



Norfolk Multi-agency Practice Week

Monday 20 to Friday 24 May 2024

Learning: Enabling all to FLOURISH



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Introduction.



Welcome to our May 2024 Practice Week where the theme this time from our **FLOURISH** shared ambition is 'Learning'. Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Whatever your role with children and families, I have no doubt that like me, you are constantly learning. And whilst we have a collective responsibility to support the learning of children and

young people in Norfolk as part of our FLOURISH ambition, we also all have a role in supporting the learning of all those around us, our peers and colleagues, parents, families and carers as well as ourselves.

Coming together to learn during our practice weeks is a personal highlight of my year. This Spring Practice Week again offers a fantastic opportunity for our multiagency children's workforce to share some of the brilliant practice taking place in Norfolk, learn from the lived experience of children and families, and engage with national research and local developments. The events are open to all and so we of course also welcome children, young people and families who would like to join and take part alongside the workforce. Each of the 'bitesize' events are held online on Microsoft Teams so just save the time in your diary and click on the links in the brochure to join. To book your attendance at the conference, click on the link to join via Eventbrite. Resources and video recordings will be published on the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Partnership website after the events.

Our keynote speaker at the online conference on Wednesday is Nina Jackson, Education Consultant and Author who will be talking to us about the opportunities we give children and young people to experience a love of learning, discover the world and be resilient learners for the future. We will also be hearing from young people from the Norfolk in Care Council about their work in overcoming barriers to Education, Employment and Training. It's sure to be inspirational so do book early to guarantee your place.

Sessions through the week are being delivered from across the partnership with some brilliant opportunities to hear about the work taking place across Norfolk in relation to learning. As ever, the voice of children and young people runs through many of the sessions which is wonderful to see. A huge thank you to all our presenters and co-producers of this practice week. I do hope you can all find a bit of time to take part, share in the learning and feel inspired!

Sara Tough OBE

Executive Director of Children's Services and
Chair of the Children and Young People's Strategic Alliance (CYP SA)

For any queries, please contact CSStaffDevelopment@norfolk.gov.uk

At a glance timetable of the week.

Day	9.30am - 10.30am	11am - 12noon	12.30pm - 1.30pm	2pm - 3pm	3.30pm - 4.30pm	5pm - 6pm
Monday	DWP supporting families – enabling skills and employment opportunities. Tracy Tanner and Philip Beck	Working with migrant families Simon Shreeve and Valerie Gidney	Mind the gap Ben Wilson and Stephanie Dickson	Aiming for excellence Mandy Turner, Melanie Rymer, Liz Samson and Sasha Burgess	Breaking the cycle Aimee Foster	Learning together Heidi Merrick-Pell, Kim Hipperson and Anita Beckett
Tuesday	How to manage BIG feelings Dr Sarah Hatfield, Max Vannucci and Harriet Tunnicliff	Developing life skills for children and young people with English as an additional language Cecilia Basnett	The power of ordinary magic Harriet Tunnicliff and Keeley White	A Public Health focus on children’s nutrition and learning Andrea Carroll Langan and Anne-Louise Scofield	Forest School for Life - Pioneering new ways of learning Victoria Furness	Results of the 2024 YAB and Make Your Mark Consultations Paul Webb, Michelle Bibby and Sam Mason
Wednesday	Supporting young carers to flourish in education Charlotte Mason and Philip Beck	Learning through connection Alice Ndiaye, St Michael’s VA Junior school and Wymondham High Academy	Every day counts! Katie Griffiths	Developing SEND provision in Norfolk Steph Askew, Michael Bateman and Maxine Blocksidge	Conference 3 – 5.30pm Igniting a passion for learning	
Thursday	Adapting teaching and learning for children and young people with special educational needs Mel Warren, Anna Harvey, and Dawn Jones	Improving outcomes for GRT children and young people Hilary Heath, Rachel Yates and Claire Tattersall	16-25 Learning and employment pathways Roger Allen, Pam Birt, Mark Horton and Sean Ojeniyi	Neurodiversity: Promoting positive communication Zelah Riley and Greg Daniels	Talking with teenagers Anita Beckett and Paul Webb	Learning to address child sexual abuse in Norfolk Tania Fulcher and Francesca Burgess
Friday	Early childhood communication Jenny Howell, Ruth Toop, and Joanne Paterson	Art based approaches to supporting early relationships (0-2’s) Clare Lord, Vicky Armstrong and Josephine Ross	The Norfolk learning ambition Sam Fletcher and Victoria Groom	Solid foundations for children’s healthy sexual development Lesley-Anne Bray and Meltem Osman		



Monday

20th May

DWP supporting families – enabling skills and employment opportunities in Norfolk

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am

Presenter: Tracy Tanner and Philip Beck

An opportunity to understand and learn about the work of the DWP (Department of Work and Pensions) and how they operate in Norfolk in supporting families through a range of initiatives, particularly in supporting parents and parent carers to access support with training, learning and skills. This will include examples of collaborative working with partners. You'll gain an understanding of how state benefits work and how they are designed to enable families to take steps towards employment, including support with practical steps to get there from interview preparation to first week in work. There will also be signposting to further resources and information for future reference.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Profile / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

[Department for Work and Pensions](#)

[Family hubs - Norfolk County Council](#)

[Family Hubs \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Benefits and financial support for families](#)

