



The Dorchester Area Schools Partnership



Special Educational Needs Support in DASP

A guide to sources, resources and expertise.

Aims

"Our aim is to see an equality of provision for all pupils, with excellent opportunities for Inclusion within every school."

The Partnership has a SEN Steering Group, which determines the strategic direction for SEN and Inclusion and arranges a full programme of INSET for all the staff. This group is co-ordinated by an Advanced Skills Teacher who liaises with all pyramid SENCOs. A specialist Behaviour Support Teacher promotes positive behaviour within all Partnership schools. There is a network of Behaviour Leaders who work collaboratively to disseminate training and skills within their own schools. Specific support is provided by SENSS Literacy and Numeracy teachers. A quality programme of CPD is provided for all phases.

Our objectives are:

- To develop intervention strategies at the earliest possible stage in pupils' learning experiences, to ensure that they transfer into adulthood successfully.
- To work in conjunction with the LEA towards a totally delegated budget, which will enable our partnership to become autonomous.
- To be at the cutting edge of pro-active and developmental work in a local and national perspective.
- To enhance the skill base of all staff which will provide high quality learning opportunities for all pupils.



DASP Schools

**A Directory of Areas of Expertise
and Contact Details.**



School name: Broadmayne First
SENCO: Sharon Bardsley
Phone: 01305 852471
E-mail: office@broadmayne.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Moderate Learning Difficulty, Various Speech and language problems.

TA Expertise:

Jenny Pullen—all aspects of SEN, NVQ 3, Reach and Rescue ALS
Ronnie Tweddle—mainly numeracy, Springboard trained, Reach and Rescue
Jane Bartlett—all aspects of SEN, Reach and Rescue, starting NVQ 3
Rosemary Hargrave—Early Years, NVQ 3, Reach and Rescue
Lynn Bevis—Nurturing and Early Intervention Strategies



School name: Cerne Abbas First
SENCO: Ros Simpson
Phone: 01300 341319
E-mail: office@cerneabbas.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: S & L, Behaviour and Emotional needs. General Learning Difficulties in Literacy and Numeracy, SLD

TA Expertise:

Jo Batten—NVQ2, working towards NVQ3, Aspergers, ELS
Sharon Edwards—Downs, NVQ3
Sue Williams—Downs, NVQ3, ELS, SLD, SPEIC
Mo Chutter—ALS, Springboard, ADHD, Aspergers, SLD



School name: Cheselbourne First
SENCO: Vicki Freeman
Phone: 01258 837306
E-mail: office@cheselbourne.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: Behaviour, MLD, Au-
tistic

TA Expertise:

Penny Price—NVQ Steering Group, Springboard, Phonics, SENSS
Yvonne Watson—STAR, NVQ3 Assessor,, ELS, Phonics, TA Training
Liz Smith—Phonics, ELS, TA Training
Lucy Foster—ELS, ALS, Nurture



School name: Damers First
SENCO: Anne Prendergast
Phone: 01305 264924
E-mail: office@damers.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:

TA Expertise:

Barbara Baillie-EBSD
Shirley Blackaller-EBSD
Linda Bridle-HI S&L NVQ level 3 candidate
Wendy Coombes-S&L NVQ level 3 candidate
Penny Foster-S&L
Shirley Guy-SEN groups Y1-Y4 ELS EAL NVQ assessor
Jackie Hall-ALS EAL
Susie Hardy-S&L
Zena Heal-ASD
Kay Hiscock-cerebral palsy
Yvonne Lane-VI
Gill Martin-Harris-HI Signed Supported English & BSL level 1
Jane Mather-S&L
Emma Norris-ASD
Lucie Pickersgill-EAL NVQ level 3 candidate
Rowan Seymour-S&L
Debbie Skilling-EAL ELS NVQ level 3 candidate
Pat Van Dam-ASD NVQ level 3 candidate



