

INCLUSION CONFERENCE

"Mainstream Inclusion and Beyond"

21 May 2026 – MORNING PROGRAMME

8.30	Registration, Refreshments & Exhibition
9.30	Welcome & Updates
9.45	Keynote Presentation <i>Kit Messenger, co-author of Curious Not Furious and the founder and CEO of Changing Chances CIC.</i>
10.45	Exhibitor Presentations
11.15	Refreshments & Exhibition
11.45 Seminar Session 1	1A. Working in Partnership: Supporting Families, Reducing Tension, and Embedding Neurodiversity-Inclusive Practice <i>Stuart Hall, Strategic Director - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council (WPCC)</i>
	1B. Strong Partnerships: Maximising Impact with Your SEND Governor <i>Vicky Christophers, Governance Development Lead - Governor Services, Wiltshire Council</i>
	1C. Supporting Every Family: How Best Start for Life Makes a Difference through a Five to Thrive lens <i>Stacey Henry, Family Hub Lead for Business and Community, Spurgeons</i>
	1D. Creating connections: practical approaches for children with a social worker <i>Leanne Bishop, Virtual School Headteacher, Jessica Gingham, Virtual Schools Officer & Paul Holdsworth, Virtual Schools Extended Duties Manager - Virtual Schools, Wiltshire Council</i>
12.30	Lunch, Refreshments & Exhibition

21 May 2026 – AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

1.30 Seminar Session 2	2A. Action Research: Inclusion and Early Intervention in Foundation Stage 2 <i>Jonathan Andrew, Senior Educational Psychologist, Educational Psychology Service - Wiltshire Council</i>
	2B. Identifying and Empowering Autistic Girls: Gender Differences and Practical Approaches <i>Helen Ortner, Professional Lead Specialist, SEND Service</i>
	2C. Inspection Insights: Adapting to Ofsted's New Approach for Inclusion <i>Debbie Tregellas, Regional Lead, School Effectiveness - Wiltshire Council</i>
	2D. A warm welcome; supporting the return from AP to mainstream <i>Behaviour Support Service - Wiltshire Council</i>
2.15	<i>Movement</i>
2.20 Seminar Session 3	3A. Designing for Diversity: Inclusive Curriculum Approaches for SEND <i>Hannah Darkin & Samantha Drewett, Mainstream Inclusion School Advisors (MISAs), School Effectiveness - Wiltshire Council</i>
	3B. SEMH: creating inclusive and supportive classrooms <i>Behaviour Support Service, Wiltshire Council</i>
	3C. Transitions That Work: Practical Approaches for SEND and Beyond <i>James Wood, Principal Educational Psychologist, Educational Psychology Service - Wiltshire Council</i>
	3D. From Identification to Impact: Making the Graduated Approach Work <i>Libby Lines, Deputy Regional SEND Lead, Whole School SEND</i>
3.05	Refreshments
3.20	Keynote Presentation Amjad Ali, leadership speaker, CPD specialist and co-founder of The BAMEed Network, a national grassroots organisation committed to diversifying educational leadership and ensuring equity across the system
4.20	Final Comments & Prize Draw
4.30	Close

SEMINAR 1A

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP: SUPPORTING FAMILIES, REDUCING TENSION, AND EMBEDDING NEURODIVERSITY-INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

Stuart Hall, Strategic Director - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council (WPCC)

Working with families can be one of the most rewarding, and challenging parts of supporting children and young people with SEND. This interactive workshop offers a valuable opportunity to step back, reflect, and gain insight from lived experience.

The session will explore why might tensions arise, what can make a difference and how small, practical changes can reduce conflict, improve outcomes and build positive partnerships.

Supportive, non-judgemental, and highly relevant to everyday practice, this workshop is ideal for anyone who wants to strengthen partnerships and build more inclusive school cultures.

SEMINAR 1B

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS: MAXIMISING IMPACT WITH YOUR SEND GOVERNOR

Vicky Christophers, Governance Development Lead - Governor Services, Wiltshire Council

This seminar explores how SENCOs and school leaders can build effective, collaborative relationships with their SEND Governor to strengthen provision and improve outcomes for pupils with SEND. Participants will gain practical strategies for sharing meaningful data, aligning priorities, and ensuring statutory duties are met. The session highlights how a well-informed, proactive SEND Governor can be a powerful ally in driving inclusion and shaping whole-school improvement.

SEMINAR 1C

SUPPORTING EVERY FAMILY: HOW BEST START FOR LIFE MAKES A DIFFERENCE THROUGH A FIVE TO THRIVE LENS

Stacey Henry, Family Hub Lead for Business and Community, Spurgeons

The first 1001 days of a child's life are widely recognised as a crucial period for shaping development and overall life experiences. At the Family Hub, this understanding underpins our entire service offer and is embedded through the Five to Thrive approach. This session will explore how the Best Start for Life agenda and Five to Thrive compliment one another to ensure practitioners are equipped to support every family effectively.

