



**South & West  
Association of Leaders in  
Special Schools (SWALSS)**

**Deputies' / Assistant Headteachers'  
Conference**

**The Grand Hotel, Torquay**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019**

***Knowing Our Children – Moving Them On!***

**Day 1: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019**

**9.00am – 9.30am** Refreshments / Registration / Check In

**9.30am – 9.45am** Welcome & housekeeping / Introduction to Exhibitors

**9.45am – 11.00am**

**Team Effectiveness – we are here to put a dent in the Universe  
– otherwise why be here?**

- What is your moral purpose?
- Strategic vision – a multi-professional framework
- Evaluating effectiveness
- The big O!
- Work Life Balance – career progression
- National Agenda update – Special Schools Voice

**Graham Quinn: Executive Headteacher Newbridge Special Schools Group,  
Greater Manchester; Chair: Special Schools Voice (DfE Consultation)**

**11.00am – 11.15am** Refreshments

**11.15am – 12.30pm**

**Managing Mental Health Profiles: Pupils, Families and Staff**

- Guidance in promoting positive mental health and emotional wellbeing profiles for children and young people
- The importance of staff wellbeing
- Accessing additional resources
- Reducing stigma and discrimination

**Belinda Heaven: Lead Consultant, Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Gloucestershire  
County Council**

**12.30pm – 1.15pm**

Lunch

**1.15pm – 1.30pm**

**Schools Advisory Service**

- Service available covering staff absence, insurance benefits, therapy, medical care, counselling
- Package used by a large number of special schools – cost effective

**Robyn Breckons: Schools Officer**



## Day 1 Continued



1.30pm – 2.15pm

### **School Accountability and the Future of Inspection**

- Deirdre will draw upon her extensive knowledge of special school headship, the SEND third sector and the current school inspection regime to give her views on where we stand at the moment on school inspections and the likely direction of future travel. What influence has Amanda Spielman, the new Chief Inspector, had so far and what is the impact likely to be on the new Ofsted Inspection Framework that will be introduced in September 2019?

**Deirdre Fitzpatrick: Director of Education ICAN, former special school Headteacher, with extensive experiences of school inspections**

1.30pm – 2.15pm

### **Curriculum for Wales: Welsh Delegates**

- Update on proposed Areas of Learning and Experience
- Discuss on-line consultation process
- Reflect on readiness for Curriculum for Wales

**Rosa Walsh: Assistant Headteacher Heronsbridge School, Bridgend**

2.15pm – 4.30pm

**Workshops A) 2.15pm – 3.15pm**

**B) 3.30pm – 4.30pm**

### **Workshops: Choice of 2 from 4 (check)**

#### **1) Trauma Informed Schools**

- Introduction to Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma
- Implementation of trauma-informed practise at Briarwood
- Impact and future implications

**Rosie Lapham: Senior Manager Briarwood School, Bristol**

#### **2) A Curriculum Developed for Pupils with PMLD / Complex Needs**

- Our journey so far
- Unique learners at the heart of the Curriculum
- Measuring the impact and future developments

**Jo King: Assistant Headteacher & Cli Fell PMLD Teacher: Linwood School, Bournemouth**

#### **3) Financial Planning – Your Pension**

- Advice and guidance in relation to planning for retirement
- Invaluable and enabling framework

**Rob Lester: Consultant Milsted Langdon Financial Adviser**

#### **4) A Non-confrontational Approach to Addressing Problematic Eating**

- The impact of eating on well-being
- Developing and adapting a programme to meet the diverse needs of our students
- Measuring the success and future plans

**Alice Stow: Primary Phase Lead & Chloe Moore: Teacher: Linwood School, Bournemouth**

7.00pm

Wine Reception

7.30pm

Dinner: Hotel Restaurant

9.00pm

Quiz: Devonshire Suite (Raffle Children's Hospice South West)



**Day 2:**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019**



**Prioritising Social and Emotional Development in Schools**

**8.45am – 10.00am**

- The Beech Lodge story
- The impact of early trauma on brain development
- Taking the Developmental Approach
- Fagus – A framework for social & emotional development

**Daniela Shanly: Co-Founder and Proprietor Beech Lodge School, Maidenhead**

**10.00am – 10.15am**

**Safeguarding our Children**

- An online programme used extensively by special schools

**Leeanne Horner, HAYS Senior SEND Consultant**

**10.15am – 10.45am**

**Refreshments / Check out**

**10.45am – 12.30pm**

**Moving towards better mental health for our students with profound disabilities**

- Access to sensation underpins mental wellbeing for everyone.
- Understanding the mental health needs of our most profoundly disabled students can help us to provide for their wellbeing and our own. Joanna Grace will present insights from research into the mental health of our students and share simple sensory strategies we can use immediately to support their wellbeing

**Jo Grace: Sensory Engagement Specialist**

**12.30pm – 1.15pm**

**Overcoming Adversity in a Life Full of Achievement**

- Personal experience of school
- What aspirations do we want disabled children to have?
- How can we help them realise their dreams?

**Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson**

**1.15pm**

**Conclusion of the Conference / Evaluation Returns: Colin May (Chair)**

**1.20pm**

**Closure of the Conference and Lunch in the hotel restaurant Bon Voyage!**