School name: Manor Park First
SENCO: Cathy Nisbet
Phone: 01305 268741
E-mail: office@manorpark.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: MLD, S & L Emotional/Behaviour Autism Visually Impaired, Pilot School for Wave 3 'Catch Up' Reading programme. Multi - Sensory Programme and Sound Linkage

TA Expertise:

Jan Laing - Nurturing, S & L in Foundation Unit

Tracey Broadbent - Visually Impaired Course

Alison Smith - NVQ 3, EAL, Nurturing Groups, Catch Up Programme Yr 1, ELS Multi-Sensory Programme for Wave 3

Mandy Edwards - Nurturing Groups, EAL, Catch Up Yr 1, ELS, Multi-Sensory Programme for Wave 3

Sarah Caldwell - almost completed NVQ 3, Circle time activities.

Tina Hill and Shelley Smythe—work 1-1 with Autistic child

Linda Dodd - Starting NVQ 3, Nurturing, Wave 3 'Catch Up' Programme Pilot

Sheila Purkiss - Catch Up Programme for Wave Three Pilot

Gill Huttley - Lot of experience delivering specific programmes written by SENSS.

Works with Children with OT and Physio Programmes. ALS and Springboard

Pip Barwick- Parkinson - Speech and Language, ADHD Course



School name: Milborne St Andrew First
SENCO: Tom Leech (Head)
Phone: 01258 837362
E-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk
**SEN Register Features:
S & L, MLD, Behaviour Difficulties, Autism**

TA Expertise:

Carol Sugrue—NVQ Assessor, TA Support, SEN, ALS, Springboard, ICT.

Mel Wood—NVQ 3

Nicky Killer—SEN Specialist

Tina Dutton—Nurture Groups, working towards NVQ3

Sandra Hewish—working towards NVQ3

Julie Greening—SLD, ALS, Springboard

Kate Kibler—working towards NVQ3



School name: Owermoigne First
SENCO: Helen Boyce (Head)
Phone: 01305 852643
E-mail: office@owermoigne.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: Muscular Dystrophy, ADHD, Autism, Hearing Impaired.

TA Expertise:

Judy Venables—NVQ Assessor, ‘Reach and Rescue’, DASP Nurture Group
Carol Baden—NVQ 3 nearly completed, ELS trained.
Sam Sparkes—NVQ2, ELS, Stage 1 and 2 Sign Language, ‘Reach and Rescue’
Sharon Freeman—NNEB
Julie Wellman—IBT3, Swimming, ‘Reach and Rescue’
Beth Sparkes—Springboard trained, Stage 1 Sign Language
Wendy Long—NVQ 3 nearly completed.



School name: Piddle Valley First
SENCO: Nicole Fry
Phone: 01300 348219
E-mail: office@piddlevalley.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
S & L, Behaviour Difficulties, MLD

TA Expertise:

Jackie Bowell—S & L, Nurturing, Dyspraxia, ADHD, Hearing Impaired
Nicky Curtis—Behaviour Management, Early Years, ELS, Early Intervention
Jo Neale— NVQ 3
Kath Lock—Nurture, ELS, EAL, Behaviour Management
Gail Davies—Working towards NVQ 3
Anne Bere—NVQ 3, ELS, ICT



School name: Prince of Wales First
SENCO: Jen Roberts
Phone: 01305 257120
E-mail: office@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: ADHD, S + L, Autism, MLD, Cerebral Palsy, Hearing Impaired, Behaviour, Dyspraxia, Unit for the physically disabled, sensory room, hydrotherapy pool, music therapy room, soft play room. Links with occupational therapists and physiotherapists.

