

Shropshire  
Virtual School



# Newsletter Summer Term 2022-23

*Dear Designated Teachers*

*I hope you have enjoyed the Easter break and had some time to relax, despite the weather! Our Newsletter has lots of information to update you on news, upcoming events and our children's achievements.*

*Thanks as always for your continued support for our young people, whether they be looked-after, previously looked-after or children with a social worker. I wish you all a great Summer term.*

*Jo Kelly, Head Teacher*



# Our team is growing...



Please welcome Heather Hobman who is joining us as an Education Advice & Support Officer from April 17<sup>th</sup> . She comes with lots of experience, including at Alternative Provisions engaging young people with a variety of needs.

[Heather.Hobman@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Heather.Hobman@shropshire.gov.uk)



- A new EASO will join us part-time after May half term
- There are some posts out for advert at the moment – one is for an Asst Head and also some EASOs. See [Shropshire.gov](http://Shropshire.gov) jobs for more information

# Launch of our Shropshire Hearts & Minds Project



## Hearts and Minds

Schools taking part will be invited to the Launch Event in September 😊



Includes fully funded Attachment & Trauma training, Emotion Coaching Train the Trainer and bespoke training/support for whole school change on the journey each school wants to take.

We already have several schools signed up but if you are interested then get in touch.

# Pupil Premium+



From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 the amount of PP+ for CLA and PLAC will increase to £2530 per child per financial year.

As a result we are sharing the increase for Shropshire CLA with you – and so termly amounts will increase to £430 per term on the basis of a Good Quality PEP.

- [Pupil premium 2023 to 2024: conditions of grant for local authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pupil-premium-2023-to-2024-conditions-of-grant-for-local-authorities)



# Save the Date!

## Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Join us for a day of inspirational speakers including **Jaz Ampaw Farr** and **Mark Finnis**

A group of young people will also be leading some activities on the day

Plus plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues

Flyer to come out to you soon...

# Our Childrens PEPs

*Thank you for your support with completing PEPs. Nearly 80% of them were Good Quality so we, along with Social Care and yourselves have some way to go together.*



*For Education this is **a simple fix** as the most common reason for a PEP needing to be improved was around targets, so here is a reminder of what is needed for a PEP to be Good Quality...*

My previous targets are reviewed.

My new Targets are SMART and include:

- One academic target for Maths and one for English in Secondary school or;
- One for each of Reading, Writing and Maths in primary school or;
- One for each of the 3 prime areas: Communication & Language, Physical Development and Personal Emotional & Social Development in EYFS;
- Termly small steps taken from my EHCP targets if I am using the specialist attainment section





# Examples of SMART PEP Targets

## - taken from your PEPs 😊

O will read independently 3 x per week and increase his standardised score to above 80

J will allow the teacher to manage classroom behaviour on 90% of occasions ie he will not intervene

P will be able to construct an accurate PEZEL paragraph on 4/5 occasions

S will attend weekly guitar lessons and perform a short piece of music at his next PEP 😊

A will improve her attendance from 72% to over 90% by the end of this term

B will be able to have successful playtimes with no incidents on 60% of occasions

J will increase the amount of time learning in the classroom from 5 mins on task and 3 minute reset to 10 mins on task and 3 minute reset.



**AIMING for 90%  
or higher Good  
Quality PEPs in  
the SUMMER  
TERM**



# PEPs – please remember to

- sign-off your section off the PEP within **10 days** of the meeting taking place
- add the date for the next PEP review.

**Summer term PEPs need to be held, completed and signed off by Friday 7th July 2023**

# Additional PP+ Funding Requests

## Funding

Request for additional PP+

## Costings

£

## Details of Intervention

SHOW EXACT COSTING

eg 3 x 20 minutes of small group phonics teaching per week for 12 weeks = £144.00

Most PEP targets are supported by the termly drops to schools.

However, there may be times when a school looks at requesting an additional amount to help.

If this is the case please use the **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PP+ in the drop-down funding tab** and show **exact costings**. This will ensure that the team know a request is being made and can submit this to the VS Head Teacher for consideration. They will let you know if this is approved and then you can get on with planning for the intervention /resource.

# What have our young people been up to with SVS?

- Shropshire Virtual School Council, first meeting
- Clay in a box online workshop
- Forest school morning
- Music Give it a Go event
- Boxing Awards
- Pancake competition – well done to all those who took part!



# What is on offer for our young people next??

- Sports day in May half term
- Samba Saturdays!
- Prosthetics / make up evening



Watch out for flyers about our next events and please encourage your young people to take part 😊

[Children and young people | Shropshire Council](#)

Contact [Beth.Francis@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Beth.Francis@shropshire.gov.uk)

# Do you know about the EP-PLAC? Support your previously looked after children

## Please see below EP-PLAC documents

### EYFS plan and child views



Microsoft Word  
Document



Microsoft Word  
Document

### Primary Plan and child views



Microsoft Word  
Document



Microsoft Word  
Document

### Secondary Plan and YP views



Microsoft Word  
Document



Microsoft Word  
Document

Together 4 Children the regional Adoption Agency has introduced an Education Plan for Previously Looked after Children (EP-PLAC).

