

THE HFL EDUCATION SEND CONFERENCE 2025: SENSE AND SENSIBILITY.

Thursday 13th February 2025
The Fielder Centre, Hatfield.

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Time	Details			Location
8:45 – 9:25am	Conference registration			Foyer
9:30 – 09:55am	Conference Welcome & SEND Reflections Carole Bennett, CEO, HFL Education			Conference Room
09:55 – 10:55am	Empathy and Influence, finding that balance as a SENCO Ginny Bootman, Special Needs and Relationship Specialist			
10:55 – 11:10am	Keynote from Widgit			
11:10 – 11:25am	Break			Function Room
11:25am – 12:00pm	Internal Alternative Provision: Solution or Sidestep? Rethinking the Path to Inclusion Justine MacDonald, Secondary School Effectiveness Adviser, HFL Education This keynote challenges leaders to reflect on the purpose of Internal Alternative Provision (IAP). We will explore the balance between inclusion and intervention, considering whether IAP truly meets pupil needs or risks diverting focus from long-term solutions.			Conference Room
12:05 – 12:30pm	Drop-in sessions			Drop-in session rooms
	A: Scaffolding executive functions in reading <i>Suitable for primary and secondary</i> This workshop will provide a practical opportunity to consider how children’s thinking skills (or ‘executive functions’) can be scaffolded and shaped in reading, especially when deploying Teaching Assistants. EEF and DfE guidance will be drawn upon.	B: Making Maths Manageable for those who are significantly behind their peers <i>Suitable for primary and secondary</i> This workshop will explore how to support students with SEND who cannot access learning at the age expected standards and therefore need alternative provision.	C: The way I play: Understanding how schematic play enables learning and development <i>Suitable for Early Years</i> This workshop will exemplify how knowledge and understanding of schemas enable practitioners to support and challenge children’s thinking, their ideas, and their developing concepts.	

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12:30 – 1:30pm	Lunch	Function Room
1:30 – 2:10pm	<p>Leveraging Technology to Improve Outcomes at Parkgate Junior School Chris Carter, EdTech Adviser & Fiona Tobin, Secondary Schools Effectiveness Adviser, HFL Education</p> <p>In this case study you will hear how Assistive Technology was used to address a need to improve outcomes for Year 5 students, particularly those on the Pupil Premium register. The session examines the implementation of the programme, the tools used, its impact on students, and the wider implications for the school. Delegates will learn how similar projects can be implemented in their schools or settings.</p>	Conference Room
2:15 – 2:40pm	Drop-in sessions	
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2:15 – 2:40pm	Networking Opportunity	Function Room
2:40 – 3:00pm	Break	Function Room
3:00 – 3:45pm	<p>Leading with Confidence Frances Akinde, Education Consultant and SEND Expert</p>	Conference Room
3:45 – 4:00pm	<p>Closing Remarks & Conference End Louise Barrell, Lead SEND Adviser, HFL Education</p>	