TA Expertise:

Katie Gell - Autism, S + L
Tracy Dodson - Autism, S + L
Katrina Green - Down's Syndrome, S + L
Sue Constantinides - Cerebral Palsy
Anne Creed - Cerebral Palsy
Karen Roberts - Early Years
Paula Thompson - Physical disabilities
Linda Edwards - Behaviour
Di Bernard - ALS
Lynne Thorne - ALS



School name: Puddletown First
SENCO: Viv Burgess (Head)
Phone: 01305 848206
E-mail: office@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
ADHD, Autism, Hearing Impaired, MLD, S & L

TA Expertise:

Jill Andrews—Early Years, NVQ 3, NVQ Assessor
Shirley Harraway—ELS
Sharon Spiller—NVQ 3, ALS
Tina Ghataura—Cert HE
Sharon Downes—ELS, NVQ 3
Cathey McCarthy—NVQ 2 (working to NVQ 3), Traveller Ed



School name: St Marys First Charminster
SENCO: Judith Griffies
Phone: 01305 263880
E-mail: office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: Aspergers Syndrome
ADHD, Emotional Social and Behaviour
Difficulties, Speech and Language, Dyslexia,
Learning Difficulties in Literacy and Maths.
Communication Difficulties

TA Expertise:

Jo Burdett – Speech and Language

Carol Jerrard – Dyslexia

Helen Pegram - Nurturing Behaviour and Emotional and Social Skills

Willing to offer support with

Nurturing – social and emotional skills



School name: St Mary's RC First
SENCO: Catherine Smith
Phone: 01305 262258
E-mail: office@stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: S and L, Autism,
ADHD, BESD, Hearing
Impairment, EAL

TA Expertise:

Tracey Wilkinson - working towards NVQ 3, EAL

Jenny Frampton - SEN TA, working towards NVQ3, EAL, Nurturing, ELS

Lynne Antell - ASD, Experience of ABA Therapy

Jo Burden - ASD, Experience of ABA Therapy

Debbie Brewer - BESD, ASD

Debbie Osborn - ASD

Debbie Wood - ICT

Di Willsher - ELS



School name: Winterbourne Valley First
SENCO: Anne Allen (Head)
Phone: 01305 889297
E-mail: office@winterbournevalley.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
General Learning Difficulties

TA Expertise:

Julie Taylor—working towards NVQ 3, ALS, Springboard

Vicky Grindle—NVQ 3, Nurture, S & L

Lynne Armstrong: Experience with 11-16, City & Guilds Learning Support.



School name: St Mary's Middle
SENCO: Jo Thomas
Phone: 01305 848293
E-mail: office@stmarypudd.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
ASD, SLCD, SPLD, MLD, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment

TA Expertise:

11 TAs with many specialisms e.g. Aspergers, Visually Impaired, ADHD, ESL, Nurturing/Behaviour strategies, ICT



School name: Dorchester Middle
SENCO: Sheila Vinall
Phone: 01305 265651
E-mail: office@dorchestermid.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Downe's Syndrome, ASD, Aspergers, ADHD, Behaviour, Emotional, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, MLD, S & L, Visual and Hearing Impairment.

TA Expertise:

Sally Carter—physical difficulties, physiotherapy exercises

Elsbeth Cuthill—Downe's Syndrome, Visual Impairment

Sarah Fry—Hearing Impairment

Clare Grassy—ESB, Nurturing

Irene Green—Dyslexia

Michael Greenbury—Hearing Impairment, able to sign

Linda Hurst—Visual Impairment

Sheenagh Jackson—Aspergers

Bet King—Physical difficulties

Jane Klein—Speech and Language

Karen Makepeace—Physical difficulties

Naomi Manels

Caroline Oxenbury—EAL, SEN Administrator

Denise Parker—Physical difficulties, Visual Impairment

Gayle Shaw—Hearing Impairment

Marion Spinks

Tash Still— ESB, Nurturing

Sue Travers—Behaviour

Lynn Watts—Physical difficulties

Angela Webb

Denise Whitbread—Behaviour

Jane Wilshere—Physical disabilities, Aspergers

Caroline Young—Downe's Syndrome, Hearing Impairment

Linda Foot—attached to S & L Base



School name: St Osmunds Middle
SENCO: Paula Howarth
Phone: 01305 262897
E-mail: office@stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features: ASD, Aspergers, ADHD, Behaviour & Emotional Problems, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Speech & Language, Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Incontinence, Physical disabilities

