

## Specialist Support in Dartford

### Dartford STLS Team

#### STLS Lead

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#### Early Years Specialist Teachers

Marilyn Kay  
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#### School-age Specialist Teachers

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For details of other specialists and support staff who work within mainstream schools and settings to support children and young people with SEND, please visit:

[SEND support in schools - Kent County Council](#)

[Support for children with SEND in early years - Kent County Council](#)

## How can you help?

By providing a suitable and appropriate space/room for us to work in with a child or young person, if required.

By keeping us informed e.g. when a child or young person is absent on an arranged visit day.

By ensuring key staff are available to meet with us to provide information and receive feedback.

By communicating any significant information with us between visits, including reviews of outcomes and targets for the child or young person.



Dartford STLS Base  
Eynsford Road  
Greenhithe  
Kent DA9 9HB



01322 937897

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## Specialist Teaching and Learning Services (STLS)

### Dartford District



**Dartford STLS**  
Commissioned by KCC

## Information for staff in schools and Early Year settings



## About STLS Dartford

We are a service for **mainstream schools and early years' settings**, commissioned by Kent County Council. The Specialist Teaching and Learning Services (STLS) team aim to **advise and support** early years' settings and schools **to build the capacity and confidence** to deliver high quality provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to improve pupil progress and outcomes.

A **collaborative problem-solving approach**, using the skills and experience of STLS staff together with the expertise in all settings and schools, lies at the heart of the service delivery.

Based in Dartford, the STLS are part of a wider network of services from Education, Health and Social Care, bringing children's services together to ensure seamless provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

A wide range of **training workshops** for professionals are offered by Dartford STLS. In addition, bespoke training packages are delivered to settings and schools throughout Dartford, where appropriate.

## What can we do?

The STLS team offers a high degree of shared knowledge, skills, expertise and information through:

- Establishing a clear mutual understanding of the support needs and agreeing realistic goals within a given timescale
- Sharing a range of resources and flexible interventions
- Helping with assessment processes in order to establish a clearer understanding of need
- Working directly with children and young people, families, school and setting staff to support the inclusion process
- Working within a multi-agency context, where appropriate, to support the child or young person's needs
- Providing records of visits and, where appropriate, reports
- Delivering a range of SEND training workshops for professionals at the Dartford STLS Base and/or virtually
- Delivering bespoke training for settings and schools, as appropriate, when requested
- Increasing settings and schools' capacity to successfully include and manage the needs of children and young people after the STLS intervention is completed.

## Referring to the Service

**In the first instance** EY settings should refer to the **Best Practice Guidance** and schools should refer to the **Mainstream Core Standards** to identify what can be done to support the pupils access to the curriculum and ability to make progress from within the setting's/school's own resources.

Schools may access the Dartford STLS Virtual Surgeries to access advice from a Specialist Teacher, either pre- or post-LIFT. In a similar vein, EY Settings would be expected to access support from their Equality and Inclusion Adviser.

If it is considered that additional advice or support is needed then the **Local Inclusion Forum Team** (LIFT) Request Form should be completed and a request made for the case to be discussed at the next LIFT.

Full details of the LIFT process can be found on the Kelsi website, together with information regarding the additional documentation required for a LIFT referral.

[www.kelsi.org.uk](http://www.kelsi.org.uk)

[www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/special-educational-needs/local-inclusion-forum-teams](http://www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/special-educational-needs/local-inclusion-forum-teams)