

SENCO Network

Summer Term 2023



Agenda

- Update on SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan – what you need to know.
- Setting Support Phone Line
- Supporting Transitions
- Inclusion Funding and Action Plans
- Networking



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SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan: What Early Years SENCOs and other EY professionals need to know

- The Improvement Plan has the ambition to improve the whole SEND system from the early years through to further education and beyond. As part of this, the intention is that each child will be able to attend the most appropriate early years setting.
- 5,000 Early Years staff are being funded to gain an accredited Level 3 EY SENCO qualification - this has already been announced and applications are already open, you may have seen this advertised <https://www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/news/best-practice-network-to-deliver-newearly-years-senco-programme>
- From 2025 there will be National SEND and AP standards these will establish what support should be ordinarily available in mainstream settings, and for those receiving SEN Support and with Education Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans). EY SENCOs and managers in PVI settings will need to ensure that their settings meet these requirements.

Continued...

- There is a recognition of the importance of the EY sector in particular with regard to early identification and beginning those sensitive conversations with parents about their child's needs.
- A review of the Early Years Educator (EYE) Level 3 criteria has taken place, including on the inclusion of SEND as a standalone criterion, and the response to this will be published later this year.
- The DfE will work with LAs and EY providers to consider whether changes to the SEN Inclusion Fund and other elements of EY funding are needed to ensure SEND funding arrangements are appropriate and to support the introduction of a national framework of bands and tariffs.
- You can read the SEND and AP Improvement Plan in full here:

[SEND and alternative provision improvement plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) and Alternative Provision \(AP\) Improvement Plan - YouTube](#)

Setting Support Phone Line

From **Tuesday 12th September 2023** there will be an 'Early Years Setting Support Line'

EY Setting Support phone line will be **open every Tuesday 1pm-5pm.**

More details and information will be sent over the coming weeks and months via the broadcast.

Enhanced and Supported Transitions

An **Enhanced Supported Transition** is where a referral has been made to the EY Specialist Advisory Teachers. They will ensure the child is effectively supported into school and will continue to support them as they settle for their first term.

A **Supported Transition** is where the setting, school, parents, and any other professionals involved can contribute to a transition meeting in which a plan is created to support the child.

Supporting Transitions

- [Diversity and inclusion - West Sussex County Council](#) for information around Supported Transitions
- [Booklet-for-supporting-EY-Transitions.pdf \(local-offer.org\)](#) this is a booklet created by LBAT and ASCT for schools to offer guidance to schools in supporting children with additional needs into school.

