

Barnet Virtual School Newsletter

Spring 1 2024

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024 from the Virtual School.

The deadline for Spring PEPs is the 23rd February at the latest—due to the end of the financial year we will not be able to agree any funding for PEPs completed after this date. Best practice is completing them straight after the meeting to ensure there is no drift and delay. **Please remember that we hold both recovery funding and Pupil Premium Plus funding for looked after children and that you can request this through the PEP attached to an outcome for the young person.** Any questions please just get in touch. Sarah Deale

Funding for Previously Looked After Children

Funding for Previously Cared For Children is based on census data, so it's vital to ensure that information about your Previously Cared For Children cohort is up to date.

Previously Looked After Children or PLAC - are children no longer in local authority care because they are the subject of an Adoption, Special Guardianship or Child Arrangement Order. Children who have gone back to live at home without one of these, are not eligible for this funding.

From 1st April 2023, Pupil Premium funding is also available for pupils who have been adopted from care or have left care from outside of England and Wales.

Pupil Premium Grant funding is paid at the start of the financial year as a single indicative amount. Following data verification by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), an adjustment is made for actual funded numbers later in the summer term.

To secure the Pupil Premium Grant, it is the responsibility of the educational setting to prompt parents and guardians who will have needed to inform the setting about their child's circumstances in time for the setting to record the child's status on the January census. We suggest that you include a question regarding previously in care status both on your admissions form and at regular intervals when requesting information regarding Ever 6 FSM eligibility.

From Young Minds This is why talking about your feelings matters!



feelings before you talk about them



feelings after you talk about them

Useful Free Resources/Links

EAL Resources

Telling the time

As always The Bell Foundation has useful resources. These EAL resources provide support in using language required to tell the time and talk about daily routines linked to the Key Stage 1 Maths curriculum. They may also be useful for New to English learners at Key Stage 2 or above, who need to learn the basic language for telling the time.

Maths and Money

This KS3 EAL resource supports learners in Maths to develop their vocabulary around using money in daily life including the topics of banking, taxes, employment, shopping, commerce and travel. It will also be useful for new arrivals to the UK to introduce them to English currency and conventions around payment and banking.

[Learning resources Archives - The Bell Foundation \(bell-foundation.org.uk\)](https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk)

You need to make a free account to access them.

The Bell
Foundation 

Helpline for parents/carers

Young Minds offer tailored information, advice and support to parents and carers who are concerned about their child or young person's mental health. They can be accessed over the phone, or online.

You can use our Helpline service if you are the parent or main carer of a child or young person aged 25 or under. It is available across the UK and is completely free. Further information is available here: [Parents Helpline](#) | [Mental Health Help for Your Child](#) | [YoungMinds](#)

Support for young people

There is also comprehensive guide to sources of help for young people [Find Help With How I'm Feeling](#) | [Advice For Young People](#) | [YoungMinds](#)

YOUNGMINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Funding for books




The LoveReading4Kids Funding for Schools Scheme accepts applications from state funded schools in the UK. Primaries, secondaries and early years' settings are all eligible to apply. PTAs are not eligible to apply, the application needs to come directly from the school. You can apply for between £1000 and £5000 to fund books with a specific focus on reading for pleasure. You can find out more information here: [The LoveReading4Kids Funding for Schools Scheme](#) Please note that any grant awarded will be awarded as credit to be spent on www.lovereadingschools.co.uk or www.lovereadingschools.co.uk and should be spent within six months of being awarded.

 LoveReading
4 KIDS FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS 

Website: [Home](#) | [Barnet Virtual School](#) | [London Borough of Barnet](#) | [England \(barnetvs.org\)](#)

Tel: 020 8359 4534

Email: Barnet.virtualschool@barnet.gov.uk

Follow us on Twitter  (@barnetvs), Instagram  (Barnet_virtual_school) and Facebook  (Barnet Virtual School) to keep up with news, resources, training etc .

Training

ACES and the looked after child

22/1/2024 3.30—4.30

This workshop will talk about Adverse Childhood Experiences and what this can mean for the LAC child or young person. It is a repeat of last term's course.

Suitable for all school staff

Leaders: Speech and Language therapists

Our training is free to ALL schools. You do not need to buy into BPSI/Bels

Is it EAL or language difficulties?

5/2/2024 3.30-4.30 OR 11/3/24 10—11am

This workshop will focus on how to differentiate between a child who has English as second language (EAL) vs a child who comes from a bilingual background and has core language difficulties i.e. what is the difference, myth busters and when to refer on.

Leaders:

Speech and Language therapists

Lies, stealing and fantasy worlds

20/02/2024 9.30—11.45 on TEAMS

In this session you will explore why children and young people in care or who are adopted may lie, steal and tell fantasy like stories, consider when to address lying or stealing and look at supportive and non-shaming ways of responding to a child/young person when they lie or steal.

Suitable for all school staff.

Leaders: Dr Amy Gibb, Educational Psychologist

Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

28/2/24—3.00—5.00 on Teams

In this course you will gain a better understanding of EBSA. It will explore, among other things, the language used, anxiety, stress and the body's stress response system, brain development, understanding behaviour as communication, identifying EBSA and working with the child and parents/carers

Leader: Amelia Brunt AC Education Amelia Brunt is a specialist teacher, trainer and supervisor working with educational complexity. With almost 30 years of experience as a classroom teacher, SENDCo and SEMH consultant, she works from a sound grounding of evidence based trauma informed practice. This training will provide you with both a good place to begin and to develop your EBSA learning journey.

Purposeful PEPS—best practice approaches for Personal Education Plans

19/3/2024—9.30—11.30 on Zoom

In this course you will gain an understanding of the PEP process and your role within it, explore ways to gather pupil voice for the PEP and gain support with writing SMART targets/outcomes.

This workshop is suitable for Designated Teachers for Looked After Children or other people who lead on PEPs in schools

Leader: Sam Rothwell, IAT and Caroline Gladkow, Virtual School

Training continued

Emotion Coaching

We are running a number of sessions on Emotion Coaching. These will all be in person at the PDC from 1pm—3pm

- 11th March Emotion Coaching training – early years and primary OR
- 14th March Emotion Coaching training – early years and primary
- 26th February, Emotion Coaching training - Secondary & 6th form OR
- 29th February Emotion Coaching training – Secondary & 6th form
- 4th March Emotion Coaching training – Special schools

Suitable for all practitioners. Please choose the session suitable for your setting

Leader: Dr Cora Figueira-Bates Educational Psychologist

Trauma Informed Schools Conference

21/3/2024 9.00—3.15 at the PDC

An opportunity to hear about being a trauma informed school from some of the leading speakers in the field. The day will explore the benefits of taking a relational approach and the difference it can make.

Key note speakers

Steven Baker OBE (Principle of Everton Free School and Football College) and Mick Simpson (Headteacher at Olsen House School), authors of 'A school without sanctions' will talk about their journey to becoming a trauma informed school

Ashley John-Baptiste (care experienced BBC presenter) will talk about how he overcame his childhood in care to exceed expectations and what made a difference

Louise Bomber (Founding Director of Touchbase and author of several books exploring trauma and attachment in schools) will talk about her book 'Know me to teach me' and how attachment aware, trauma responsive practice could provide a new pathway for all.

To book these training courses, please open this link: [Training & Events | BELS | Barnet Education and Learning Service \(belstradedservices.uk\)](#) You may need to wait until next week for them all to be available on the system.

Key Contacts at the Virtual School

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