WEEKLY BULLETIN
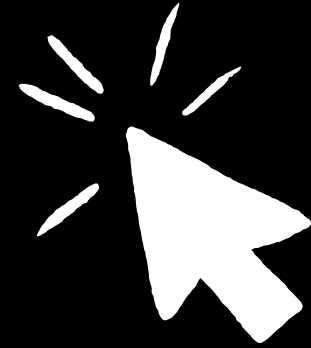## 10 February 2026

BDSIP

SERVICE OFFER

TRUSTED PARTNER IN EDUCATION

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

BDSIP UPDATES

- BDSIP SPOTLIGHT: ADELA KAY'S JANUARY RESEARCH
- SPOTLIGHTED EVENTS
- SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE WRITERS
- SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS
- KS2 EXTERNAL MODERATION 2026
- CPD
- B&D RE AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER
- CONTACT US

BDSIP SPOTLIGHT

Adela Kay's January Research: IncludEd, Early Years, Academic Achievement and More.

Adela Kay, Assistant Headteacher at Aspire Virtual School, shares January research insights on key issues affecting children and young people, including exclusion, mental health, transitions, disadvantage, online safety, youth violence, and school non-attendance.

👉 Click **here** to read the full post.

Spotlighted Events

Governor Accredited Programme (GAP) Module 5: Building relationships: 'Managing conflict and the art of challenge'

Wednesday 25 February, 5:30pm

Click Here

EYFS Coordinator Meeting

Thursday 26 February, 3:45pm

Click Here

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Support for Vulnerable Writers

📚If you are concerned about some of your vulnerable writers, we have a two-part course that you may find useful to support your teachers and teaching assistants.

The sessions will explore ways to engage some of our more vulnerable writers, who are often difficult to motivate, and reluctant to put pen to paper. Practical strategies will be provided, alongside resources to try out in between sessions.

Please see here for the attached **flyer** for further details and the **booking link**.

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KS2 External Moderation 2026:

Head Teacher Briefing

Strengthening Understanding of 'Greater Depth' at the End of KS2
Thursday 19th March 2026, 1.30pm-4pm, BDSIP Eastbrook School

Strengthening Understanding of 'Working Towards' at the End of KS2
Thursday 16th April 2026, 1.30pm-4pm, BDSIP Eastbrook School

Supporting Neurodivergent Learners

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
www.studio3.org

STUDIO III Training Systems

IT TAKES ALL KINDS OF MINDS
Fostering Neurodivergent Thriving at School
EDITED BY
RACHAEL DAVIS, CLAIRE O'NEILL
AND SUE FLETCHER-WATSON
A Speechmark Book
Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group
www.routledge.com/9781032796222

LASER
Low Arousal
Supports
Educational
Resilience

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.

UPCOMING CPD

Click on the course titles to learn more and register

CPD	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri

w/c 10 February	Primary English Subject Leader Briefing		Strategic SEND Support for B&D Secondary Schools - Preparing for September 2026		
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			Arbor Assessment - Analysis Tools	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

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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 January's Newsletter.

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**

General enquiries – **info@bdsip.co.uk**
CPD enquiries – **cpdevents@bdsip.co.uk**

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USEFUL RESOURCES

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2026

DIGITAL CAREERS IN COMPUTING

EEF ON METACOGNITION

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026

Children's Mental Health Week 2026
'This Is My Place' – Supporting Belonging & Wellbeing

Resources & EYFS Support Available (9–15 February)

To support Children's Mental Health Week, we're sharing primary and secondary resources to help schools promote emotional wellbeing.

What's available:

- 📄 **Signposting leaflet & PDF resources – suitable for pupils, staff, families and carers**
- **Children's Mental Health Week 2026**
- **Children's Mental Health Week 2026: My Safe Place Primary Activity**
- **Children's Mental Health Week 2026: Mind Map Template**
- **Children's Mental Health Week 2026: My Safe Place Secondary Activity**

We hope these resources support your school's wellbeing work throughout the week.

