

# Walsall Virtual School Training Offer for Schools and Education Settings



Walsall Council



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The statutory guidance for Designated Teachers states, “The governing body of a maintained school and the proprietor of an academy must ensure that an appropriately qualified and experienced member of staff undertakes the responsibilities within the school to promote the educational achievement of looked-after and previously looked-after children on the school’s roll. They must also ensure that the Designated Teacher undertakes training that is appropriate to carrying out this duty.

A key part of the Designated Teacher’s role is ensuring that they, and other school staff, have strong awareness, training, and skills around the specific needs of children in and previously in care and how to support them. As part of this, Designated Teachers should proactively build strong links with the Virtual School Head to access training and keep up to date with research and good practice.” (2018)

Walsall Virtual School have developed a training offer for Designated Teachers, Designated Safeguarding Leads and staff who work with vulnerable children and young people in schools and education settings.

The training will be delivered either on teams or face to face. There will be no option to join via teams during a face to face training session.

Title	Details	Delivered by	Dates	Location
Autumn Term DT Briefing Session	Virtual School updates: Focus on previously looked after children	Virtual School Team	Thursday 26th September 2024, 10.00am-12.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Trauma & Attachment Practitioners Award	As part of our Walsall Attachment Aware and Trauma Informed schools project, we are offering a 3 day practitioners pathway to strengthen adult knowledge and skills, whilst developing experience of working with children, young people and families who have experienced or who are living with trauma, loss, disharmony, violence, abuse and or neglect. Day 1 - Wednesday 2nd October 2024. Day 2 - Wednesday 5th February 2025. Day 3 - Wednesday 7th May 2025	Dr Marnie Aston	Wednesday 2nd October 2024, Wednesday 5th February 2025, Wednesday 7th May 2025 9.00am-4.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Introduction to Childhood Trauma and the Brain (primary schools)	This introductory session looks at the impact of childhood trauma on the brain and how these further impacts on learning. This session is aimed at designated teachers and safeguarding leads.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 8th October 2024, 11.00-1.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Introduction into using the principles of PACE in primary schools	PACE is a therapeutic approach developed by psychologist Dr Dan Hughes. This introductory session looks at how the principles of PACE can be applied in primary schools. The session is aimed at staff who work directly with children and young people in school.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 8th October 2024, 1.30-3.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

Title	Details	Delivered by	Dates	Location
Executive Functioning for children who have experienced developmental trauma	This session aims to define Executive Functions and to understand how they develop and understand the distinction between Executive Functions and Metacognition. It will then go on to look at the impact of trauma of the development of Executive Functions and then explore and support Designated Teachers and school staff with adaptations and strategies to support children and young people where Executive Functions may be an area of development	Walsall EP Service	Tuesday 15th October 2024, 9.00am-12.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Understanding the SDQ	The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is a brief behavioural screening questionnaire about 3–16-year-olds. It exists in several versions to meet the needs of researchers, clinicians, and educationalists. The three-hour on-line training event will give you the opportunity to learn more about the SDQ. The aim of the training is to provide you with an overview of how to use the SDQ, how to interpret the data and how to think about appropriate interventions based on the results. There will be breaks and time to share ideas with others.	Dr Marnie Aston	Wednesday 6th November 2024, 9.00am-12.00pm	Microsoft Teams
Introduction to Childhood Trauma and the Brain (secondary schools)	This introductory session looks at the impact of childhood trauma on the brain and how these further impacts on learning. This session is aimed at designated teachers and safeguarding leads.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 26th Nov 2024, 11.00am-1.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Emotions in the Early Years	This one-day course will provide an overview of the different models of Emotion Coaching leaning into the original work of Gottman. There will be a focus on knowledge and skills needed for a coaching approach in the early years. Early years development and regulation and the necessity of co-regulation will be explored. The term executive function will be explained, leaving time to share ideas and practice.	Dr Marnie Aston	Wednesday 27th Nov 2024 9.30-3.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Introduction into using the principles of PACE in secondary schools	PACE is a therapeutic approach developed by psychologist Dr Dan Hughes. This introductory session looks at how the principles of PACE can be applied in secondary schools. The session is aimed at staff who work directly with children and young people in school.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 26th Nov 2024, 1.30pm-3.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

