



National Updates

Post-16 provision

Those of you with secondary aged children may be interested in a new report released on Dec 3rd, which outlines key recommendations for improving post-16 provision. These include:

- More collaboration between post-16 FE and other providers and the LA
- Better transitions between secondary schools and FE and beyond
- An improvement in the content of post-16 EHCPs

The full report can be read by [following this link](#)

Hertfordshire Updates

New guidance for making ASD referrals

Schools have received a range of updated guidance and information to support them in making referrals for CYP in educational settings: Guidance for making referrals, ASD School Questionnaire (completed by schools to initiate referral process), ASD Parent/Carer Pre-assessment Information (completed by parents with support from school) and a copy of the ASD referral Form which is then completed by a GP/Health Professional once Parent and School Info has been received.

<https://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/welfare/nhs/index.shtml#asd>

Parenting Courses

There are a number of parenting courses to support families across Hertfordshire, including:

- Anger in the family
- Parenting children aged 5-14 with ASD/ADHD
- Parenting children with SEND
- Dealing with teens challenging behaviour

Courses are offered across the county. You can search for courses in HCC's Parenting Directory at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parentingsupport

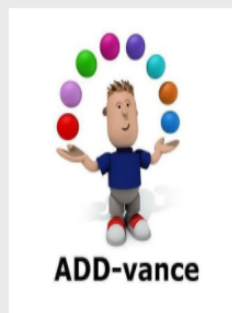
A full list of the online parenting courses for the Spring term can be found [here](#).

Families in Focus are also delivering a wide range of training, which can be booked through their website <https://www.familiesinfofocus.co.uk/>

ADD-Vance ASD/ADHD online training

ADD-vance have released dates for a number of online workshops covering a range of topics. Book through [eventbrite](#)

Understanding ADHD and Autism

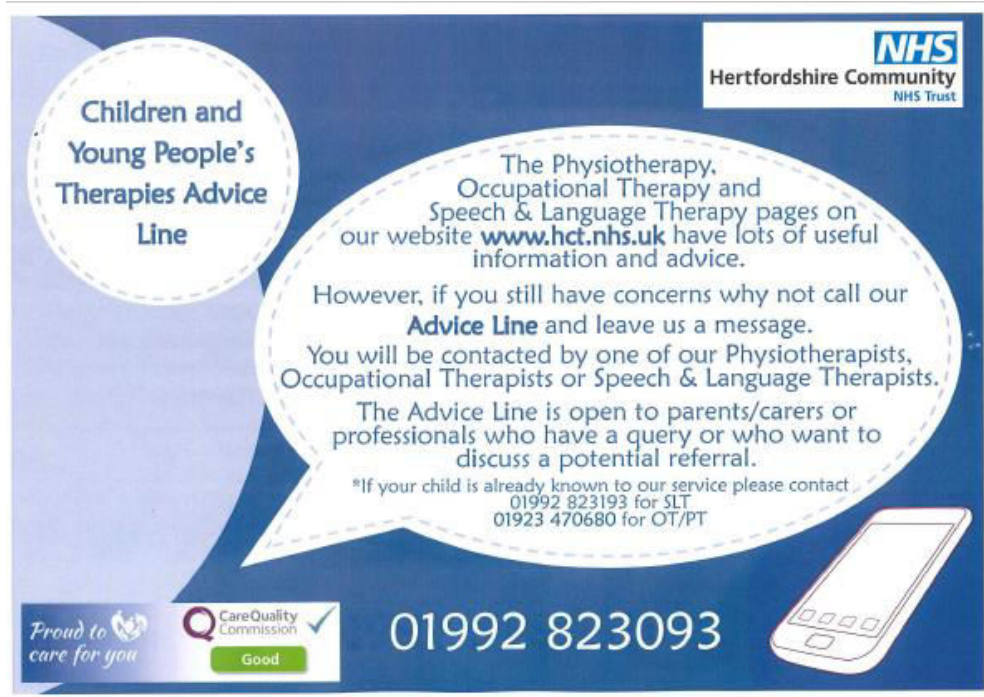


An online course from Add-Vance

Mondays	4 th January to 8 th February	10 am - 12 pm and
Mondays	4 th January to 8 th February	7 - 9 pm
Wednesdays	6 th January to 10 th February	10 am - 12 pm
Thursdays	7 th January to 11 th February (Parents/carers of girls only)	10 am - 12 pm
Fridays	8 th January to 12 th February	10 am - 12 pm
Saturdays	9 th January to 13 th February	2 - 4 pm (Dads and male carers only)

Children and Young People's Therapies Advice Line

Due to COVID-19, there is reduced service capacity at this time for Occupational, Physio and Speech and Language Therapies. There is a dedicated advice line for parents, carers and professionals to speak to a therapist about a new referral or a child's development. This line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Messages should be left on the Advice Line and a therapist will contact you.



Children and Young People's Therapies Advice Line

The Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech & Language Therapy pages on our website www.hct.nhs.uk have lots of useful information and advice.

However, if you still have concerns why not call our **Advice Line** and leave us a message. You will be contacted by one of our Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists or Speech & Language Therapists.

The Advice Line is open to parents/carers or professionals who have a query or who want to discuss a potential referral.

*If your child is already known to our service please contact
01992 823193 for SLT
01923 470680 for OT/PT

01992 823093

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DSPL7 Updates

New Post 16 Transition Co-ordinator (SEND)

DSPL7 has appointed Rachel Robin to our new role of Post 16 Transition Co-ordinator. Rachel will be supporting vulnerable students in Y11 with SEND but without an EHCP for whom transition post 16 to college or an apprenticeship may prove difficult. Students are referred by schools in the DSPL7 area and will be supported through their first year of college or apprenticeship. Rachel will work with the student to explore post 16 options and support them through the transition process, ensuring that they make a successful move to their new learning environment.



It has been a busy term at DSPL7. Our SEND Family worker has supported 58 families with a range of strategies to support them to manage their child's needs at home. She currently has a waiting list of 13 families who will be contacted in the New Year. Our KS3 Mentor has worked with 20 young people from Y7-9, our Down Syndrome Advisory teacher has visited 9 schools to give advice and our new Post 16 co-ordinator has already received 14 referrals and made initial visits to schools.

...and finally...

It has been a long and difficult term for everyone and I am sure you are all in need of rest and recuperation. Everyone at DSPL7 would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas - we hope you manage to have a good break and enjoy some time off with family and friends.

