

WEEKLY BULLETIN

20 January 2025



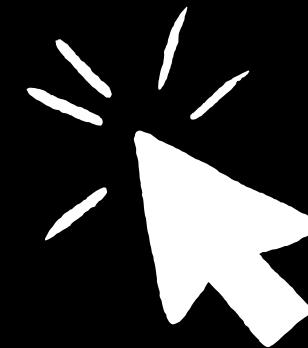
BDSIP | HELPING
STUDENTS
SHINE

BDSIP

SERVICE OFFER

TRUSTED
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BDSIP IS YOUR EDUCATION PARTNER - OWNED BY SCHOOLS, FOR SCHOOLS





BDSIP UPDATES

**BDSIP SPOTLIGHT: SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT
LEARNERS**

“GO ALL IN” CAMPAIGN

CONFIRMING HEADS CONFERENCE DATE

CPD

B&D RE AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

B&D EDUCATIONAL VISITS GUIDANCE

CONTACT US

BDSIP SPOTLIGHT



It Takes All Kinds of Minds: Fostering Neurodivergent Thriving at School

It Takes All Kinds of Minds is a multi-contributor handbook. It provides an inspiring and accessible introduction to neurodiversity in educational settings, informed by research and real-world experience.

The book is available to pre-order from the 1st of December from www.routledge.com

Use Code - GDM30 - 30% off



Find out more:
[@gdmorewood @studioiii](http://www.routledge.com/9781032796222)
www.studio3.org



Supporting Neurodivergent Learners

A new book, **It Takes All Kinds of Minds: Fostering Neurodivergent Thriving at School (2026)**, edited by Rachael Davis, Claire O'Neill and Sue Fletcher-Watson, has been published, and includes a chapter by Gareth titled **Creating Inclusive Learning Spaces for Neurodivergent Young People: A Personal Journey, 30 Years in the Making**.

The book brings together contributions from leading voices and offers valuable insight for SENCos, aspiring leaders, and all staff interested in inclusive practice.

£ Discounts available:

- 30% off using code GDM30 at checkout

If you would like to explore bulk purchase options or be put in touch with the publisher, please get in touch.

“Go All In” Campaign

 Go All In is a new national initiative from the National Literacy Trust and DfE, encouraging everyone to “If you’re into it, read into it.”

The campaign aims to reignite reading for pleasure, making it relevant and enjoyable beyond the classroom, aligning closely with our literacy priorities in LBBD.

It supports BDSIP’s work by offering national visibility, upcoming resources, challenges, and webinars, and opportunities to collaborate with schools, libraries, and families.

Further campaign materials will be shared throughout 2026.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

UPCOMING CPD

Click on the course titles to learn more and register

CPD

Mon

Tues

Weds

Thurs

Fri

w/c 26 January			Arbor – Custom Report Writer		
w/c 2 February		Secondary Religious Education Network Meeting ----- Training to Assess Writing in Year 6		Science Leadership Meeting: Driving Excellence in KS4 and Beyond	Inspire and Develop the Vulnerable Writer
w/c 10 February	Primary English Subject Leader Briefing				
w/c 23 February		Primary Religious Education Network Meeting	Governor Accredited Programme (GAP) Module 5	Mastering Physics Required Practicals: AQA Combined Science Paper 2 Made Simple ----- EYFS Coordinator Meeting	
w/c 2 March				Primary Computing Professional Learning Network	
w/c 9 March			Primary Maths Professional Learning Network	Governor Accredited Programme (GAP) Module 6: Preparing for Ofsted – ‘How to demonstrate impact of governance to inspectors’ ----- Arbor Assessment - Analysis Tools	
w/c 16 March		Nursery Meeting		Strengthening Understanding of 'Greater Depth' at the End of KS2 ----- Primary Maths Professional Learning Network	

This calendar shows the upcoming CPD for the term ahead, further dates
can be found via our website

B&D RE Autumn Term Newsletter

B&D Dates for Your Diaries

Junior RE Conference

A unique leadership and dialogue experience for Y4/5 pupils and teachers.