The EP-PLAC's main function is as an awareness raising document that ensures that relevant information is available to those who need to know and that effective communication routes are established.

For those in education to be fully aware of the needs and issues faced by previously looked after children and their parents/carers.

To encourage further positive collaboration across home and school/early years provision.

The EP-PLAC is not intended to replace other (more reactive) education based plans such as IEPs (Individual Education Plans) or PSPs (Pastoral Support Programmes).



## Online Workshop – Supporting Previously Looked After Children

Audience: Designated teachers



- Sharing best practise
  - Overview from Adoption UK
- Hear from our Post Adoption Team

A flyer will be out soon with more details



# Free Webinars for Carers/Parents

<https://www.rolemodels.me>

## Watch back our March webinar in full

Frances Waller and Lewis Keens explored how to build confidence in young children.

- Why confidence is such an important skill to develop in formative years.
- What it means to be confident.
- Ways to develop confidence.



## Watch back our November webinar in full

Laura Kay and Frances Waller explored how to build a resilient family in the modern world.

- Why resilience is such an important skill to foster in your family in 2022.
- What it means to be resilient.
- Ways to develop resilience.
- How embedding resilience can support your family.





# Reading Well

As part of the Virtual School's Letter Box offer, we are trialling Book Touch packs for Visually Impaired Children, if you think this would suit any of your young people, please get in touch



Don't forget it is World Book Night on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April and they are giving away free audio books for those who are post 16  
<https://worldbooknight.org/>

Reading Well Teens: A series of 'shelf' help books for teens supporting the mental health and wellbeing, providing information, advice and support to better understand their feelings, handle difficult experiences and boost confidence.



Reading Well for Children: 33 books covering topics relevant to the children of today, including grief, anxiety, bullying and staying safe online. In recognition of the potential impact of living with diagnosed conditions and physical disabilities, the booklist explores living well with conditions including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), dyslexia, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and physical disabilities.

<https://reading-well.org.uk/>



- If we decide together to use a RTT to support young people to attend and engage, then please ensure a **Risk Assessment is included when you send us the Summary Timetable.** This is to make sure we have considered all aspects of Safeguarding. You can use this link to help [Reduced timetables | Shropshire Learning Gateway \(shropshirelg.net\)](https://www.shropshirelg.net/reduced-timetables)

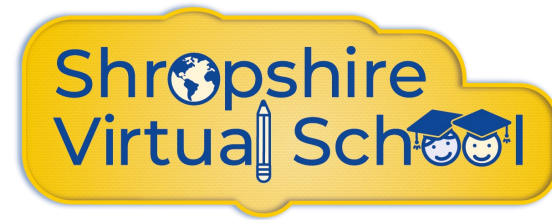


- See DFE Guidance Feb 2023 for more information on attendance and mental health

[Summary of responsibilities where a mental health issue is affecting attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/111111/summary-of-responsibilities-where-a-mental-health-issue-is-affecting-attendance.pdf)

# Training for schools & settings coming soon...

- Emotion Coaching Train the Trainer for whole school – October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>
- Attachment & Trauma – whole-school
- Nurture Network session (for schools who have already done Nurture 3 day training) – 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Nurture Theory and Practice – taking bookings soon for Nov/Dec dates
- Nurture ABC with Lego (supports Speech & Language) - October



*More details will follow so you can book places - if you are interested in any of the above please contact [Jo.kelly@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Jo.kelly@shropshire.gov.uk).*

# Our next Network for DTs is face to face 😊 on 28<sup>th</sup> June

- [UCS Shrewsbury CPD \(ucshrewsbury.ac.uk\)](http://ucshrewsbury.ac.uk)
- The latest news on funding for you, changes are ahead
- Hear from guest speakers such as Role Models
- Networking and collaborative activity
- Free resource for you to take away
- And more...

*Suitable for all secondaries & primaries plus EYFS*

*Also check out the UCS site for DT new to post /  
Refresher sessions and Governor Training*









**Jo Kelly**  
Virtual School Head



**Lindsay Armstrong**  
Assistant Head



**Anne Williams**  
Specialist Education Access Officer



**Lorraine Griffiths**  
IAG Personal Adviser Post 16



**Paula Edwards**  
Business Coordinator



**Georgia Smith**  
Specialist Teacher



**Lisa Peters**  
Specialist Teacher



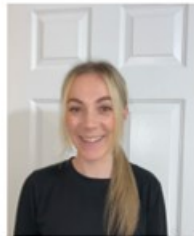
**James Waller-Davies**  
Specialist Teacher



**Adriana Coupe**  
Specialist Teacher



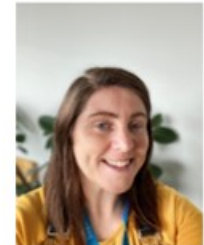
**Amy Foulger**  
Education Advice &  
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**Beth Francis**  
Participation Support  
Officer



**Katherine Jones**  
Education Advice &  
Support Officer



**Suzie Rawson**  
Education Advice &  
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**Catherine Brown**  
Administrator



**Heather Hobman**  
Education Advice and  
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