SEMINAR 1D

CREATING CONNECTIONS: PRACTICAL APPROACHES FOR CHILDREN WITH A SOCIAL WORKER

Leanne Bishop, Virtual School Headteacher, Jessica Gingham, Virtual Schools Officer & Paul Holdsworth, Virtual Schools Extended Duties Manager - Virtual Schools, Wiltshire Council

This seminar will help professionals by understanding how trauma and early experiences shape brain development, behaviour, and learning. The session introduces TAD-responsive (Trauma, Attachment and Disadvantage) approaches that prioritise safety, trust, and consistency, alongside simple relational strategies for building positive connections. It also focuses on creating a strong sense of belonging in school and improving collaboration between professionals to provide stable, joined-up support for each child.

SEMINAR 2A

ACTION RESEARCH: INCLUSION AND EARLY INTERVENTION IN FOUNDATION STAGE 2

Jonathan Andrew, Senior Educational Psychologist, Educational Psychology Service - Wiltshire Council

This session will give an overview of a pilot intervention being run by the Educational Psychology Service, in which an Educational Psychologist will guide a supportive conversation between family members and their Reception Class Teacher, structured around the following four areas: Communication for Connection, Supporting Strong Emotions, Setting and Holding Boundaries, and Learning and Play.

SEMINAR 2B

IDENTIFYING AND EMPOWERING AUTISTIC GIRLS: GENDER DIFFERENCES AND PRACTICAL APPROACHES

Helen Ortner, Professional Lead Specialist, SEND Service

Parents and class teachers are supported to explore the four areas above, identify potential challenges they are facing, and plan actions together to support the child's engagement and participation both at home and in school.

SEMINAR 2C

INSPECTION INSIGHTS: ADAPTING TO OFSTED'S NEW APPROACH FOR INCLUSION

Debbie Tregellas, Regional Lead, School Effectiveness - Wiltshire Council

An opportunity to reflect on the expected standard of the inclusion section of the new Ofsted Toolkit and how to consider your school fits within this. You will leave with some actions and things to consider back in school.

SEMINAR 2D

A WARM WELCOME; SUPPORTING THE RETURN FROM AP TO MAINSTREAM

Behaviour Support Service, Wiltshire Council

A workshop to explore how the Behaviour Support Service and the Alternative provision team can support successful inclusion back into the mainstream school using a warm welcome approach.

SEMINAR 3A

DESIGNING FOR DIVERSITY: INCLUSIVE CURRICULUM APPROACHES FOR SEND

*Hannah Darkin & Samantha Drewett, Mainstream Inclusion School
Advisors (MISAs), School Effectiveness - Wiltshire Council*

This seminar explores how leaders and staff can design and deliver an inclusive curriculum that meets the needs of all learners, including those with SEND. It covers key principles such as removing barriers to learning, applying Universal Design for Learning, using high-quality teaching strategies, and integrating adaptive approaches where needed.

Participants will examine practical tools for curriculum auditing, inclusive planning, assessment, and the effective use of assistive technology. The session also emphasises collaboration, pupil voice, and whole-school culture to ensure equity, representation, and meaningful participation for every learner.

SEMINAR 3B

SEMH: CREATING INCLUSIVE AND SUPPORTIVE CLASSROOMS

Behaviour Support Service, Wiltshire Council

This seminar explores practical, evidence-informed approaches to supporting the social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs of learners at a universal level in classrooms and around the school. Through discussion and real-world examples, the session equips staff with tools embed good practice so that every learner is able to thrive.

SEMINAR 3C

TRANSITIONS THAT WORK: PRACTICAL APPROACHES FOR SEND AND BEYOND

*James Wood, Principal Educational Psychologist, Educational
Psychology Service - Wiltshire Council*

Transitions can be challenging for children and young people, and can have an impact on wellbeing, attendance, and attainment. This session will explore how schools can provide effective support for children and young people at times of transition, focusing on preparing the young person and the adults involved, and building safety and belonging in the new setting.

SEMINAR 3D

FROM IDENTIFICATION TO IMPACT: MAKING THE GRADUATED APPROACH WORK

Libby Lines, Deputy Regional SEND Lead, Whole School SEND

This training explores the importance of understanding memory in adaptive teaching. It introduces a simple model of memory and explains why reducing cognitive load is essential for learning. The session considers the importance of anticipating barriers and clarifies what we mean by scaffolding, exploring it as a process that supports memory, reduces barriers, and enables appropriate challenge and growing independence.