Dates: 20th Mar 2026 & 7th May 2026

Book: nnadeem@bdcs.org.uk

Please find in our BDSIP resources:

[**Summary Advice for Schools on Ramadan 2025**](#)

[**A Briefing Paper on Ramadan by B&D SACRE for Schools 2025**](#)

[**RE Agreed Syllabus for Barking and Dagenham 2025**](#)

Please click [here](#) for the Autumn Newsletter.

B&D Educational Visits Guidance

All maintained and voluntary controlled schools must follow OEAP national guidance, have a trained Educational Visits Co-ordinator (EVC), and gain Local Authority approval for higher-risk trips.

Schools should ensure robust risk assessments, use licensed providers, and record all visits on EVOLVE. EVC training is renewed every 3 years, and audits are carried out every 3–4 years.

For advice or training, contact educationcoreteam@lbbd.gov.uk.

Click [here](#) to read the full guidance.

CONTACT US

All feedback and questions are welcome. If you have any queries about any aspects of this briefing or any wider issues, please use the contacts below:

Lee Boyce, Chief Executive – Lee.Boyce@bdsip.co.uk

Paul Claydon, Deputy Chief Executive – Paul.Claydon@bdsip.co.uk

Nicole Leah, Director of Learning – Nicole.Leah@bdsip.co.uk

General enquiries – info@bdsip.co.uk

CPD enquiries – cpdevents@bdsip.co.uk



USEFUL RESOURCES

ENERGY SAVERS WEEK 2026

NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK 2026

NSPCC NUMBER DAY 2026

JOLLY POSTMAN

YEAR 10 REGENERATIVE AI ROADSHOW

Energy Savers Week 2026

Easy Everyday Energy Wins For You

What is Energy Saving Week?

Energy Saving Week is a national campaign encouraging households to reduce energy use, cut fuel bills, and lower carbon footprints. Led with partners including Citizens Advice and the Energy Saving Trust, it shares practical advice on:

-  **Financial support and discounts**
-  **Switching energy suppliers**
-  **Improving insulation**
-  **Simple, low-cost changes to heating and lighting**

The 2026 focus is on supporting households facing high costs with clear, practical actions to save money and energy.



Click [here](#) for resources

National Storytelling Week 2026

Soundtrack Your Story

National Storytelling Week is from **Monday 2nd to Sunday 8th February 2026**. This event is a celebration of oral storytelling, reading and writing for pleasure - the power of sharing stories.

The theme for this year is **Soundtrack your story**, and there are free online events running on **Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th February**.

For further information, and to sign up for the workshops and resources, please visit the website [**here**](#).



NSPCC Number Day 2026

NSPCC's Mega Maths Fundraising Event

Number Day is the NPSCC's maths fundraising event - this year it will be held on Friday 6th February 2026. Schools can fundraise for the NSPCC by having fun with maths.

Schools can sign up for free, and receive access to hundreds of free learning resources.

Full details can be found [here](#).



