



Working for young children in Kent and Medway

## SUMMER CONFERENCE

Saturday, June 7th, 2008

**'Encouraging the participation of parents'**

An interactive and practical workshop that will be useful and enjoyable for all those who attend

**Speaker: Rhya Homewood,**

**Venue: Sherwin Knight Community Infant School  
Cedar Road  
Strood  
Rochester  
Kent  
ME2 2JP**

**SUMMER CONFERENCE June 7<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Please note the following**

- Entry is by **prior booking only**
  - Applications are taken in date order and **must** be received by **May 28th**.
  - Individual EChO members free  
Group members free for up to 5 delegates, and then additional places £10 each  
Group members (Pre-school settings) free for up to 10 delegates
  - Non-members £15.00
  - **Unsuccessful applicants will be informed. All others should assume acceptance. Please send SAE if confirmation required.**
  - **As conferences are often oversubscribed, please let Sally Dillon know, if after booking a place, you are unable to attend.**
- Sally Dillon Tel: 01303 812556 E-mail: [dillons@supernet.com](mailto:dillons@supernet.com)

### APPLICATION FORM FOR ECHO CONFERENCE

June 7th 2008

Please photocopy this form for additional applicants and return by **May 28th** to

**Sally Dillon**  
Stanley House  
Stone Street  
Stanford  
Ashford TN25 6DF

Name of Applicant.....

Address.....

School or Organisation.....

Please tick and fill in details below as applicable

I am a member of EChO and will be attending this conference

We are group members and will be sending .....delegates.  
We are sending..... additional delegates at £10 each.

I am not a member and enclose £15.00 as the conference fee.

Cheque enclosed £.....Payable to EChO (Kent)

Signed.....

**EChO SUMMER CONFERENCE      JUNE 7<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Sherwin Knight Community Infant School  
Cedar Road  
Strood  
Rochester ME2 2JP**

**SPEAKER: RHYA HOMEWOOD  
Programme**

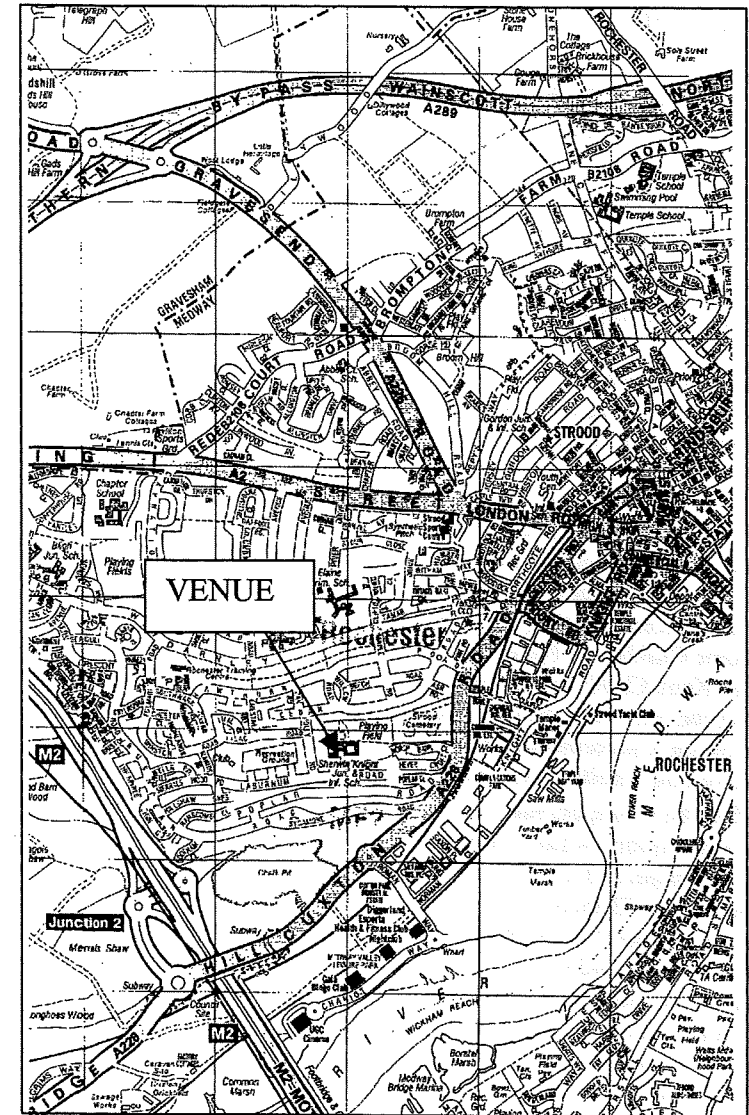
**9.00 – 9.30      Arrival and refreshments  
9.30 – 10.30      Session One:  
10.30 – 11.00      Break for refreshments  
11.00 – 12.00      Session Two:**

Rhya has been a behaviourist for 10 years, specialising in training and supporting people working and parenting children with social communication difficulties, challenging behaviour and special educational needs.

Rhya works with KEC, Social Services, children's homes and private foster agencies on challenging behaviour and practical interventions and she is involved as an advisor for parliamentary debates and government policy for autism and disability law. Rhya is also a keen supporter of better services for Kent's young disabled people and is a Founder Director Trustee for Kent Children's Fund Network (KCFN), and a founder member of the Kent Children's Fund. Communication is the key, and understanding the language that we use with each other, can mean the difference between a successful intervention and resistance from the home. Effective and sensitive communication is paramount to achieving what is best for the young person.

Together we will explore what it is like to have a child with a disability, diagnosed or undiagnosed and all the emotions and practical issues that come with that. We will then consider what strengths the parents might have that could be useful to us as professionals. We will learn some behavioural strategies and specific communication tricks that will engage parents without patronizing them, and value their contribution. We will consider what resources we have at our disposal and how to maximize them. We will also consider pitfalls and how to avoid them, as well as how we, as professionals feel when confronted with parents, who are difficult to engage with, for one reason or another.

Rhya aims to provide a fully interactive and practical workshop that will be useful and enjoyable for all those who attend



There should be adequate parking on the school premises.