SESLIP
South East Sector Led Improvement Programme

NEW ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMME OFFER

SEND WORKSHOPS

Three practical SESLIP training sessions for schools and local authorities responding to the proposed SEND reforms

Resources to use immediately • Implementation support • Follow-up support



MEET YOUR TRAINER

Jude Macdonald

School Improvement and SEND Consultant

Workshop dates: January 2027 to February 2027

Jude Macdonald is an experienced school leader and a SEND consultant working across the country in building systems for inclusion. Jude is passionate about ensuring school systems and processes identify and address the needs of all children and young people. She ensures staff confidence and understanding of SEND and the wider Inclusion agenda through training, co-production, information sharing, systems, and processes.

Throughout Jude's career, schools and trusts have developed systems and processes to manage greater levels of complex needs in mainstream. She aims to ensure schools she supports are at the cutting edge of Inclusion practice, and that workload at all levels is supported. As a consultant, Jude focuses on systems and processes to ensure school leaders can lead their Inclusion strategy effectively and strategically.

CAREER OVERVIEW

- **Director of Inclusion,** Diamond Learning Partnership Trust, September 2026-current.
- **Director of Inclusion,** Keys Academies Trust, September 2023-August 2026.
- **Headteacher,** Marshfields Special School, January 2019 – August 2023. Commissioned by the LA to support maintained schools with their SEND leadership through a series of short- to medium-term projects with leaders. School received Ofsted Good September 2023.
- **Federation Vice Principal and Senior SENDCO,** Rutland and District Schools Federation Trust, September 2008 – December 2018.

We are delighted that Jude has agreed to deliver a number of practical workshops to support Local Authorities in responding to the proposed SEND reforms.

Details of the training offered, including dates, times, booking links and further information can be found on page 2.

If you have any further questions or queries regarding this training offer, please contact Sonia Dayal on sonia.dayal@sdsa.net

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Workshop Information

Dates, times, session information and booking links

7 JANUARY 2027

1:00pm – 2:30pm

ONLINE VIA TEAMS

REGISTER NOW >

Understanding the Implications of the SEND Reform for Schools

Suitable for: LA colleagues supporting schools with their inclusion development and school improvement.

What will the session cover: Schools must publish their Inclusion Strategy online by 31.12.2026. What should they include, what existing information can be used, and how can you support school leaders in providing evidence for a wide range of stakeholders?

This session is designed to expand on the school and setting section of the SEND Reform timeline. Using a range of examples, you will understand how best to provide support and challenge to support school leaders. You will develop your understanding through a range of best practice examples, the Education Endowment Fund and case studies to support your thinking

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28 JANUARY 2027

12noon - 1:30pm

ONLINE VIA TEAMS

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Building a Workforce for Inclusion

Suitable for: LA colleagues including those supporting maintained schools with their inclusion and workforce development.

What will the session cover: The SEND reform direction is clear, but implementation is phased and some proposals remain subject to legislation and consultation outcomes. Local Authorities and school leaders need to understand how to develop their workforce at all levels, in order to build a system that is inclusive and provides value for money.

This session will focus on workforce development for:

- School leaders
- Teachers
- Teaching Assistants

A range of case examples will be considered, and their impact explored. The session will also signpost to high-quality training and development opportunities.

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18 FEBRUARY 2027

1:00pm - 2:30pm

ONLINE VIA TEAMS

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Learning From Specialist

Suitable for: LA colleagues

What will the session cover: The SEND Reform requires increasing understanding of how to meet SEND in mainstream. In this session, Jude will reflect on key learning points from her five years as Headteacher of a specialist school for learning with Learning Difficulties and explain how these have been translated into mainstream practice. Evidence of the impact in mainstream will be provided.

The session will support Local Authority colleagues in understanding how specialist experience can develop mainstream inclusion at scale, while supporting staff workload.

Once colleagues have booked onto the relevant training session(s), the Microsoft Teams link and joining instructions will be shared. If you have any further questions or queries regarding this training offer, please contact Sonia Dayal on sonia.dayal@sdsa.net