Working with migrant families

Time: 11am to 12pm

Presenter: Simon Shreeve and Valerie Gidney

The session will cover some of the issues of cultural adjustment that migrants have to face when they come to the UK, including exploring the impact of forced migration on the cultural adjustment process. We will also address some of the issues of working with interpreters and how to get the best out of them in your practice.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[NRPF Network INTRAN](#)

Mind the Gap: a practical guide to working with parents and improving communication

Time: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Presenter: Ben Wilson and Steph Dickson

We'll discuss the benefits of effective communication between parents and school, linking to relevant recent research. We will also look at effective communication strategies, gathered from a variety of partners who work with parent carers, and how School and Community Teams have put these strategies into practice, working with schools to improve communication with parents with a focus on improving positive outcomes for children and young people.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Working with Parents to Support Children's Learning](#)

[Parental engagement](#)

[Help for early years providers](#)

Aiming for excellence

Time: 2pm to 3pm

Presenter: Mandy Turner, Melanie Rymer, Liz Samson and Sasha Burgess

We will explore what excellence looks like in at Chapel Break Infant School, how we inspire our children and our staff to aim for excellence every day and how our curriculum opens up exciting opportunities for discovery. How do we ensure that 'Classes fizz with excitement as pupils explore or discover something new.' (Ofsted 2023).

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Chapel Break Infant School - Home](#)

[Chapel Break Infant's Ofsted Report, Dec 23](#)

Breaking the cycle: Effective measures for combatting anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance

Time: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

Presenter: Aimee Foster

This session aims to provide insights into the methods employed by the Council to

address Anti-Social Behaviour in the Breckland area. Topics covered will include reporting procedures, collaborative efforts with partners, early intervention strategies, and the array of enforcement tools, both legal and non-legal, at the disposal of the Council.

[**Click here to join the meeting**](#)

Learning together

Time: 5pm to 6pm

Presenter: Anita Beckett, Heidi Merrick-Pell
and Kim Hipperson

Facilitated by young people, here's a great opportunity to hear their views on learning and how they can be supported to learn.

Together with young people you will explore how you can adapt your learning activities to support young people in a creative & safe environment.

- Adapting to young people's different ways of learning
- Making learning accessible and including everyone equally
- Making space and time for exploration and curious questions
- Adults do not need to know everything but must be willing to learn together – A web engine of choice!

[**Click here to join the meeting**](#)



Tuesday

21st May

How to manage BIG feelings: Building emotional resilience to support learning in school

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am

Presenter: Dr Sarah Hatfield, Max Vannucci and Harriet Tunnicliff

Focussing on a partnership between Norfolk's Education Psychology & Specialist Support and the Virtual School for Children in Care, Previously in Care and Children with a Social worker, it explores the use of DESTY Island Emotional Resilience Programme at Wensum Junior School Specialist Resource Base, The Hive. DESTY Island is a safe, interactive online world where children work with their DESTY mentor to learn about themselves, their feelings and how to manage BIG feelings. The session will be joined by creator of DESTY, Educational Psychologist Stephanie O'Malley. Participants will gain understanding about the mentor training, implementing the programme as well as practitioner and pupil voice and the impact of the intervention.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Education DESTY](#)

Developing life skills for children and young people with English as an additional language (EAL) – empowering pupil voice and agency

Time: 11am to 12pm

Presenter: Cecilia Basnett

Welcome to a short session where you can find out more about EAL learners and how to support them to reach their full potential. We will discuss the benefits of learning about other languages and cultures in promoting inclusivity and understanding and introduce the Young Interpreters Scheme.

You will come away from the session with a better understanding about the barriers our EAL learners and their families face and be given practical strategies to overcome these.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

Email inclusionandsend@norfolk.gov.uk for further information.

[Young Interpreters Scheme](#)

The power of ordinary magic: the impact of trauma informed practice building relationships and resilience in schools

Time: 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Presenter: Keeley White and Harriet Tunnicliff

Showcasing the work of Norfolk Virtual

School for Children in Care, Previously in Care and Children with a Social Worker and their partners in implementing trauma informed and attachment aware training opportunities in Norfolk schools. They will be joined by Christine Davies, Trauma Informed Schools UK, Neil Moggan, Future Action the creator of RISE UP! and colleagues from schools to evidence how implementing training has built relationships and resilience within pupils and supported learning. Participants will gain understanding on current knowledge for resilience in children and adolescents and what supports them to thrive and adapt despite adverse experiences.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Future Action](#)

[Trauma Informed Schools UK](#)

A Public Health focus on children's nutrition and learning

Time: 2pm to 3pm

Presenter: Andrea Carroll Langan and Anne-Louise Scofield

Nutrition plays an important role in children's ability to learn and good nutrition can support 'the Best Start for Life'. Poor diet is a major risk factor for ill-health. We will provide insight into the current patterns of children and young people's nutrition as this relates to health, well-

being and learning, as well as looking at local policy and practice to support and promote healthy nutrition at population, community and family level.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Nourishing Norfolk Network](#)

[UFSM-reduce-child-obesity.pdf](#)

[Children's Commissioner for England](#)

[Health Advice & Support for Children & Families](#)

[Healthy Eating](#)

Forest School for Life - Pioneering new ways of learning

Time: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

Presenter: Victoria Furness

Flourish Learning Award Winner 2023

Humble beginnings, with a big mission! We will share the intention of our working practices, outline our curriculum, share the impact of our woodland community in the hope to inspire, challenge and reinforce the significance of our early years' practices immersed in nature.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Forest school for life](#)

info@forestschoolforlife.co.uk

Results of the 2024 YAB and Make Your Mark Consultations

Time: 5pm to 6pm

Presenter: Paul Webb, Michelle Bibby and Sam Mason

During February and March this year, Norfolk's 7 Youth Advisory Boards (YABs) and Norfolk County Council embarked on a consultation across Norfolk which reached over 15,000 young people. In this session we will share with you the results, findings and conclusion of the consultation and how we plan to respond to their emerging needs, with young people's participation at the heart of this.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)



