



Friday 3rd February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you at the end of week 5, with only one week of term 3 to go ! The weeks seem to have flown by, but I am certainly ready for a break and I'm sure the children are too.

Kent Educational Psychology Service

This service are setting up new parent meetings - please see below for details .

Parent Reflection teams

A new peer-support group for Parents in West Kent

Kent Educational and Community child psychology service and Specialist Teaching and Learning service would like to invite you to take part in a positive and sociable approach to problem-solving.

“Reflecting teams’ , also known as “solution circles” is a widely used family therapy technique that has been adapted to many different contexts and environments. Through the use of positive feedback, thoughtful reflection and group thinking, Reflecting teams offers an accessible method of problem-solving without the need for ‘professional’ involvement.

How does it work?

A session will consist of **minimum 3/maximum 8** other parents known as a **team**. Issues can be presented for the **team** to reflect on and each reflecting conversation will last between 30-40minutes.

What are the benefits of using reflecting teams?



⇒Creation of a safe space to problem-solve worries and issues.

⇒Opportunity for guided reflection and constructive thinking

⇒A chance to receive advice and encouragement from peers experiencing similar problems as you instead of including yet another outside agency.

⇒Chance to hear multiple perspectives on a persistent problem

What kinds of issues can I bring to the reflecting teams

While reflecting teams can not be used as a substitute for therapeutic and clinical interventions, it is more than appropriate for confidence building through group discussion based problem-solving. Below is just a sample of some issues that could be discussed:

- Difficulties in dealing with oppositional behaviour and anxiety in children
- Dealing with sensitive topics such as school avoidance, puberty, Covid-19 etc.
- Sleep /weaning/ independence / potty training
- Building self-esteem of both child and parent
- Supporting home learning

Arrangement details

Where?

Sessions are planned to take place for parents living in **Maidstone** and **Tunbridge Wells** areas. Sessions will be held online via Microsoft Teams

initially with a view to establish in-person groups in the future.

When?

Sessions to run frequently between March and July 2023. Dates and times will be made available upon enquiry.

How to sign up

If you'd like to join please send an email to educationalpsychologysupport@kent.gov.uk with "Parent Reflection Teams" in the subject. Include your area of residence in the message and a brief overview (Max 100 words) of the issue you'd like to discuss.

We look forward to having you join us!

Five Acre Wood - ASD parent support

Five Acre Wood school offer outreach parent support - in March they are offering a SCERTS session for those parents whose children have a diagnosis for or are waiting for a diagnosis of ASD. Please see the details below



Parent/Carer training session—The SCERTS Model

Tuesday 14th March 2023—6pm –8pm

with international expert Emily Rubin

Emily specialises in Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related social learning disabilities and she lectures internationally.

What is the SCERTS model?

SCERTS is an educational model for children and older individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families. The model can also be used with individuals not on the autism spectrum who are developing social communication and emotional regulation skills. SCERTS provides specific guidelines for helping an individual become a competent and confident social

communicator and an active learner.

Join us and learn more about:

- How current neuroscience helps us understand social and emotional development in our children.
- How embedding supports for social and emotional engagement in the classroom and at home supports language, literacy, and academic growth.

There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

Book a place on this event

The cost of this event is **£20 per person**. If you would like to attend, please confirm your attendance by emailing hstewart@five-acre.kent.sch.uk or by calling the school office on 01622 743925.

Payment must be received before the event date. Please send BACS payment to bank details below, quoting your surname and SCERTS as the payment reference:

Account Name: Five Acre Wood School

Account No: 83298320

Sort Code: 60-60-08

Alternatively, cheques can be made payable to KCC Five Acre Wood School and returned to the school address above.



Leeds and Broomfield Cof E Primary School - SIAMS inspection

On Tuesday 31st January 2023, Leeds and Broomfield had their SIAMs inspection - this is the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. It focuses on the Christian distinctiveness of the school. Only church schools have these inspections. We are awaiting the report, but I would like to thank the staff and Mrs Steer for all their hard work. A special mention to the pupils at Leeds for showing their school as caring and nurturing place that it is, and a huge well done to those children who led the worship with the inspector watching.

Sports events

Miss Liddicoat is very busy at the moment entering Aspire teams into various events. It is great we can take part in these again and I look forward to hearing about the children's experiences. Please keep an eye out for letters coming home. Thank you to Miss Liddicoat for her hard work.

Wishing you all enjoyable family weekends. I can be contacted at exehead@aspire-kent.org.uk during normal business hours.

Kind regards,

Emma Hckling

Executive Headteacher

Aspire Federation