

ABOUT HELEN

I have been a SEN practitioner for over twenty years working with children and young adults with complex learning, sensory and physical disabilities. During my career I have provided outreach support to mainstream schools on visual and hearing impairments, adapting the environment, making resources and developing communication. I have supported pupils from on dual placement in many mainstream settings, ran summer schools, after school clubs, college placement and provided private tutoring and support to many families. I love technology and have provided support on accessible programmes and switched use to engage learners on Computers, ipads and touch screens. I have planned with teachers to embed a sensory rich curriculum through themes, topics and stories using high- and low-tech sensory resources and sensory rooms and interactive studios. Since 2009 my main area of specialism and expertise has been supporting children and young people with visual and hearing impairments.

I have provided support and training on:

- Planning and mentoring school staff on how to make the curriculum accessible for learners with VI and HI
- How to improve the auditory and visual environment in the classrooms
- Support on using and maintaining audiological specialist equipment
- Assessing a pupils' vision and hearing levels and writing sensory profiles to ensure a consistent approach to teaching and learning
- One to one visual rehabilitation and stimulation

I have delivered training/courses nationally for Hirstwood Training and locally to mainstream and special schools through INSET and bespoke twilight training.

In 2013 I was chosen to travel to Zambia to provide training to teachers on how to teach children with special educational needs. This was a life changing trip and one I will remember forever.

I also ran a weekly signing choir which I am passionate about.

QUALIFICATIONS & COURSES ATTENDED

- Teacher Training 730 NVQ level 3 in teaching post 16 students
- NVQ level 3 Childcare the Early Years
- BSL level 1
- *Makaton Sign language
- Fun Fit
- See Ability Valuing our Vision including assessing functional vision
- Deaf Awareness
- Sensory Maths and Literacy
- Working with Deaf Pupils in a Mainstream Setting
- Sensory Approaches to Learning Personal Profiles
- Sensory Intelligence - Making sense of sensory processing
- The science, basis and functions of sensory processing
- Self-regulation and sensory strategies for home and school
- Child Bereavement
- Vision for Doing Assessment
- Hearing technology support, setting up a soundfield system
- Intensive Interaction
- Various Autism courses as a parent and practitioner
- Multi Sensory Storytelling
- Cerebral Vision Impairment Granny's basket - A holistic approach to PSD in Early Years
- Epilepsy awareness
- Manual handling
- Child protection & Safeguarding
- First Aid
- GDPR
- Enhanced DBS
- NSPCC designated safeguard lead training DSL



HELEN DILLON

2018 - PRESENT
SIMPLY SENSORY



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