Wednesday

22nd May

Supporting young carers to flourish in education

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am

Presenter: Charlotte Mason and Philip Beck

Creating a better understanding of not only the barriers to learning that young carers face but the positive steps that can be taken to enable them to be supported effectively in education and learning is the essence of this session. Examples of good practice, collaborative working and the importance of taking a team around the young carer and their family approach will be detailed. Current guidance, resources and pathways for support will be explained and shared so all those taking part can understand how they can better support children and young people that are young carers to succeed and flourish, regardless of your role and remit. There will be an opportunity to hear young people's voices on the difference support can make to their lives and how we can all work together more effectively.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Get Support Young Carers in Norfolk Young Carers](#)

[Introduction to young carers in schools Young carers and families](#)

Learning through connection: using peers and role models to teach Relationships and Health Education

Time: 11am to 12pm

Presenter: Alice Ndiaye, St Michael's VA Junior School and Wymondham High Academy

In this session we will explore the principles of Social and Emotional learning and how it can be used to support RSHE and other statutory duties. Children and young people from Norfolk schools will share the positive impact of peer-to-peer learning and role models on their learning and personal development. Participants will get access to a resource about inspirational role models and some top tips about using Social and Emotional learning with children and young people.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Fundamentals of SEL](#)

[A Year of Black Joy](#)

Every day counts! Working together to improve school attendance

Time: 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Presenter: Katie Griffiths

School life provides a crucial platform where the critical components of healthy development can be nurtured. It is not just a place of academic learning; it is somewhere to belong, to achieve, to have meaning and purpose and is an arena for social and emotional development in preparation

for adulthood. In this session we will revisit the basics of good attendance practice, consider our work and how it aligns with the revised Department for Education (DfE) guidance 'Working together to improve school attendance' which is due to become statutory from August 2024 and look at how Norfolk is delivering on the requirements through the Norfolk County Council Attendance Strategy.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Attendance Team - csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk)
Tel: 01603 233681 [School attendance - Norfolk Schools and Learning Providers](#)

Developing SEND provision in Norfolk

Time: 2pm to 3pm

Presenter: Steph Askew, Michael Bateman and Maxine Blocksidge

This session will outline the developments in Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) provision in Norfolk.

Participants will be given:

- An overview of Local First Inclusion and how LFI plans aim to improve provision for children and young people (CYP) with SEND
- An understanding of the Themes and Priorities within the Norfolk Area SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy (NASAPS)

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[SEND policies and strategies](#)

Conference.

Practice Week Conference – Igniting a passion for learning

Time: 3pm – 5.30pm

Our conference this May is focused on what we can do to ignite all children and young people's passion for learning.

Our keynote speaker is Nina Jackson who will be talking to us about the opportunities and experiences we give children and young people in experiencing a love of learning, discovering the world and being resilient learners for the future. Entitled 'Access all Areas', we'll be encouraged to think about how we support all children and young people access learning opportunities, with particular consideration to the needs of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, those with Social and Emotional Mental Health, and what we need to do to help all children develop lifelong learning habits, through purposeful relationships, wellbeing, teaching and care.

We will also hear from members of Norfolk's In Care Council who are working on a project to support all young people overcome barriers to Education, Employment and Training. The young people, supported by Leon Russo, Children and Young People's Participation Officer, will provide us with their findings to date before we reflect and consider together the next steps we can all take in this important work.

Nina Jackson

Nina Jackson is an international education consultant, author & speaker who is putting the 'fizz' back into classrooms. She has a breathtaking grasp of what makes classrooms, children and their teachers tick. She's a leading practitioner in all areas of teaching and learning with particular expertise in special educational needs, digital technology and mental and emotional health. She has transformed learning and teaching in some of the most challenging schools in the UK as well as working extensively with schools on the international circuit. An accredited Apple Teacher, winner of the IPDA International Prize for Education and described by the TES as an 'inspirational, evangelical preacher of education', Nina is a tour-de-force when it comes to enlivening teaching and

learning for all. Nina is one of the happiest, most effervescent personalities in education today and puts her own learning, and the learning of others, at the heart of everything.

Norfolk In Care Council and Leon Russo

The young People within the In Care Council are driven to make things better for future young people. They are determined to bring about positive change. The young people who are taking part are all experienced in being Not in Education or Employment (NEET) and have worked tirelessly over the last 5 months in unpicking barriers and ideas to help future young people.

Leon has 12 years' experience working with young people in a range of settings and has youth work at the heart of his practice. His specialism is hearing young people's voice, especially those who are often seen as not wanting to engage. Leon sees each young person as an individual, empowering them to reach their full potential and individuality.