Jolly Postman

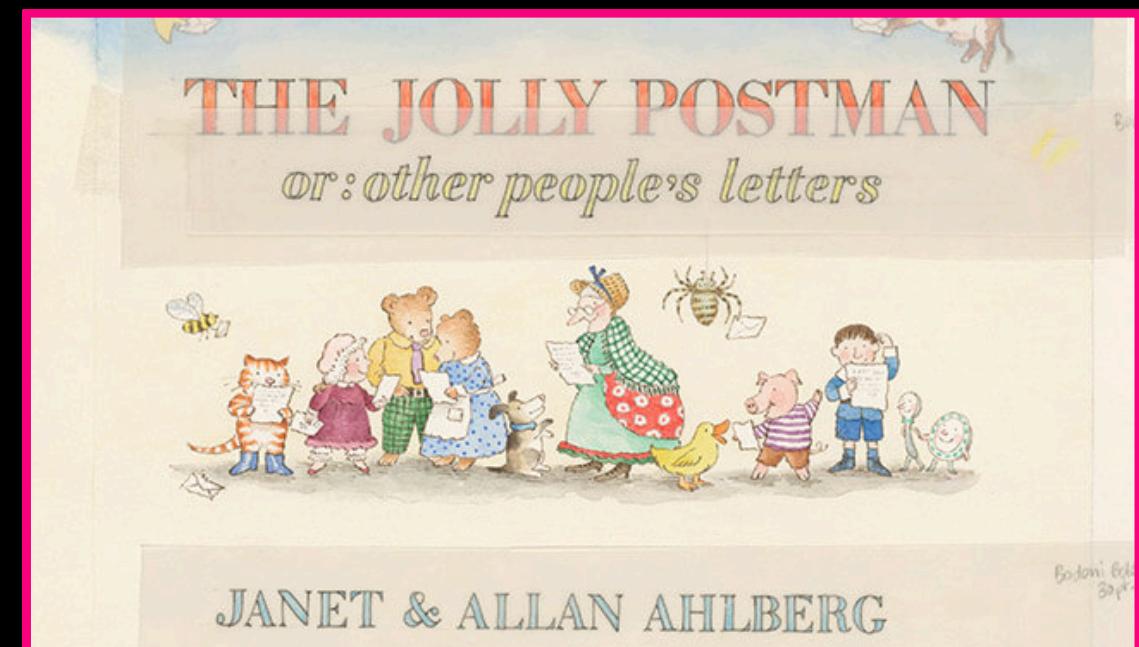
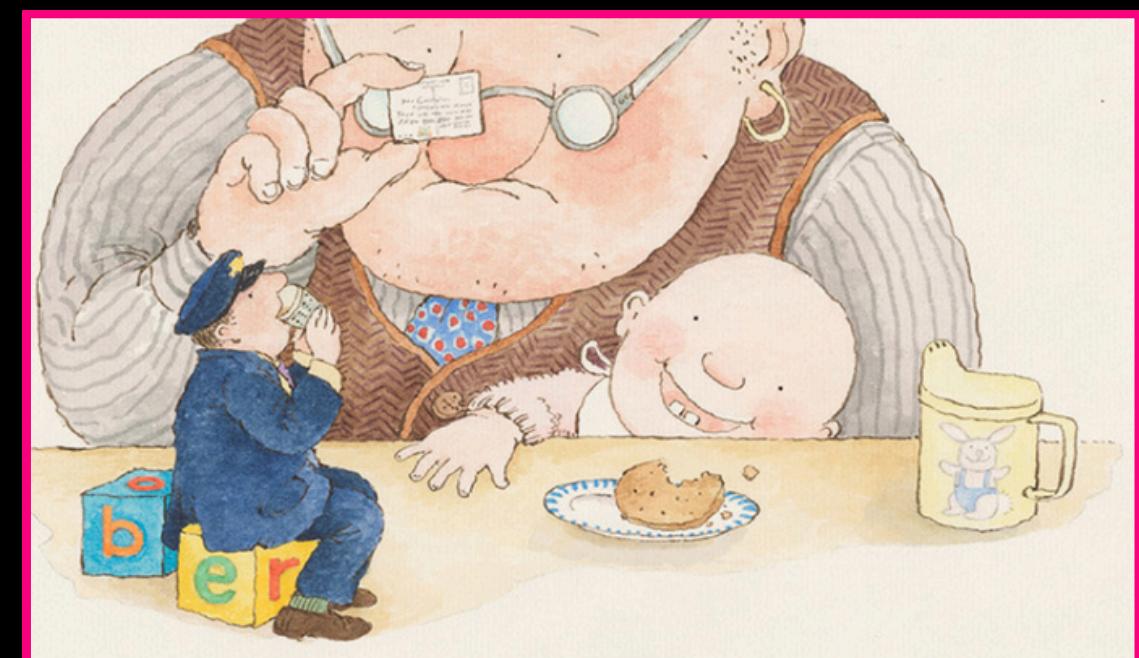
Postal Museum Resources

This year marks 40 years since the publication of Janet and Allan Ahlberg's popular book, *The Jolly Postman*. To celebrate, The Postal Museum has announced an exhibition and competition dedicated to the book.

