

## **National Award in SEN Co-ordination**

We would like to up date you with information regarding the National Award in SEN Co-ordination. Following the introduction of "The Education (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) (England) Regulations 2008" (no. 2945,) any new SENCO appointed from September 2008 is required to complete the National Award in SEN Co-ordination. It is the responsibility of the school governing body/management committee to ensure that SENCOs are appropriately trained. This will be monitored via School Improvement Partner (SIP) visits and Ofsted inspections.

The one year course, represents 60 credits towards a masters degree and is currently fully funded (including 10 days supply) by the Teacher Development Agency (TDA.) To date it is unclear as to how long this funding will be offered, but course providers have stated that if SENCOs are enrolled on the training course by September 2010, then they should be able to secure funding.

SENCOs have the right to choose the provider that they feel will best meet their training needs. A full list of providers is available on the TDA website ([www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk)) but to support colleagues, we have attempted to negotiate geographically 'local' options. Therefore whilst Norfolk Children's Services can not promote one provider over another, we are able to state that to date, Wolverhampton University who offer a training course with SERCO have agreed to host training sessions within a Norfolk venue. Similarly, the training course offered by Cambridge University in association with Cambridge, Essex and Suffolk Local Authorities, are willing to host sessions in Norfolk and BEST practice, which is an e-learning course will work with us to ensure that course content is personalised according to our practice here in Norfolk.

SENCOs who are eligible for funding via the TDA are encouraged to look on their website and contact the chosen providers directly. To secure funding, colleagues should consider applying this term, even if they wish to defer for a year. Any experienced SENCO who would like to complete this course can also apply direct to the provider, although they will not be eligible for funding from the TDA.

Norfolk Children's Services are committed to supporting SENCO colleagues, and may be able to pay for their course fees via an application to the SEN inset strategy group extended learning opportunities panel. Full details on our Norfolk SENCOs website:

[http://schools.norfolk.gov.uk/page\\_64.cfm](http://schools.norfolk.gov.uk/page_64.cfm)

We will continue to offer the termly SENCO essential skills and information training sessions in each area. During these half day sessions we will provide a news update followed by two one hour development themes. During the Spring term the focus was on provision mapping and narrowing the gap. The sessions are 'free' at the point of delivery and full details are available on the Norfolk SENCOs website.

This term I am also hosting a half day 'SEN/LDD revision' session available to Head Teachers and SIPs at South Green Park Mattishall. This session will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 – 5.00pm. If you would like to attend, please book a 'free' place using our SDMS booking system [www.cpd.norfolk.gov.uk/sdms](http://www.cpd.norfolk.gov.uk/sdms) using course reference ENWG3 or email [david.amis@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:david.amis@norfolk.gov.uk)

If you have any questions regarding the National Award in SEN co-ordination, the SENCO essential skills and information programme, or any other SEN/LDD matter, please do not hesitate to email [Judith.carter@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.carter@norfolk.gov.uk)

May we take this opportunity to wish you a successful and enjoyable summer term.

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