[Click here to book your place on Eventbrite.](#)

Thursday

23rd May

Adapting teaching and learning for children and young people with special educational needs

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am
Presenter: Mel Warren, Anna Harvey,
Dawn Jones

We will consider how educators can adapt learning activities to ensure that they are making their sessions inclusive and welcoming to all children and young people from birth to 16 by using a small-steps approach. Mel Warren will look at the 'Portage Small Steps to Learning' ethos and how they adapt teaching to the individual child, considering periods where the child may be poorly, in hospital, or learning differently and how we can achieve best outcomes for them regardless, whilst recognising that parents are the best first educators of their child. Anna and Dawn will then consider how the 'small steps approach' can be continued in mainstream primary and secondary settings through robust Support Plans, both for children at SEN Support and with EHCPs.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Inclusion and SEND team](#)
[Norfolk Portage Service](#)
[National Portage Association](#)
[Books For Blind Children and Adults](#)
[Buttonybear.com](#)
[Toy like me](#)
[3d toy](#)

Improving outcomes for GRT children and young people

Time: 11am to 12pm
Presenter: Hilary Heath, Rachel Yates and
Claire Tattersall

Gypsy/Roma/Traveller (GRT) pupils have the poorest educational outcomes of any group. But an inclusive ethos and high expectations mean GRT children can flourish and there is no inherent reason why a child from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller community should not achieve as well as any other child.

Find out about how the GRT Service works with schools to help close the achievement gap and provide culturally inclusive learning materials so that every GRT child and young person is able to thrive and have a sense of belonging.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

16-25 Learning and employment pathways

Time: 12:30pm to 1:30pm
Presenter: Roger Allen, Pam Birt, Mark
Horton and Sean Ojeniyi

The session will provide an up-to-date picture of the range of learning pathways and qualifications for all young people (including SEND) together with information on supported employment and other related opportunities for young people.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Help you choose](#)
[Supported Internships](#)

Neurodiversity: Promoting positive communication

Time: 2pm to 3pm
Presenter: Zelah Riley and Greg Daniels

An interactive session offering practical suggestions for positive communication regarding neurodiversity. The aims of this session are to raise awareness, challenge stereotypes and promote inclusivity.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Talking with Teenagers: Supporting staff to feel comfortable engaging with teenagers and supporting young people to have a true voice

Time: 3.30pm to 4:30pm

Presenter: Anita Beckett and Paul Webb

An introduction to a new course being developed for Childrens Services, including the views of young people from the ‘Youth Voice’ workshop day, themes will include –

- Theory of change
- Positive regard and teenagers
- Reflective practice and authenticity
- The legal rights of teenagers in the context of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child
- Safe environment for communication and participation

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

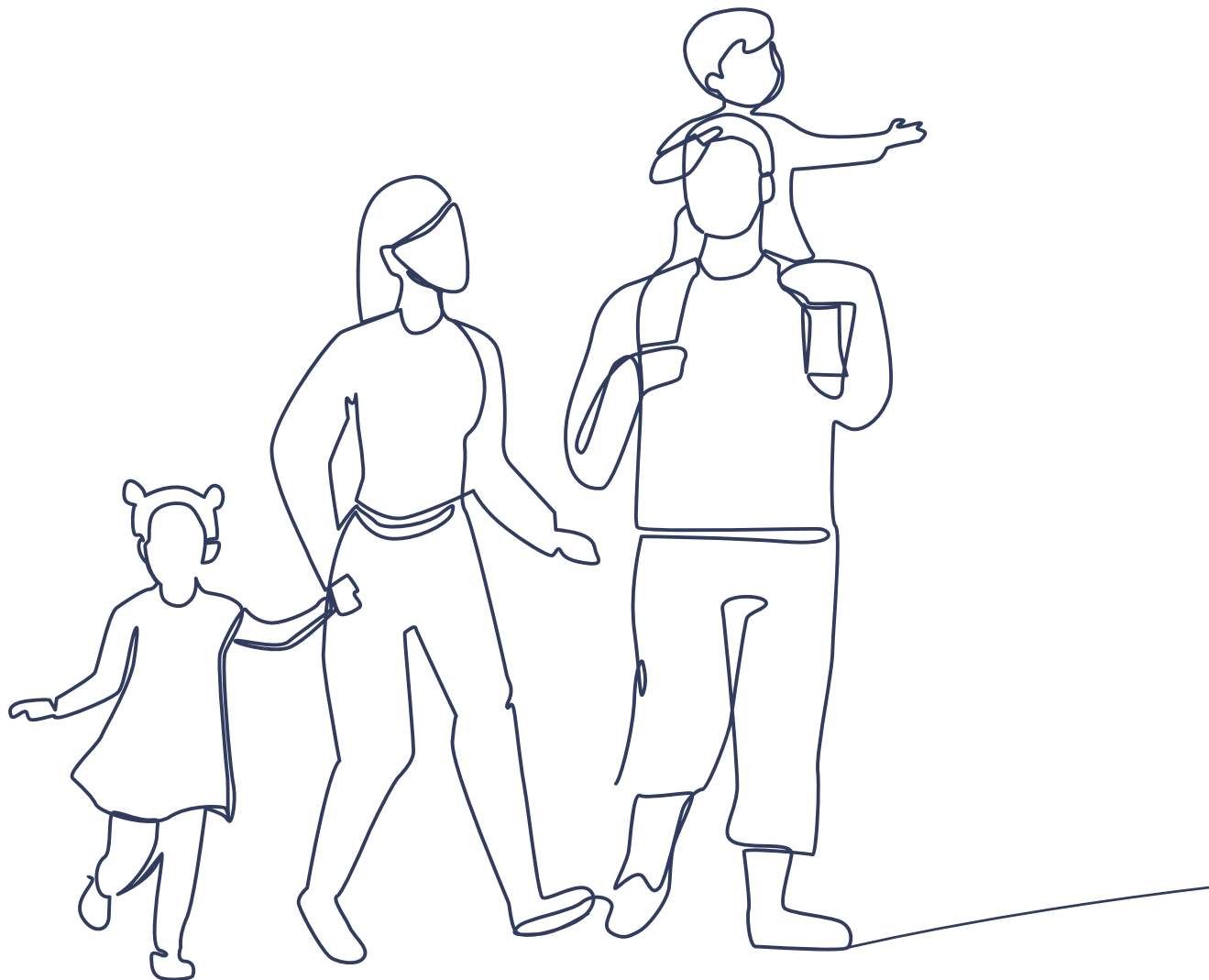
Learning to address child sexual abuse in Norfolk