The immersive exhibition opens on 14th February 2026, including original artwork from the Ahlberg archives. More information on the exhibition is available [here](#).

The museum is also launching a national schools competition, inviting children to create their own fairy-tale mail. Pupils can draw pictures inspired by *The Jolly Postman* or write letters about why they like the book. There is a chance for their entries to be included in a museum display if posted before 26th February. Further information about the competition is available [here](#).

Learning resources linked to *The Jolly Postman* are also available on the Postal Museum website [here](#).



Year 10 Regenerative AI Roadshow

Tech She Can Partnership with Accenture

In partnership with Accenture, Tech She Can are embarking on a roadshow from February to July, touring schools across the UK to provide free in-person AI learning experiences.

- Available to schools (with 25.7%+ FSM) across the UK, including London
- Whole day workshop for 30 Year 10 students (takes place on the school grounds)
- 25 minute KS4 assembly
- 90 minute teacher CPD
- No teacher prep required - they bring everything



For further details, and to register your interest, please visit [here](#).



NATIONAL GUIDANCE
ATTENDANCE UPDATES
A NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON THE FUTURE OF SEND
THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING IS HERE!
TEACHING AWARDS TRUST

DFE: Attendance Updates

Teacher Bulletin - 14 January 2026

Attendance started strongly in the autumn term, though many schools faced increased illness later on. Our guidance on managing illness in schools can help you navigate these challenges.

Support available this term:

-  **Attendance & Behaviour Hubs** – Share best practice and receive targeted support

👉 Sign up to join the programme

-  **Regional attendance conferences** – Connect with schools and learn what's working
-  **Data-led tools** – Identify and support attendance issues early
-  **RISE teams** – Tailored advice based on your school's needs
-  **AI-powered attendance baselines** – Bespoke expectations to support improvement

Further details and links will be shared with schools later in the year.

DFE: A National Conversation on the Future of SEND

Teacher Bulletin - 14 January 2026

From Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the national conversation on SEND reform through the online portal and regional events. Your views are shaping proposals for long-term change, and Ministers continue to meet with parents, educators, leaders and experts. The government has set out an ambitious vision to ensure every child with SEND can achieve and thrive, recognising that too many children currently struggle to access the support they need.

Five principles guiding reform:

-  Early support
-  Local provision
-  Fair access
-  Effective, evidence-based practice
-  Shared working across education, health and care

What happens next:

- Continued ministerial engagement with the sector
- A formal consultation on proposed reforms to follow shortly

Find out more here

DFE: The National Year of Reading is here!

Teacher Bulletin - 14 January 2026



The Go All In campaign celebrates reading by showing that whatever children and young people are passionate about—sport, music, gaming or more—there's a book to match. If you're into it, read into it.

What's on offer:

-  **Termly professional development**
-  **Ready-to-use resources**
-  **Engaging events for children and young people**

Choose your level of involvement:

-  **Go All In: A whole-school approach with a nominated representative, guided termly support via the LMS, and a participatory award with prizes.**
-  **Dip In: Sign up to individual events and access resources as they're released.**

DFE: **Teaching Awards Trust**

Teacher Bulletin - 14 January 2026

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Teaching Awards.

Nominate a colleague before 5pm on Friday 27 February.

Teaching Awards Trust are also holding **free Education Insights events** for teachers and education professionals.

A young girl with brown hair tied back with a yellow bow is sitting at a desk in a classroom, looking intently at a computer screen. She is wearing a dark blue school uniform with a white collared shirt. The computer monitor is on the left, and a keyboard and mouse are in the foreground. The background shows other classroom desks and chairs.

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