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Digital Careers in Computing
Free Posters & Real-World Role Models

Computing at School (CAS) has created a set of Digital Careers posters to help students explore the wide range of careers supported by computing.

What's included:

- 👨‍💼 **Posters highlighting real professionals in digital roles**
- 🎥 **A supporting guide with links to short videos explaining career journeys**
- 🎯 **Resources designed to make digital careers feel relatable and achievable**

📥 **Download the posters:**
https://www.computingatschool.org.uk/resources/2026/january/digital-careers-spotlight-posters/

🔓 **A free CAS login is required to access the resources.**

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Practical Scaffolds to Build Pupil Independence
EEF on Metacognition

Headship Next is an 8-month development programme for aspiring headteachers ready to take the next step and make a lasting impact on outcomes for young people.

What you'll gain:

- 👤 **1:1 coaching from a former headteacher**
- 🤝 **Connections with serving heads through the Leadership Ally community**
- 🚀 **Post-programme support and access to headship opportunities**
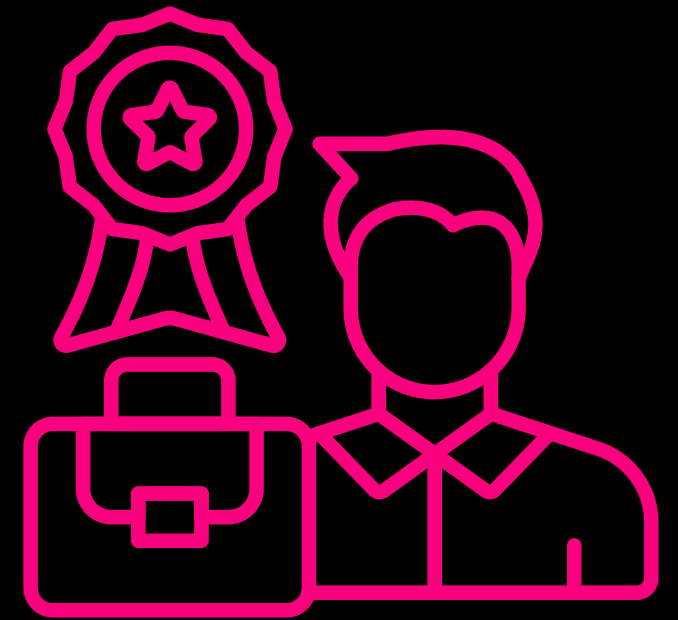- 🧠 **A safe, collaborative peer network**

You'll explore:

- 🌱 **Your leadership philosophy**
- 💡 **Personal strengths and development areas**
- 🏫 **The mindset and culture behind sustainable leadership**

The programme is particularly keen to hear from leaders underrepresented at headship level.

👉 **Apply now** (applications reviewed on a rolling basis)
✉️ **Questions: istewart@teachfirst.org.uk**

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National Apprenticeship Week 2026
Virgin Atlantic: Apprenticeships with Altitude

As part of National Apprenticeship Week (9–15 February 2026), STEM Learning is hosting an online careers event with Virgin Atlantic, showcasing pathways into aviation engineering through apprenticeships.

Event highlights:

- 👷‍♀️👷‍♂️ Live panel of eight Virgin Atlantic engineers
- 🛠️ Insights into career routes, skills and qualifications
- 🌍 Real-world examples of engineering roles in aviation

📅 **Friday 13 February**
⏰ **11am–12pm**
💻 **Online**

👉 **Register and find out more via the Eventbrite event page.**

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Safer Internet Day 2026
Smart Tech, Safe Choices – Using AI Responsibly

Safer Internet Day 2026 takes place on 10 February, focusing on the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

The day will explore how AI affects everyday life, how it can be used positively, and how children and young people can be empowered to use it safely and responsibly.