Time: 5pm to 6pm

Presenter: Tania Fulcher and
Francesca Burgess

This session provides an opportunity to explore how confident Norfolk CYP practitioners are in identifying and addressing Child Sexual Abuse (CSA). We will explore the scale of the issue, why identifying and naming CSA can be difficult and explore how to improve practice in early identification and education around CSA.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)



Friday

24th May

Early childhood communication: How we can all make a difference

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am
Presenter: Jenny Howell, Ruth Toop, and Joanne Patterson

An interactive session drawing on the latest research to demonstrate how we know communication is central to early childhood and life outcomes. We will be identifying developmental milestones to understand what to expect and when. Information and guidance will be shared on how to access support if you are worried about a child's communication. The session will conclude with time to collectively consider what this might mean for our practice and how we can all take small steps to changing habits for even better outcomes.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Art based approaches to supporting early relationships (0-2's)

Time: 11am to 12pm
Presenter: Clare Lord, Dr Vicky Armstrong and Dr Josephine Ross

In collaboration with Norfolk's Virtual School for Children in Care, Previously in-care and Children with a Social Worker - We will be looking at the Art at the Start model for working with 0-3s and their caregivers across a range of needs, from art therapy, to needs led targeted approaches, to universal encouragement to make art together. We will look at why art is a useful tool to support early relationships and some practical models for taking this approach.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

[Art at the Start](#)

The Norfolk Learning Ambition

Time: 12:30pm to 1:30pm
Presenter: Sam Fletcher and Victoria Groom

Last Summer Sara Tough, Executive Director of Children's Services, wrote to colleagues across the education sector to share how we feel our vision for 'Every Child in Norfolk to Flourish' can promote a shared learning ambition that enhances partnerships to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Since then, there has been a programme of activity to identify shared priorities and the coming together of colleagues from across the system in a shared commitment to working together on a Norfolk Learning Ambition. Join us to find out more about the Norfolk Learning Ambition, its focus and add value through sharing your views.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Solid foundations for children's healthy sexual development

Time: 2pm to 3pm
Presenter: Lesley-Anne Bray and Dr Meltem Osman

Exploring how foundations of healthy relationships at the earliest stages support children and young people in their sexual development, allowing them to develop skills for healthy sexual relationships and safe sexual exploration in the future.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Useful links:

Contact HSB Team: hsbproject@norfolk.gov.uk
[Book onto free training](#)
[NSPCC - Child sexual development](#)

About the presenters.

Roger Allen

Roger is the Preparing for Adult Life (PfAL) and Employment Service Manager in Adult Social Services (ASSD). He oversees the PfAL Team, the transition into ASSD, and the Employment Service which supports service users into employment-based outcomes and through a programme called Local Supported Employment (LSE) for people aged 18yrs+ with Autism or a Learning Disability.

Dr Vicky Armstrong

Vicky is an art therapist working with early years in Dundee Contemporary Arts, and a researcher in psychology at University of Dundee. Together with Dr Josephine Ross, she co-founded Art at the Start and has been growing the evidence base for dyadic art-based approaches to early intervention, as well as developing observation tools for parent-infant relationships and ways to include the voice of the infant.

Steph Askew

During her 7 years with the local authority, Steph has worked as an advisor in SEND, Head of Virtual School for SEND and currently as a Senior Advisor for SEND within the SEND Strategic Improvement and Partnerships Team. Steph previously worked as a SENDCo and Early Years teacher and mentor in a large Primary School.

Cecilia Basnett

Cecilia, an EAL (English as an additional language) Advisor, has over 25 years of experience working with EAL children and young people in schools and Early Years settings. She has successfully run the Young Interpreters Scheme and has gained the Schools of Sanctuary award for the schools she has worked in. Cecilia is currently enjoying working with teachers, school leaders and organisations to improve their EAL practice.

Michael Bateman

Michael has worked within NCC for 20 years in leadership roles for SEND, with the first half of his career focussed on operational team leadership and the second half on policy development and strategic improvement leadership. Prior to this, Michael worked in a London Borough and an East Midlands Unitary authority for SEND. A key theme within his work is looking at ways to improve SEND provision through feedback, and data, from staff teams, professionals across education and health and through parents, carers and young people.

Philip Beck

Philip is a Head of Partnerships, Schools and Communities in Children's Services and leads on our approach to working with young carers and partners in Norfolk. Having worked with young carers, their families and wider partners for over a decade, he has come to understand both the challenges they face as well as having the opportunity with dedicated colleagues to look at how needs can be better identified, and support then offered to children and their families, collectively strengthening Norfolk's approach.

Anita Beckett

Having worked with children and families for 25 years, Anita is currently a Learning & Development consultant, with a BA (Hons) in Informal Education, Community Learning & Development & Youthwork, and supports the learning and development needs of staff within Norfolk Children's Services. Her passion is the emotional, social, and professional development of young people and adults.