TA Expertise:

Megan Aitken	Homework Clubs
Sharon Cannon	Befriending Group (counselling)
Katy Carter	
Caroline Chaldecott	
Jacky Cooper	Homework Clubs
Arna Drammis	SEN Dept Admin Assistant
Maureen Higgs	PE and DT support
Julie Lawrence	NVQ Assessor, Assistant to Leader for Achievement
Jan Milree	Speech & Language, Reading Groups, Literacy Progress Units
Julie Prevett	Befriending and Nurture Groups
Glynis Silvester	
Sue South	Literacy Progress Units, Homework Club
Isobel Wiggins	Homework Clubs
Debbie Winn	Science support



School name: Thomas Hardy School
SENCO: Angela Jay
Phone: 01305 266064
E-mail: office@thomas-hardye.dorset.sch.uk
SEN Register Features:
Aspergers, Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Physical Impairment
S & L Base
Literacy Teacher—Joan Tetley
Support Teacher—Hilary Haliburton

TA Expertise:

Lizzie Deuxberry—Physical Impairment, Physiotherapy
Sue Roberts—Physical Impairment, Physiotherapy
Fiona Baker—Visual Impairment
Amanda Perks—Visual Impairment
Heidi French—Hearing Impaired
Tina McDowell—Hearing Impaired, NVQ Assessor
Zena Newbery—NVQ Assessor
Michael Greenberry—Hearing Impaired
We also have a general expertise base with Aspergers Syndrome.

Directory of Services Available

How to get the most out of your Educational Psychologist

- Let your E.P. have as much information as possible in advance and a time to meet the SENCO/teacher, before and after seeing the pupil.
- Have a quiet/private room available that is free from interruption.
- If you have a problem or are not happy then ring Sarah Goddard, who oversees provision for DASP. She is based at Top of Town House (Phone: 01305 224476 e-mail: s.j.goddard@dorsetcc.gov.uk) If for any reason an Educational Psychologist is on long term leave, then a named E.P. will be given.
- Make sure parents are informed of initial contact and subsequent planning.
- The E.P. Service is adopting the solution focussed model. SENCOs must be aware of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) that leads to a cross agency referral.

The role of the STAR Panel explained

You will know that, in accordance with the SEN FFI Provision and Funding Arrangements for pupils with special educational needs, the Authority arranges regular meetings of the STAR (Statements, Top-Ups, Assessments, Resources) Panel and Out County Panel. The STAR Panel meets once a fortnight and the Out County Panel meets once a month, during term time. Both Panels are attended by school staff, central support staff, members of the SEN team and colleagues in Social Care & Health. The aim is to have a rolling programme of Panel membership to enable a greater number of school personnel to have access to and understanding of the decisions that can have a significant impact on the SEN budget for schools.

These are the dates of the Spring/Summer term 2006 Panels (all Tuesdays, commencing 2 p.m. and finishing by 5 p.m.):

STAR—Chair Trish Picher

Spring Term

January 10th, 24th

February 7th, 21st

March 7th, 21st

Summer Term

April 25th

May 9th, 23rd

June 6th, 20th

July 4th, 11th

- Look at the **Funding for Inclusion** Document
- The STAR Panel is representative of the phase panels. It can be made up of Heads or SENCOs. First School colleagues who would like to sit on the panel, please contact Peter Farrington at the Prince of Wales School.
- There have been concerns over which children are eligible—it is hoped that there will be a clarification of criteria, based on decisions made. There is a range of complex needs, plus undiagnosed autistic, low incidence pupils who may apply for top up funding.
- There is not a need to have had an E.P. assessment in the last 18 months.

