



## Learning Support Newsletter, Autumn term 2024

Welcome to this term's Learning Support Newsletter. Thank you to those of you who have made contact already, and have warmly welcomed me to STAGS. We will be sending our newsletter out termly to keep you up to date with relevant key dates, events and information relevant. We hope that you find it useful. If you have anything that you'd like to see in these newsletters, please do let us know.

## Who to contact with concerns / questions?

If you have any feedback or questions, we really do want to hear from you. You can email us at [SENDSupport@stags.herts.sch.uk](mailto:SENDSupport@stags.herts.sch.uk) and we will forward your email to the most appropriate person in the team to deal with the query. It may be that you already are in contact with a particular SEND @ STAGS adult, in which case, please do keep in touch with them. We may well be busy in the classroom but will get back to you as per our policy.

Alternatively, you can always reach out to the form tutor, [student support](#), Director of Learning or Head of Key Stage. It's always best to address your email to one colleague who you think might be the most appropriate to solve the issue, but of course, do copy in other members of the wider team who you would like to keep updated. If you don't know the address of the staff member you need, just send it to [admin@stags.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stags.herts.sch.uk) with the name of the member of staff in the subject line, and the office admin team will ensure it is passed on.

## SEND Surgeries

Each term, the team will be offering scheduled appointments, face to face, or by phone for you to raise any concerns or give feedback on what is going well.

The date for this term's SEND Surgery is **Tuesday 5 November**. An email will be sent a few weeks before with a link to the booking system.

## EBSA Workshop

We are pleased to announce that we are running a workshop to support parents who have concerns about their child's school attendance and the impact of emotional based school avoidance.

This workshop will help you:

- understand about how a child's fears and worries can lead to school avoidance;
- give you ideas about how you can support your child so that they feel better about going to school;
- understand how your child's learning needs are linked to avoiding school;
- give you ideas about how to work closely with your child's school;
- help you understand the support your child's school can offer.



Could you please confirm your attendance no later than Friday 20 September by emailing [abbotts@stags.aetrust.uk](mailto:abbotts@stags.aetrust.uk). There are a limited number of places so we places will be offered on a first come first served basis.

## SEND Parent Support Group

The STAGS SEND Parent Support Group would love to welcome new members. We are a friendly, informal group who share advice and support each other. The group is for parents of SEND children or children struggling to access school. Our monthly meetings are run by parents in a similar situation, but with full support of the school and with the opportunity to feed back to the school. Our next meeting is **Thursday 17 October, 6.30pm - 8pm**. No need to sign up, just come along to the school library on the night. We look forward to meeting you!

The dates for the remainder of this term are:

Monday 18 November, 6.30pm - 8pm
Wednesday 11 December, 6.30pm - 8pm

## Have you seen the School SEND information report?

Each year we update the SEND information report on the school website. It is designed to provide information about how we implement our policy in practice and is produced according to the guidance in the SEND Code of Practice 2015. It is an important requirement that 'Schools should ensure that the information is easily accessible by young people and parents and is set out in clear, straightforward language' ([SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf](#) para 6.81)

We are currently reviewing this for the next academic year and would appreciate your feedback. The SEND Information report is on the school website [here](#). If you have any comments or helpful feedback, please do let us know. It would help if you could email your comments to [sat@stags.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sat@stags.herts.sch.uk)

## Useful information and resources

**Specialist Advice for lines for SEND Support** can be found [here](#).

**DSPL** is a Hertfordshire-wide partnership approach where parents, carers, staff in early years and school settings, further education colleges, local authority officers and representatives from other agencies, work together as part of an Area Group, to ensure that there is a range of provision and support services available in their local community for children and young people with SEND and their families that: please find information on parent training opportunities [here](#).

# St Albans Girls' School



**SPACE Hertfordshire** is a charity that offers training and arranges events aimed at children and teens with SEN. Further information can be found here: [SPACE HERTFORDSHIRE Events](#).

**ADD-vance** is a charity that amongst other things runs a range of courses for parents. Further information can be found here [ADD-vance](#).

Some useful free online upcoming events in October and November include:

- Understanding sensory differences
- Tips and Tools to manage anger
- Tips and Tools to manage school avoidance
- Understanding anxiety

**Families in Focus** is a Hertfordshire-based community interest company, which provides training information and therapeutic and emotional support to parents. Information on upcoming courses can be found [here](#).

Kind regards,

Ms Johnson-Putt

SENCO

[Contact us](#)

[SEND Information report](#)

[Local offer](#)