **£20 (£65 non SLA schools) per session**

1 place for SENCO on the NESST programme, to **include the conference and all module sessions: £160 (discounted price available for schools in the school improvement SLA only)**

Please book via our google form.

https://docs.google.com/a/northumberland.gov.uk/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpvekJL48UHPH8Q_Ou0SRllgJRslPQF_H-q8SgGO8ZHqhGuQ/viewform