The NVQ

Our first cohort started 2 years ago and at the same time we started to train experienced TAs as Assessors. We now have 6 qualified Assessors and 12 TAs have achieved their NVQ 3. Schools are charged £40 per unit of work assessed. This works out at £400 per full NVQ. In addition there is a £30 per term for attendance at the obligatory termly Standardisation meeting.

The City and Guilds Centre looks after Registration, Verification, Standardisation, official advice and Assessor Support. There is a charge of £250 for this which, at the moment, is met by an LEA Training Grant. Other costs, per candidate are split between school and DASP funds.

At the moment, no new candidates are being taken on. This is mainly to ensure that our Assessors are not being stretched too far.

Further information from:

John McCormack - Administrator

Phone: 01305 259184

Outreach Workers

Alison Crawford (Aspergers and ASD)

Westfield School
Phone: 01305 833518

Lesley Cook (MLD)

Westfield School
Phone: 01305 833518

Wyvern School (SLD)

Phone: 01305 783660

Resources

Autistic Spectrum Disorders/Good Practice Guidance

DfES Publications
PO Box 5050
Sherwood Park
Annesley, Nottingham
NG15 0DJ
Phone: 0845 6022260
[Www.dfes.gov.uk/sen](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/sen)

Funding for Inclusion 1 & 2

Dorset County Council Booklets
County Hall
Dorchester DT1 1XJ

Working with Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant File—Induction training for teaching assistants

DfES:- DfEE 0131/2000

Working with Teaching assistants

DfES:- DfEE 0148/2000

Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

www.adders.org

www.addiss.co.uk

Useful Contact Numbers

AFASIC (people with communication impairment)

Maggie Johnson

Phone: 01202 602178

British Dyslexia Association

98 London Road

Reading, RG1 5AU

Phone: 0118 966 8271

www.bda-dyslexia.org.uk

CAMHS (Mental Health)

The Children's Centre, Damers Road

Dorchester DT1 2LB

Phone: 01305 255705

Contact a family (Families with disabled children)

Phone: 0808 808 3555 (Helpline)

www.cafamily.org.uk

Disability Equality in Education

Phone: 02073592855

Downs Syndrome Educational Trust

The Sarah Duffen Centre, Belmont St, Southsea

Hampshire, PO5 1NA

Phone: 02392855330

www.downsed.org

Moving and Handling (Pupils with physical difficulties)

Audrey Redshaw

Phone: 01305 224888

National Society for Epilepsy

Chesham Lane, Chalfont St Peter

Bucks SL9 0RJ

Phone: 01494 601300

SCOPE (Cerebral Palsy)

Maggie Barker

Phone: 01747 861130

Arrangements for Top-Up Funding

Requests for Top Up funding will be considered by the STAR Panel, which meets fortnightly. This Panel comprises Heads, SENCos, Special Schools, Educational Psychologist, Education Officer, SEN Finance Officer and Heads of Support Services. It holds some central funding on behalf of schools and will allocate resources for Top-Ups in individual cases, where a child's needs are complex and extreme.

Schools will be expected to provide full time TA Support for a child from their delegated funding, including up to 2 hours specialist teacher time. The majority of the support should be provided in small groups, with some individual support and some large group support. Schools will need to provide clear information that they have been providing full-time support over a sustained period. The Panel will then recommend the level of Top-Up provision and how long it will last.

Schools making a request for Top-Up Provision would still fund the majority of the provision and the Panel would be able to top this up, where they feel the application is justified. This Top-UP would be subject to an annual review. Top-Ups will be allocated on the basis of evidence of need, progress, provision already made by the school over an extended period and further provision, beyond that which the school should reasonably provide from its delegated funding. Allocations are generally reviewed annually. Any Top-Up allocated automatically follows the pupil.