What's available:

- 🧠 **Guidance on safe and responsible AI use**
- 📚 **Education resources for different age groups**
- 👩‍🏫 **Assembly slides, activity ideas and quizzes**
- 🤝 **Option to register as a supporter**

👉 **Find full details and resources on the Safer Internet Day website.**

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NATIONAL GUIDANCE

MEETING DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS

PARENTS PRIORITISING PRIMARY SCHOOLS

USING AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS,TUITION AND MORE

GENERATIVE AI: PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS

GOVERNMENT'S UPDATED GUIDANCE ON PHONES

DFE: Meeting Digital and Technology Standards in Schools and Colleges
Manual - 2 February 2026

Schools and colleges should be working towards meeting 6 core digital standards by 2030:

- 🌐 **Broadband internet**
- 📶 **Wireless network**
- 🔌 **Network switching**
- 🧭 **Digital leadership & governance**
- 🛡️ **Filtering & monitoring**
- 🔐 **Cyber security**

Meeting these standards helps schools and colleges to:

- 📈 **Build a strong digital strategy**
- 💡 **Make informed, cost-effective decisions**
- 🔒 **Use technology safely and securely**
- ✅ **Meet wider DfE digital and technology standards**

👉 **Click here to read the full manual.**

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DFE: Parents Prioritising Primary Schools with Free Breakfast Clubs

Press Release - 2 February 2026

From April, over 300,000 children will benefit from Best Start free breakfast clubs, helping families manage the cost of living while supporting children's learning and wellbeing.
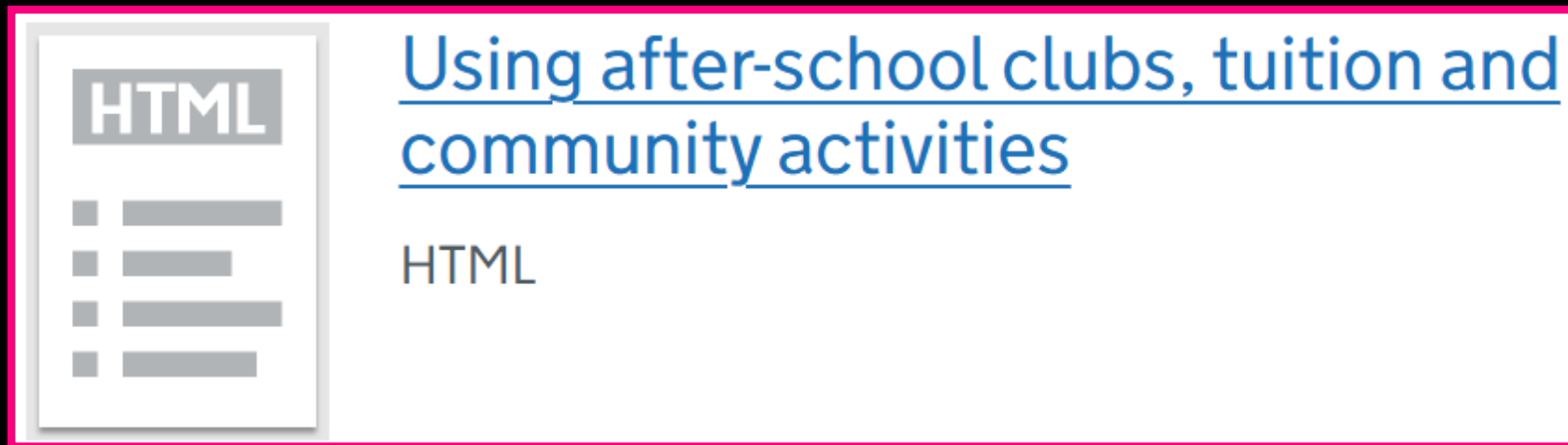
Key impacts:

- 🍽️ **7 million meals already served**
- 💷 **Families saving up to £450 per year**
- ⏰ **Up to 95 hours of time saved annually**
- 📈 **Improved attendance, attainment and behaviour**

The clubs are open to all pupils, helping to reduce stigma, with many parents more likely to access support when it is universal. The government is now encouraging more primary schools to sign up as demand continues to grow.

