

Communications Aids Project

If you are a professional working with children with disabilities we may be able to help in assessing your pupils IT needs.

Please contact:

Anna James on 07939 325434

Or Email

anna@amjames.fsnet.co.uk

Code of Practice

Since 1st January 2002 the new Code of Practice is enshrined in law. It strengthens the rights of parents and pupils.

Of course you have already read it (!!) but if not it is available via the DFES website.

Key points:

- Stages 1 and 2 are now called School Action.
- Stage 3 is called School Action Plus
- The statutory process remains much the same except that the LEA has to provide an independent conciliatory service to resolve disagreements.
- Professionals have to take into account the views of the parents.
- The views of the child have to be taken into account.
- IEPs should detail provision additional to or different from that generally available for all pupils.
- In a Statement part three specifies special educational provision. Speech and Language therapy should be in this section.

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Issue No 6
February 2002

Welcome !

To the latest edition of the newsletter for all those interested in the education of children with Down syndrome.

Please copy the newsletter to staff, parents and interested parties. Please also display on a noticeboard

Future events

Date for your Diaries:

Tuesday 16th April 2002

Ethel Tipple School, Kings Lynn
OR

..... April 2002 Old Hall
School, Catton, Norwich. Theme of
**Disability Discrimination Act
and SEN.**

The act has now been extended to include Education – we think you need to know about this. A visiting speaker will explain all ! To be followed by workshops on the theme of **Transition:** from preschool settings to formal schooling, primary to secondary, and post 16.

You need to be prepared.

Further information available from
Diane Bowie 01553 669219

Numicon Evaluation

Wiltshire LEA evaluation of Numicon Maths is showing that pupils using the system have made an average over 5 months progression in 4 actual months. The report will be published in the February online edition of Downsnet.

As with so many things it only works when it is followed through properly.

Inclusive Schooling – children with Special Educational Needs.

This document is available from the DFES.

Some of the juicy bits:

Inclusive education should benefit all children. Inclusion equals excellence; excellence equals inclusion.

An inclusive education service offers excellence and choice and incorporates the views of parents and children.

Schools, LEA's, and others should actively seek to remove barriers to learning and participation.

Inclusion is about making a sense of community and belonging.

Schools should approach Inclusion as part of their overall improvement strategy. Inclusion is far more than where a child goes to school. (Isn't this what we have been saying all along !!)

Every school has a dark green file called the Inclusion Index, which is packed full of ideas for schools to use to check that they are being Inclusive.

A child's right to a place in mainstream education has been strengthened. It can only be refused on very specific grounds.

Resources on Loan

Did you know that the Link has a small selection of resources that you can borrow if you contact Diane Bowie on either email at

diane.bowie.edu@norfolk.gov.uk

or telephone 01553 669219

The Down Syndrome Issues and Information series of folders and booklets range from early years through to secondary covering Literacy, Numeracy, Language, Medical and Social Issues.

We also have a series of videos on early development of reading, speech and language in children with Down syndrome.

We have the Numicon Video and some leaflets on Sex Education.

Each area in Norfolk Psychological Service has a comprehensive file of information. Ask your schools support team for details.

The Norfolk Link would be pleased to receive any editorial contributions for the next edition.

Please send to

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Norfolk, NR28 9AT

Telephone 01692 409517

SIDEBAR ARTICLES

This sidebar article was created with a text box. You can use a sidebar article for any information you want to keep separate from other articles or information that highlights an article next to it. These could include a list of contributors, addresses or contact information, a smaller self-contained story, a preview of the next issue, or a calendar of schedule. The example below shows a Calendar of Events.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT

PLACE

TIME

Type a description of your event here.

SPECIAL EVENT

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