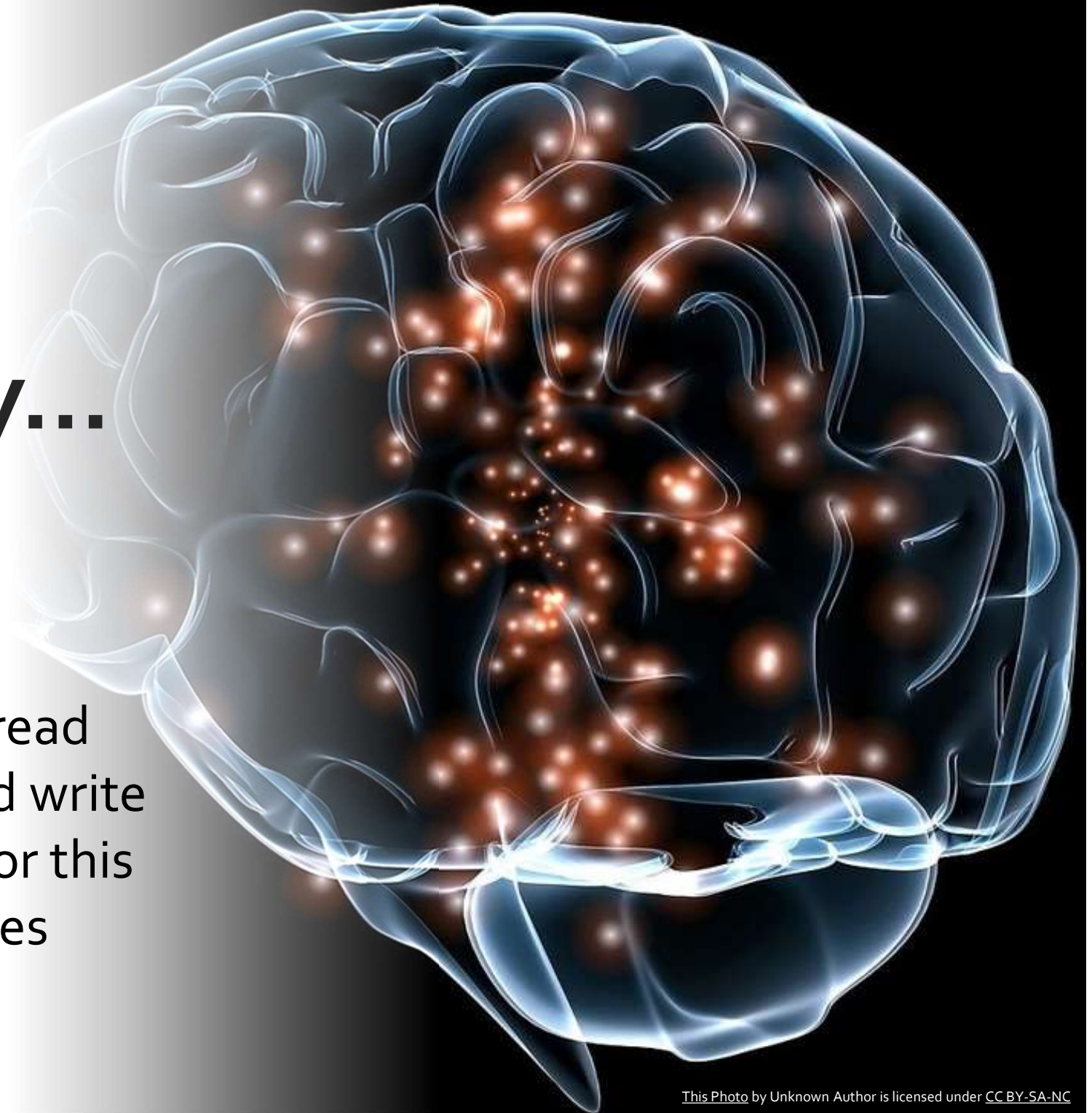
Action Plans

Video Guidance can be found here: [Guidance on Completing the Action Plan for Inclusion – YouTube](#)

Previously EYCA's would come out to settings to complete 'Professional Comments' that would support an Inclusion Funding Application. This no longer happens, instead EYCA's will visit the term after funding has been awarded. So the quality Actions Plans for Inclusion are more important than ever!

Activity...

On your tables read the scenario and write an action plan for this child – 15 minutes



Inclusion Funding

- Inclusion Funding change – we now don't visit to observe the child prior to an inclusion funding application.
- Activity: using the action plan you have written on your table, decide which funding band the child meets.

Training

The following webinar is being offered by the Local Government Association and is free to attend:

