PINS NEWSLETTER

A termly newsletter brought to you by Severn Training and Schools Alliance

APRIL 2025

Welcome to your embedding year!

Dear PINS Schools,

Congratulations on completing Year 1 of PINS. We know that it has been an intense 6 months of all things neurodivergent. The second year of PINS will be an embedding year, an opportunity to work and learn together and embed your fantastic practice.

We feel very proud of all that you have achieved. Our thanks goes to your school, the practitioners who have shared their expertise and our Parent Carer Forums for helping schools to further develop relationships with parent carers.

We are currently planning opportunities to come together and share good practice through a series of workshops with other local schools.

If you haven't done so already, please complete the Microsoft Form via this link YEAR 2 PINS to help us to understand your needs.

Regards,

Sian & Sophia

Here is a snap shot of the current feedback shows your journey so far. Your feedback will be used to organize workshops and events for 2025-2026.

There is strong parent carer engagement

Fully in place 5

Partly in place 22

Not in place 3



Staff understand the impact of communication on neurodiverse pupils

Fully in place 8

Partly in place 22

Not in place 0



The teaching and learning is based on typical learning styles and needs of neurodivergent pupils

Fully in place11

Partly in place 19

Not in place 0



The environment meets the needs of neurodiverse pupils

Fully in place 13

Partly in place 18

Not in place 0



A Message from PACC

Thank-you for all of your help, for making us so welcome in your schools and for attending the last parent carer meetings to share the work you have been doing. We have found it a really positive experience meeting your families and having the opportunity to make closer connections with all of the PINS schools.

As you know, the second survey is now live in Shropshire and to date we have more responses than at a similar time in the first one. This is a great indicator that the raised profile of SEND across your schools is having an impact. Please keep promoting the link as the survey is open until Friday 11th April.

In our meetings we often had parent carers mention that they would like other parents and children to have a better understanding of neurodiversity. We've heard of one school holding a neurodiversity workshop for parents and another school has made changes to their PSHE planning to include the LEANS programme. This helps all children develop their understanding of neurodiversity.

Many schools are raising the profile with a SEND section in every newsletter or SEND specific newsletters. One school has been including definitions of SEND vocabulary and including information about specific neurodivergent conditions to raise understanding with all parents.

We have heard of schools starting their own SEND coffee mornings and trialling different times to hold these to allow for best attendance e.g. before a KS1 Christmas play. We have seen updates to SEND information on websites and PINS mentioned in some directly.

Following meetings with parent carers, it has been positive to see schools planning changes in response to what they have said e.g. introducing equipment recommended by a parent.

As a result of school's promoting their PACC school SEND Facebook pages, we have been able to reach more families sharing up-to-date SEND information and support. One school has a parent carer working closely with the SENDCo and regularly shares specific information relevant to their school on their Facebook group.

This is just a small snapshot of the changes that are having a positive impact on children across Shropshire.

Thank-you once more, Simone and Sarah.

PE and SPORT for SEND

The inclusion programme 2024 is funded by the DfE and aims to improve the quality of schools' physical education and school sport provision for SEND pupils.

For those children who find accessing PE a challenge, you can access these simple one minute challenges where pupils try to improve their own scores.

Please share any changes to the key contact for PINS through the year!!

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