Title	Details	Delivered by	Dates	Location
Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)	Foetal Alcohol Awareness training will explain the concept of Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, what it is and what might cause it. This course will talk about the signs and symptoms of Foetal Alcohol Syndrome as well as identifying the needs of the children diagnosed with it. Session 1 - 12th December 2024 Session 2 - 10th January 2025	Dr Lisa Sabotig	Thursday 12th December 2024, Friday 10th January 2025, 1.00-3.30pm	Microsoft Teams
Spring Term Designated Teaching Briefing Session	Early Years schools and settings 10.00am-11.00am Primary Schools- 11.30-12.30pm Secondary Schools- 1.30-2.30pm Post 16 providers 3.00-4.00pm	Virtual School Team	Thursday 23rd January 2025	Microsoft Teams
Supporting Children's Mental Health in School	This session explores mental health risk factors such as self-harm and suicide ideation within the school environment. This session is aimed at designated teachers and safeguarding leads.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 4th Feb 2025, 11.00am-1.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Supporting Neurodiversity in Schools	This session focuses on the learning needs of children who have a diagnosis of either Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or Attachment Disorder and how these learning needs can be met within the classroom. This session is aimed at school staff working with children who have a diagnosis of any of the above.	Emma Osborne – Senior Mental Health Practitioner	Tuesday 4th Feb 2025, 1.30 - 3.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Emotion Coaching-going deeper	This course will give an overview and history of emotion coaching in education. Emotion coaching is a universal approach for responding to emotions in the moment. Underlying principles will be discussed, and the course will dig deeper as we explore elements of emotion coaching that can enhance our understanding of emotions.	Dr Marnie Aston	Wednesday 19th March 2025, 9.00-4.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Emotional Regulation and Zones of Regulation	“Emotion regulation” is a term generally used to describe a person's ability to effectively manage and respond to an emotional experience. People unconsciously use emotion regulation strategies to cope with difficult situations many times throughout each day. The Zones of Regulation is a social-emotional learning curriculum, created to teach children self-regulation and emotional control.	Dr Laura Kirven	Thursday 6th March 2025, 9.00am-12.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

Title	Details	Delivered by	Dates	Location
Social Story and Comic Strip conversations	<p>Social Story and Comic Strip conversations. Social Stories were created by Carol Gray in 1991. They are short descriptions of a particular situation, event or activity, which include specific information about what to expect in that situation and why. Social stories and comic strip conversations can be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop self-care skills, social skills and academic abilities</li> <li>• help someone to understand how others might behave or respond in a particular situation</li> <li>• help a person to cope with changes to routine and unexpected or distressing events</li> <li>• provide positive feedback to a person about an area of strength or achievement in order to develop self-esteem</li> <li>• as a behavioural strategy (for example, what to do when angry, how to cope with obsessions)</li> </ul>	Dr Laura Kirven	Thursday 6th March 2025 1.00 - 4.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Adolescent Development- Always a Reason	<p>The focus of this one day course is understanding the neurosequential Model of Development and contingency based systems. The Learning brain by Dr Bruce Perry will be explored so you leave with an understanding of the concepts Regulate, Relate and Reason. The Ecological Approach to mental health by Dr Manie Aston will be explored to promote inclusion, equity, wellbeing and creativity. Exploring shame, guilt will give an insight into some underlying reasons for behaviours we don't understand. You will leave the course with ideas and thoughts about how to de-escalate situations, and how to support problem solving to avoid escalation of conflict.</p> <p>Having a conversation about consequences and contingency based systems will provide debate and food for thought.</p>	Dr Marnie Aston	Wednesday 9th April 2025, 9.30am - 3.30pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre
Summer Term DT conference	All day event with speakers	Virtual School Team plus guests	Thursday 19th June 2025, 9.00-4.00pm	Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

To book a place on a training course or for more information please contact Walsall Virtual School at [walsallvirtualschool@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:walsallvirtualschool@walsall.gov.uk) or call 01922 652816



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