Michelle Bibby

Michelle is a passionate and dedicated professional Youth Worker with 20 years' experience supporting young people to be the best version of themselves. Her current role at MAP involves facilitating, designing and delivering engaging informal learning opportunities for young people. She has a proven track record of delivering participation and co-production projects, promoting personal goal setting, active participation, and social and educational intervention. Michelle collaborates with community groups and international organisations to facilitate high-quality coproduction projects.

Pam Birt

As the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Employment Officer, in the Participation and Transition Strategy Team, Pam works on the Supported Internship project to increase the opportunities for SEND young people to access internships and progress to sustainable, paid employment. Pam recently joined Norfolk County Council after spending 20 years in further education. During that time, Pam spent 13 years as the Curriculum Manager for the Foundation Department and was instrumental in setting up Project SEARCH Supported Internship with the James Paget University Hospital.

Maxine Blocksidge

Maxine is the Senior Adviser for SEND, Strategic Improvement and Partnerships. She is responsible for co-ordinating and co-producing the Norfolk Area SEND Strategy and Norfolk's annual SEND survey and working with children and young people to seek their views. Her background is in secondary mainstream education working in roles including director of teacher training and headteacher.

Lesley-Anne Bray

Lesley-Anne is a Harmful Sexual Behaviour Senior Practitioner in the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Team. Over her career she has worked with Children and Young People within a Youth Work setting, Young Offenders institution, Youth Justice Services and now within Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Much of this work has involved supporting children, young people and their families to make positive changes through effectively engaging them in assessment and interventions.

Francesca Burgess

Francesca worked in Forensic and Youth Justice Services for fifteen years, predominantly working in and managing multi-disciplinary teams assessing risk and delivering risk reduction interventions in Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Francesca set up the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Team in Norfolk seven years ago, where she continues to work as the Operational Lead and Harmful Sexual Behaviour Specialist for the service.

Andrea Carroll-Langan

Andrea is the Advanced Public Health Officer for Norfolk County Council, working across the public health areas of health improvement, healthcare quality and health protection. She has a particular interest in prevention, addressing health inequalities and the protective effect of 'family' on children's health and well-being.

Greg Daniels

Greg is passionate about Coaching and the positive impact of personal validation and the long-term benefits this brings. Greg is a Development Coach and previously worked within primary education following a long career in the insurance industry and is a trained counsellor.

Stephanie Dickson

Steph is a 23-year veteran of SEND teaching. Her career as Assistant Head/ Lead SEND Teacher/ SENDCo has seen her work in Primary, Secondary, Special School, Special Resource Base and Autism Spectrum Disorder Units.

Samantha Fletcher

Samantha is Assistant Director for Education Infrastructure and Partnerships, actively engaged in supporting the realisation of the Norfolk Learning Ambition.

Aimee Foster

Serving as the Community Safety Locality Officer for Breckland Council, Aimee works within the Operational Partnership Team. Her journey in tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) began in 2018 as a volunteer with the ASB team while pursuing a Bachelor of Law degree and has remained dedicated to this cause ever since.

Tania Fulcher

Tania is the Head of Independent Safeguarding and Reviewing Services and has worked for Independent Statutory Services, Assurance and Practice for 4 years. Tania has 20 years' experience in social work mainly in Children's Services working within Youth Justice. Throughout her career she has been part of direct interventions for sexually harmful behaviours in children. Tania is passionate about influencing best practice and in achieving the very best outcomes for children in Norfolk.

Victoria Furness

Founder of Forest School for Life, winner of the FLOURISH Award for Learning 2023. Mother of two and lover of the outdoors, campaigner for children's rights to access and play in nature and embrace more risk!

Valerie Gidney

A French native speaker, Valerie has considerable experience and expertise in the field of public service interpreting and translation. She has been leading INTRAN, a major public-facing partnership, since its inception over 20 years ago, supporting INTRAN partners in their objective to deliver equitable access to services to people with no or limited English proficiency.

During her career with INTRAN, Valerie has run multiple training workshops attended by health and local authority practitioners, helping them gain essential skills and knowledge on how to work effectively with interpreters, contributing to better outcomes for their non-English speaking clients. She holds the Diploma in Public Service Interpreting (DPSI) in health and in law.

Katie Griffiths

As Attendance and Entitlement Manager for the past 8 years, Katie manages the Attendance Service which is a small countywide team. They are a statutory service charged with working with schools to promote good attendance and reduce absence, ensuring that every child has access to a full-time education and are able to flourish.

Victoria Groom

Victoria is a Senior Partnership Adviser within the Education Infrastructure and Partnerships service and is actively engaged in supporting the realisation of the Norfolk Learning Ambition.

Anna Harvey

Anna is a SEND adviser in the Inclusion and SEND team with a focus on secondary schools. She has over 20 years' experience in mainstream high schools, she has been an MFL teacher, Head of Subject, Year lead, SENDCO and senior leader. Anna works alongside schools to support their SEND provision and is passionate about inclusion in its widest sense.

Dr Sarah Hatfield

An Assistant Principal Psychologist, Sarah has been interested in supporting students with social, emotional and behavioural needs since working as a specialist teacher in this area before training as a psychologist. She was an external examiner on a doctoral thesis that used DESTY and since that time has been interested in promoting an approach with such a thorough theoretical basis in trauma informed care.