Because of the number of decisions and queries and the demands of statutory timescales, it will not be possible for the STAR Panel to consider every request. An Education Officer may make a number of decisions outside and between Panels. If the child has a statement of Special Educational Needs and/or is already known to the SEN Team, you may not need to complete the whole form.

DASP Behavioural Support



DASP Behaviour Support Co-ordinator: **Elliot Dunworth**

School Base: **St Osmunds**

Phone: **01305 262897 (for messages)**

07968 297187

E-mail: **office@stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk**

The Behaviour Support Co-ordinator is responsible for providing advice and support when there is an issue concerning the behavioural, emotional, social or developmental progress or welfare of a child/student in the pyramid. Work to support individuals and to support schools with individuals typically includes: observations, 1:1 interviews for mentoring and guidance, meetings with parents, advice to teachers and other school staff concerning individuals involvement in appropriate SEN procedures, including attendance at relevant reviews, meetings and liaison with other agencies.

Other services include provision of training to teachers and support staff on BESD areas, support for NQTs, advice on appropriate support and disciplinary responses to challenging behaviour, advice on procedures, policies and practices within schools relevant to BESD. Referrals or enquiries by DASP staff can be made directly to Elliot Dunworth. Parental permission is required for some types of involvement. When contacting this service it is important that relevant staff within the school are aware—this would usually include the Head teacher or Deputy or Head of Year and SENCo. The Behaviour Support Co-ordinator is responsible to Rob Davies and the relevant representative groups within DASP—Head teachers Services Development Group and SXEN Strategy Group.

Speech and Language Bases

Damers First School

Damers First School has provision for 18 pupils who have Statements for speech and language impairment. The pupils are all part of a small mainstream class, one in each year group. Speech and Language Therapists and an S & L assistant work with the children and liaise closely with the class teachers and teaching assistants to ensure continuity of programmes. Each of the classes has full time TA support. An Educational Psychologist oversees the provision for these pupils and offers training and advice at regular meetings. Children are admitted via the termly County Admissions Panel.

Staff

Class Teachers: Lesley Elliot, Reception TA Linda Bridle
Catherine Goss, Year 1 TAs Penny Foster, Nicky Grey
Lisa Keys, Year 2 TAs Wendy Coombes, Jane Mather
Niki Symonds, Year 3 TA Rowan Seymour
Val Swan, Year 3 TA Susie Hardy

Speech Therapists: Jill Spring, Fleur Parker
S & L Assistant: Derris Powell
Educational Psychologist: Sarah Goddard

Dorchester Middle School

Dorchester Middle School's Speech and Language Base opened in September 1998 and offers support to pupils who have been identified as having speech and/or language impairment. Admissions to the base are via the County Admissions Panel, which meets termly. There are nine places available and the panel aims to spread the distribution of pupils evenly through the four year groups, although this is not always possible. The provision primarily seeks to create an environment which enable pupils with severe language difficulties to function as independently as possible in a mainstream setting which recognises their specific learning needs. The pupils are first and foremost, pupils of Dorchester Middle School. They are registered in their tutor group and follow a mainstream timetable alongside their peers for many subjects.

Some differentiated lessons take place in the Base, but their entitlement to a full National Curriculum is maintained and some of their peers accompany them to the Base. Through offering support to other pupils, it is hoped that the Base is not viewed as an isolated unit, but an integral part of the school, which is seen as an additional learning resource for pupils and staff alike. Staff in the Base also teach mainstream lessons and look for opportunities to share and disseminate expertise in the area of language and communication skills. These are particularly relevant to other areas of special needs, such as Autism, which affect behaviour. To this end we work closely with the SENCO and other staff particularly concerned with special needs. Although we try to engage in work which places particular emphasis on language across the curriculum, such as Key Stage 3 strategy, which will hopefully underline the fact that the language disorder does not necessarily imply poor cognitive skills. The Base runs a Communication Skills group which is specifically designed for Base pupils, but also includes others who have been identified as having related problems with the social use of language. This has also been linked into circletime activities in the school.