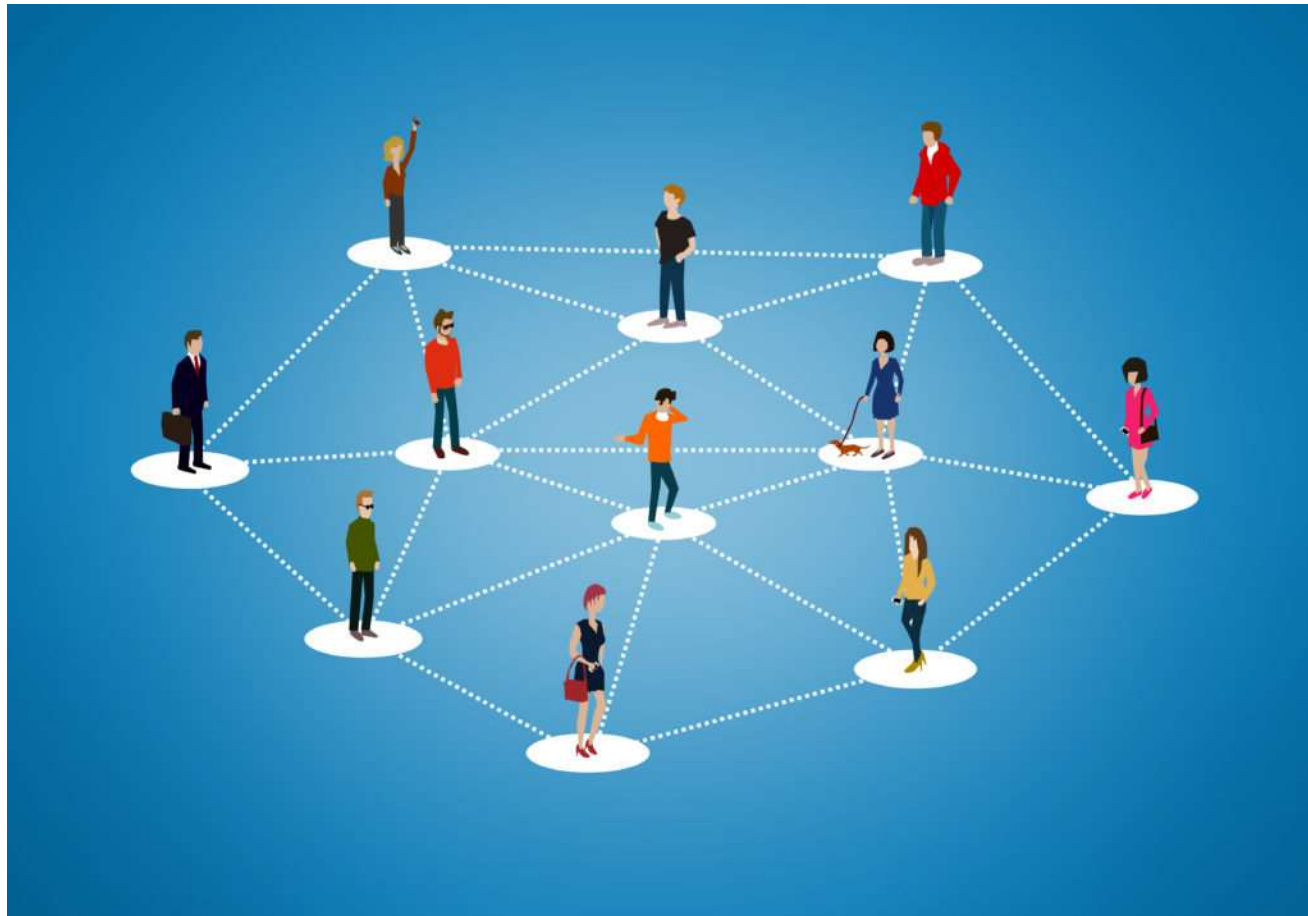
Practical Tools to support young children

Thu, 22 Jun 2023, 14:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-tools-to-support-young-childrens-emotional-regulation-tickets-631366723867>

This webinar, will cover the basic brain science of emotion regulation, and then will focus on two skills that adults can support in 2-5 year old children: 1) calming down and 2) choosing strategies for coping with strong emotions. They will use examples and inspiring ideas from the Early Years Library, a freely accessible, flexible, evidence-informed set of guides on early child development.

Networking



Thank you for coming!

All slides from this network and the Early Years Leader network will be shared in the weekly broadcast in the coming weeks.