Hilary Heath

Hilary is the Team Manager for Gypsy Roma Traveller Service. With a career spanning over many years working in both London and Norfolk, across a range of roles including Teacher with responsibility of Nurture Department and Assistant Head Teacher overseeing Inclusion, Hilary has developed extensive experience and expertise supporting CYP and their families from a range of ethnic backgrounds. She has worked with multi-agency partners to secure positive outcomes throughout Early Years, Statutory School Years and Post-16 provision. Hilary has worked with GRT families and communities across Norfolk for 20 years. She has led national and local strategic initiatives informed by her wealth of operational understanding to support inclusive practice, ensuring schools and settings are developing a culture and ethos of inclusion and meeting their equality duties to effectively support GRT CYP.

Kim Hipperson

Kim is currently a Relationship Sex Education (RSE) Educator with Terrence Higgins, for young people aged 13-24. She has worked within youth work for 8 years, including working on the Princes Trust TEAM programme and National Citizenship Service. Before getting into youth work & what supported her getting into youth work was being a young person on the Breckland Youth Advisory Board 2015-2017.

Mark Horton

Mark is an Information Coordinator for the Help You Choose database which sits within Children's Services. Help You Choose is Norfolk County Council's Information, Advice, and Careers Guidance website for young people. Mark has worked for over 25 years in and around IAG settings with young people and adults in Norfolk; delivering small group sessions in schools and in the community. More recently he has coordinated Norfolk County Council's response to some of the Department for Education's requirements around keeping in touch with young people in Years 12 and 13.

Jenny Howell

As an Early Years SEND Adviser, jointly leading the team of Early Years Advisers, Jenny provides support to settings across the county and developing partnerships. Jenny is an experienced teacher who also worked as an Ofsted Inspector and is a Mental health first aid champion.

Dawn Jones

Dawn is a SEND adviser in the Inclusion and SEND Team with a focus on primary settings. Dawn worked as a teacher in Norfolk schools for more than 20 years and was a SENDCo in both primary and junior schools for twelve years before becoming a SEND adviser. Dawn also co-facilitates the Norfolk SEND Youth Forum in partnership with Norfolk SENDIASS, supporting children and young people with SEND to have a voice in strategic decision making.

Clare Lord

Early Years Advisor at Norfolk's Virtual School for Children in-care, Previously in-care and Children with a social worker, Clare is the hub lead for the Eastern Region for the Association of Infant Mental Health.

Charlotte Mason

Charlotte is currently an Inclusion Advisor in Children's Services. She has been fortunate enough to fulfil many roles in education, including as a primary school teacher and later training to become SENDCo. Charlotte has additional experience as RSHE / Community Values subject lead, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Designated CiC Teacher. As part of Children's Services Early Intervention and Prevention team, Charlotte has been developing resources and whole school practice guidance on a range of key topics including support for young carers. Charlotte is passionate about enabling all children to flourish in education and particularly those identified as young carers.

Sam Mason

A nationally qualified youth worker, Sam has over 30 years delivery experience in Norfolk, working in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. Sam is a director of MTM Youth Services, a Community Interest Company set up in 2011 to support youth work delivery across the county and lead on the South Norfolk YAB.

Heidi Merrick-Pell

Heidi is a member of the DRAGONS (Disability Real Action Group of Norfolk), a project which focuses on making services and venues more accessible and providing a voice for disabled young people across Norfolk. As part of her work with the DRAGONS, she is currently volunteering at Norfolk County Council as a Young Person's Representative for young people with SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities) in Norfolk.

Alice Ndiaye

Supporting schools with Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and Anti-Prejudice, Alice is an Inclusion Adviser and the local School of Sanctuary lead; helping to create a culture and deliver a curriculum where all children feel welcome, safe and included.

Sean Ojeniyi

Sean is one of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Guidance Advisers in the Participation and Transition Strategy Team in Children's Services, offering impartial information, advice, and guidance to Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) 16 to 25 years olds who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), with the aim of enabling them to progress into education, employment, or training. Sean has over 5 years' experience in SEND, Supported Employment Services and FE sector enabling young people to transition into adulthood through education employment or training and previously worked in different roles at East Coast College as an Inclusive Learning Coordinator and Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Adviser.

Dr Meltem Osman

A Clinical Psychologist and Systemic Practitioner in the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Team, Meltem is passionate about working creatively and systemically with professionals, children, and their families to facilitate meaningful change. She has experience working in the NHS, Children's Services, the third sector, and with professional bodies including the British Psychological Society.

Joanne Paterson

Joanne is an Early Years Communication Language Officer and leads the development of Communication Hubs for early years professionals in Norfolk. Joanne is an experienced early years practitioner, who previously worked as a Childminder and Improvement Development Worker.

Zelah Riley

A development coach within Children's Services, Zelah has particular interests in neurodiversity, learning disability and anti-racism. Zelah provides one to one coaching to Children's Services practitioners including coaching outdoors in nature and delivers training related to communication. Previously Zelah advocated for Norfolk children in care, care leavers and children in child protection.

Dr Josephine Ross

Josephine is a Developmental Psychologist at University of Dundee. Together with Dr Vicky Armstong, she co-founded Art at the Start and has been growing the evidence base for dyadic art-based approaches to early intervention, as well as developing observation tools for parent-infant relationships and ways to include the voice of the infant.

Melanie Rymer

Melanie is Deputy Head Teacher and Senco at Chapel Break Infant School.

Liz Samson

Liz is Curriculum Lead and a member of the senior leadership team at Chapel Break Infant School.