👉 **Click here to read the full press release.**

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DFE: Using After-school Clubs, Tuition and Community Activities
Guidance - 6 February 2026

Using after-school clubs, tuition and community activities
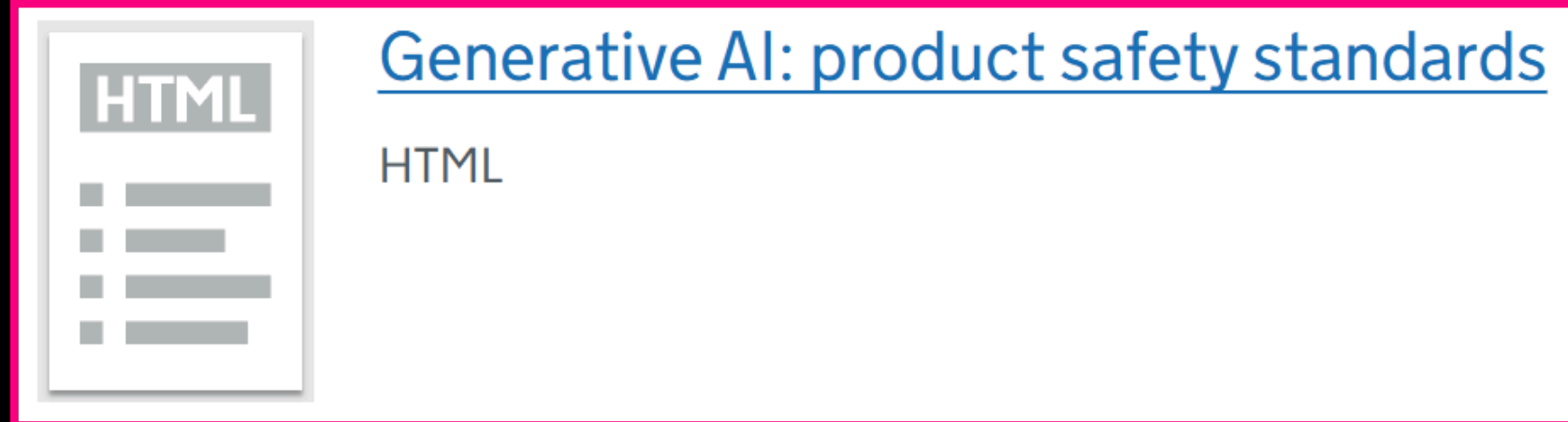
HTML

Details

This guidance is for parents and carers. It explains what school and activities clubs, tutors and coaches should be doing to provide a safe environment for the children that attend their setting. This includes:

- community activities - for example, youth clubs
- before- and after-school clubs
- holiday clubs
- supplementary schools - for example, language, cultural and religious
- private tuition
- music lessons
- sports training and coaching

These are sometimes referred to as out-of-school settings.

Download a leaflet on choosing safe out-of-school settings.

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DFE: Generative AI: Product Safety Standards
Guidance - 19 January 2026

Details

- Guidance on the capabilities and features that generative AI products and systems should meet to be considered safe for users in educational settings.
- These standards are for edtech developers and suppliers to schools and colleges. Schools and colleges may also find them helpful in assessing which AI products are safe for use in education.
- You should also refer to **Generative artificial intelligence (AI) in education**.

OFSTED: [What the Government's Updated Guidance on Mobile Phones Means for School Inspections](#)
Blog - 23 January 2026

The DfE has tightened guidance stating that schools should be mobile phone-free by default. Ofsted has reiterated full backing for schools to ban phones, as they often disrupt learning and wellbeing.

From 1 April, inspections will:

- 🗣️ Discuss schools' mobile phone policies and how they're communicated
- ✔️ Check understanding and consistency among staff and pupils
- 📊 Evaluate the impact on learning, behaviour and wellbeing

Schools that allow exceptions must clearly justify and apply them consistently. Where guidance isn't followed, inspectors will consider the impact on behaviour, focus, bullying and mental health—potentially affecting judgements.

👉 Read the full blog [here](#).

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