

# Inclusively Down



Meeting individual learning needs

## Inclusively Down Exclusives

## April 2017

ENABLING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO ACCESS AN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

IN THIS ISSUE

### News

What a busy and exciting Spring term we had! In February, one year after setting up Inclusively Down, we became Award Winners! 'Enterprise Cube Best Social Business 2016'.

We are delighted to be able to continue doing what we love; meeting the learning needs of children and young people with Down syndrome across different Counties, supporting them to be the best that they can be and others to see their potential. We would be delighted to support you, get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



### Ealing SEND Fair



Inclusively Down were delighted to attend the Ealing SEND Fair in February 2017. We met some lovely parents and have since been able to work with schools in Ealing and Acton in meeting the learning needs of their pupils with Down syndrome.

### Working with Parents

The SEND Code of Practice (2015) recognises the importance of working together with parents and carers. More info on this subject can be found in the article 'Working in partnership with parents and careers' – Nasen. Inclusively Down are pleased to be working with a growing number of parent groups. Recently, we have continued to deliver training to parents and staff for Down syndrome Oxford and enjoyed two days away in Kent working with 21 Together.



### Summer Term 2017

Now that we are into the summer term many of us will be thinking about the changes that are on the horizon for our children. Read on for more details on how you can access training around the subject of 'Transition'.

### News Update

Read about what Inclusively Down have been getting up to since our last newsletter. This includes feedback from training we have been delivering.

### Training Events

Read on to find out what training events will be happening over the next two terms and how you can book your place. Alternatively do contact us directly to discuss any training requirements you may have in your school or group. We would be happy to put together bespoke training for you. Have a look at the website for some examples of what Inclusively Down can offer;

[www.inclusivelydown.co.uk](http://www.inclusivelydown.co.uk)



## Transition

We are fast approaching that time of year where the children and young people will be transitioning into new classes and/or new schools or settings. Now is the time to consider what you can do to support and ease them through what can be a difficult time. We know that some pupils find change particularly difficult and we will need to plan and prepare for this. Inclusively Down can provide specific advice, training and support to help.

If you are a school or setting that is about to welcome a child or young person with Down syndrome you should consider what training needs you might have, to support, include and to meet their needs most effectively. Upskilling staff so they can prepare accordingly will have a positive impact. Training can be designed for receiving schools as a bespoke whole school/setting course, based on your specific needs. Get in touch to discuss your individual requirements.

For those receiving pupils into new year groups within the same setting you could consider attending one of the external training courses 'Meeting the Learning Needs of Pupils with Down Syndrome' which are available in September 2017.

If you are a parent or part of a parent group who would like to organise a course for the schools/settings in your area please contact us to discuss a booking as external speakers.

## Meeting the Learning Needs of Pupils with Down Syndrome

This whole day course is aimed at all staff/professionals working with children and young people with Down syndrome that have not previously had any training. This session will enable you to teach and support Children and Young People with Down syndrome more effectively. It will cover the key elements of the specific learning profile, how you can best support progress, dispel some myths and give you strategies and resource ideas, based on research and good practice, to ensure you can meet their individual learning needs. We will also consider the role of the support assistant and what effective inclusion looks like.

**DATE:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
**VENUE:** Chartridge Lodge, Chartridge Lane, Chesham, Bucks HP5 2TU  
**TIME:** 9.30am-4.30pm

OR

**DATE:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
**VENUE:** The Ridgeway Centre, Featherstone Road, Milton Keynes MK12 5TH  
**TIME:** 9.30am-4.30pm

Place are limited so to ensure a place download, complete and return the appropriate booking form which can be found on our website. Or you can contact us **as soon as possible** either by emailing [contact@inclusivelydown.co.uk](mailto:contact@inclusivelydown.co.uk) or calling 07785 994071 (Julie) or 07950 000712 (Lucy)



## Feedback...

Our training schedule for Counties near and far continued apace through the Spring Term and we have been thrilled to meet staff from so many different settings wanting to improve their practice and do even more to include and encourage progress for their pupils with Down syndrome.

If you are a school or parent group wanting us to deliver training on site or in your local area please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

Below are just a few examples of feedback we have had from our training last term;

*"Just wanted to say that my staff member thought your recent Down's Syndrome training was really good. She gave some great feedback to the other staff and felt that things she had learnt with you had given her a better understanding and she was able to put some of your suggestions into immediate use which she found very helpful. It is not often a staff member returns from a training session feeling so positive so thank you."*

(Pre-school Manager, Oxfordshire)

*"Hello, Several members of staff from our school attended some training you delivered during last half term. We found the training to be excellent, and gave us lots of information and suggestions we could use to support the child with Down syndrome we have in our school."*

(SENDCo, Bedfordshire)

*"I had some fantastic feedback from the TA and class teacher, commenting that your visit was incredibly insightful, valuable and that it has given them a real boost"*

(Parent, London)

# Calling All Learning Support Assistants...

We had a great start to the LSA Networking Sessions in Bucks on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>. These two hour sessions are for support staff working with children and young people with Down syndrome. We would love to see your school/setting represented. The second one will be on Wednesday 7 June where the focus will be on preparing for change and transitions.

The session is being held at;  
**The Downley School,**  
**Faulkner Way,**  
**Downley,**  
**High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.**  
**HP13 5AL**

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and network with staff performing the same role in different schools. Each session will have dedicated time for general networking and an up to date relevant focus delivered by Specialist Teachers. Staff will also be able to access individualised advice and support.

For further information and to download a booking form please use the link below;  
<http://www.inclusivelydown.co.uk/latest-events>

Don't forget to keep checking with our Facebook page where you will see all our latest events and news.

<https://www.facebook.com/Inclusively-Down-1635748606663447/>



## Developing Literacy Skills: Pupils with Down Syndrome

This half-day training course is suitable for **SENDCOs, Teachers, Support Staff and Parents**. We will look at how children with Down syndrome learn to read, give advice on schemes and programmes which can be used, as well as discuss challenges and how to assess and monitor progress. We will consider difficulties which may be associated with writing and provide practical strategies to use.

**DATE:** Thursday 8 June 2017

**VENUE:** The Hub, Easton Street, High Wycombe, HP11 1NJ

**TIME:** 9.30am-12.30pm

**COST:** £80.00 per person (professionals) £45.00 per person (parents)

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis so do book your place as soon as possible, numbers are strictly limited. Booking forms need to be returned by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

To book your place on this or any other course/s please visit the website to download the appropriate booking form.

[www.inclusivelydown.co.uk](http://www.inclusivelydown.co.uk)



### DON'T FORGET...

To ensure you receive the latest news and events please log onto our website [www.inclusivelydown.co.uk](http://www.inclusivelydown.co.uk) and subscribe to our mailing list on the 'Contact Us' page.



Julie Knight & Lucy Clark