Staff:

Jenny Rathmell—Teacher in Charge of Base
Sue Brazier—Speech and Learning Therapist
+ 2 Part Time Teaching Assistants

Speech and Language Bases

The Thomas Hardy School

The Speech and Language Base is an integral part of the Special Needs Department at the Thomas Hardy School, which is collectively known as Education Extra.

All staff are committed to the inclusive support of students as part of the whole school. Students have the benefit of both specialist teaching and the support of a Speech and Language Therapist. Individual support is timetabled according to curriculum requirements. They have access to high levels of support, from a team of Teaching Assistants, in order to help them access the curriculum. Individual and small group support is provided to aid in the development of communication and social skills, develop literacy skills and provide differentiated support of curriculum tasks.

High value is placed on liaison with Teaching Staff, Teaching Assistants and outside professionals to ensure flexibility and differentiation to suit students needs.

We welcome visits from other schools/colleagues who have an interest in Speech and Language difficulties.

Staff:

Isobel Allan—Teacher in charge of Base
Sue Brazier—Speech Therapist

Supporting Agencies

Ethnic Minority Achievement Service (EMAS) - for EAL pupils

Pupil and School Improvement, County Hall
Dorchester DT1 1XJ
Phone: 01305 224770

Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy

The Children's Centre, Damers Road
Dorchester DT1 2LB
Phone: 01305 254744
Tess James (Head of Paediatric Therapy)
School referrals have to be made via Dr Summers, the School Doctor, at the Children's Centre.

Speech and Language Therapy Service

The Children's Centre, Damers Road
Dorchester DT1 2LB
Phone: 01305 254743

Clare Cavanagh (ASD Specialist)

Behaviour Support Service
'Top o Town' House, Bridport Road
Dorchester DT1 1XT
Phone: 01305 224958
E-mail: c.j.cavanagh@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Consultant SENCOS

One of County's initiatives for the year includes a pilot project introducing Consultant SENCOS. These SENCOS have been drawn from Schools within each network. (4 geographical Learning Networks have been identified of which DASP fits into the West Dorset group) to provide professional support for colleagues at a number of levels for example:

Supporting teachers in the network schools who are considering becoming SENCOS, through annual local twilight meetings and individual discussions, as agreed with the teachers requesting this support

Mentoring new SENCOS in the network schools through occasional meetings and telephone/electronic discussions

Working with the SEN Inspector and Inclusion AST to lead and support the work of the local Inclusion Learning Network

Leading, taking part in and/or evaluating innovative approaches adopted in the local network

Becoming a University Approved Tutor for SWIFT to support accreditation for SEN action research within the network schools.

The main aim of the project is to see improved practice and outcomes within local networks and across Dorset as a whole through the sharing of the most effective practice, and through the energy created by networks focussed on teaching and learning.

Jo Thomas
St Mary's Middle School
Puddletown

The Prince of Wales School Special Unit for children with physical disabilities

The Prince of Wales has specialist provision for up to 20 children who have physical disabilities. The school has special facilities that include: hydrotherapy pool, sensory room, soft play room. Children on the unit roll have access to a range of physiotherapists, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists according to their needs.

Children can join the unit nursery from the age of 2 and a half.

The unit operates in a very inclusive way with children joining mainstream classes from Reception or Year 1 with additional support being provided. Educational staff work very co-operatively with parents, medical professionals and therapists to provide a whole package that ensures access to the curriculum for children with a range of physical and learning needs.

The unit can cater for children with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, including additional complex needs such as epilepsy, communication problems etc.

Special equipment is provided for the children including computers, voice systems, special chairs and seats, standing frames, walkers and wheelchairs.

The children also have access to Riding for the Disabled.

Children are admitted to the unit by the termly admissions panel.

The school is also happy to offer outreach advice to other schools to support children with disabilities