Anne-Louise Scofield

Anne-Louise works in the Public Health Team for Norfolk County Council. Working across the public health areas of health improvement, healthcare quality and health protection, she has a particular interest in prevention, addressing health inequalities and the protective effect of 'Family' on children's health and well-being.

Simon Shreeve

Service Manager for the People from Abroad Team, working for Norfolk County Council for 30 years, Simon has experience of working with unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, asylum seeker and refugee families, European migrants and other migration-related issues including forced marriage, honour-based abuse, modern slavery and human trafficking. Simon is a practising social worker, Approved Mental Health Professional and a registered Immigration Adviser and leads the council's People from Abroad Team who work to support migrants, refugees and asylum seekers across the county.

St Michael's VA Junior School

St Michael's VA Junior School is a slightly larger than an average-sized school on the outskirts of Norwich. A recent Ofsted visit stated, "Pupils feel very happy and cared for at St Michael's...Pupils enjoy learning and value their lessons."

Tracy Tanner

Supporting Families Employment Adviser Team Leader for Norfolk & Disability Employment Adviser (DEA). Tracey has a wealth of experience across Norfolk, previously working in the early years and leads on local initiatives within the Department for Work and Pensions in both developing and supporting the work of Norfolk's Supporting Families Employment Advisors and contributing to the multi-agency development of our Family Hubs Arrangements. Tracy is passionate about early help and support for families and creating opportunities for parents and carers to develop their skills and when ready take steps towards gaining employment and improve the life opportunities for their families.

Claire Tattersall

A Specialist Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) Practitioner, Claire has over 10 years' primary teaching experience, with a particular focus on phonics, reading and assessments. Claire supports individual GRT children and young people who have experienced significant periods of missed schooling to narrow attainment gaps with a particular focus on English and Maths and provides support with wellbeing. Claire has developed a comprehensive range of culturally reflective resources, supporting schools and settings to embed GRT Culture and History into their culture, environment, and curriculums to ensure all GRT children and young people can feel welcome, safe, included and experience equality of opportunity.

Ruth Toop

Ruth is an Early Years SEND Adviser and jointly leads the team of Early Years Advisers, providing support to settings across the county and developing partnerships. Ruth is an experienced teacher who went on to work in school senior leadership and Children's Centres and is a Mental health first aid champion.

Harriet Tunnicliff

Adviser for Previously in Care, Children with a Social Worker and Kinship at Norfolk Virtual School, Harriet leads the work on Trauma Informed and Attachment Aware practice for the Virtual School. Through this, the team work to increase opportunity and availability for staff across education and social care to learn more about how trauma and attachment can impact education and how this understanding helps us support children in Norfolk.

Mandy Turner

Mandy is Headteacher at Chapel Break Infant School.

Max Vannucci

Max is a trainee educational psychologist with a particular interest in supporting young people with social, emotional and mental health needs. She is passionate about promoting inclusion and understanding for young people who express their needs in challenging ways and has a professional orientation towards positive psychology and solution-oriented practice.

Melanie Warren

Melanie is an early year's specialist with 21 years' experience within the Portage service in Norfolk. She comes from a background of both mainstream and complex needs school teaching and was a hospital play specialist, many moons ago. Mel is an Accredited Portage trainer in the Small Steps Approach to Learning and in Portage Awareness and is keen to ensure that all early year's practitioners understand the Portage ethos of delivering appropriate, responsive and fun interventions as a conduit to their first learning experiences.

Paul Webb

Norfolk County Council's Strategic Lead for Youth and Participation, Paul has 19 years' experience in youth work practice, management and leadership in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. Paul is NCC's lead for their internal Participation Strategy and Norfolk's Partnership Youth Strategy.

Keeley White

Virtual School Head for Norfolk's Virtual School for Children in Care, Previously in Care and Children with a Social Worker. Keeley joined NCC as Adviser for Vulnerable Groups before becoming Virtual School Head. Keeley and the Virtual School team advocate for educational equity and excellence for children and young people within the Virtual School cohorts. Promoting best educational outcomes is achieved through support, challenge and partnership.

Benjamin Wilson

Ben joined NCC as a School and Community Manager after 18 years of working in Primary Schools across Norfolk and Suffolk as a Class Teacher, Subject Lead, SENDCO and Head Teacher.

Wymondham High Academy

Wymondham High Academy is an average-sized school in South Norfolk. A recent Ofsted visit stated, "Pupils who attend Wymondham High Academy are proud to be part of a school community that looks out for each other... Older pupils provide support for younger ones... they produce high-quality work that reflects their constantly increasing knowledge."

Rachel Yates

Rachel, a Specialist Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) Practitioner, has a wide range of experience, including over 10 years supporting GRT children and young people in Norfolk schools. Her expertise includes supporting individual GRT children with significant periods of missed schooling to narrow attainment gaps and support successful transitions such as mid-term arrival, with a particular focus on transferring from primary to secondary. Rachel provides mentoring and well-being support to increase attendance, retention, and attainment. In addition, Rachel is a PIVATs (Performance Indicators for Valued Assessment and Targeted Learning) trainer and is also able to offer Dyslexic Assessments for GRT children and young people.

Thank you.

As we enter our 5th year of Practice Week, it remains overwhelming to see the level of support and commitment from all those involved in the planning and delivery of these exceptional learning events. Growing from strength to strength, it is a true testament to our universal ambition to work more closely together and bring about better outcomes for the children and families we serve. As always, a special thank you goes to all the young people involved, no matter how big or small your input. We really do appreciate it.

