

# SEND NEWSLETTER

Sandal Primary School

## In this issue:

- Training in school
- Diary dates
- SEND reviews
- SEND on our school website
- ASD information
- FACE– parent support

A warm welcome to all the new parents whose children have started in Early Years this academic year. This newsletter is designed to provide parents/ carers with information around SEND and Inclusion at Sandal Primary school. These will be produced and emailed to all families every half term. If you require further information about a topic or anything detailed in the SEND newsletter, you can either email the main office or myself directly on;

**[Christina.sperduto@sandalprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:Christina.sperduto@sandalprimaryschool.co.uk)**

I look forward to working with all our families to continue supporting your children in the most effective way we can as a school. Thank you.

Miss Sperduto, SENDCo

## Training in School:

- Miss Malone has successfully completed the training to become a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). There are now 5 DSL's in school; Miss Sperduto, Mr Douglass, Miss Malone, Miss Gibson and Mrs Morris.
- Mrs McGoldrick has recently attended training to further develop her knowledge around outdoor provision in the Early Years. The training focused on revamping opportunities that are given to children outdoors to enhance their learning. She will be feeding back key points from the training to all the EYFS team in Autumn 2.
- Several TAs across school have worked with the speech and language therapist, looking at next steps for individual children. This has also involved further training opportunities online, to upskill their knowledge and understanding in delivering specific speech and language interventions e.g. BLANK levels, Intensive interaction.

## Diary dates:

These are national dates aimed to raise awareness of specific types of SEND.

*October– ADHD awareness month*

*October– Sensory awareness month*

*2nd– 8th October– Dyslexia awareness week*

*10th October– World Mental Health Day*

*13-19th October– Dyspraxia awareness week*

*18th October– Developmental Language Disorder awareness day*

*11th– 15th November– Anti-Bullying week*

*20th November– Just Talk week*



## Autumn term SEND reviews:

If your child is on our school SEND register, you have the opportunity for attending a termly SEND review meeting with myself as SENDCo and your child's class teacher. The 1st one will be a face to face appointment in school. The 2nd and 3rd will be a phone call. These are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress, provision and support they are receiving in school, using their Individual Learning Plans (ILP's) and make further suggestions or comments where needed, to enhance your child's experience in primary school.

If you are new to school or your child has only recently been added to the SEND register, you will be informed of these meetings via email, with a letter attached.

**Information regarding the dates that will be available and how to book an appointment will be sent out during the 1st week of Autumn 2.**

## Where can I find out about SEND information at our school?

Our school website contains a wealth of information around the areas of SEND, specific disabilities, provision and support we offer in school and also information on our policies and procedures related to SEND.

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## What is ASD?– Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder, which means that it impacts how a child develops. Although children with ASD might not be diagnosed until they are preschool- or even school-aged (or older), when signs of the disorder become more apparent, it is important to reach out to professional for further support and advice..

Children with ASD have a combination of two kinds of behaviours: deficits in communication and social skills, and the presence of restricted or repetitive behaviours. It's called a *spectrum* because individuals with the disorder may have a wide range of symptoms, cognitive abilities, language skills and behaviours.

## Criteria for autism spectrum disorder

Signs of a **deficit in communication and social skills** may include, but are not limited to, a combination of the following:

- Failure to respond to their own name
- Disinterest in giving, sharing or showing objects of interest
- Aversion to displays of affection
- Preference for solitary play
- Difficulty carrying on a reciprocal or back-and-forth conversations
- Lack of eye contact
- Difficulty using and reading body language in others
- Difficulty recognising others' emotions, responding appropriately to different social situations and understanding social relationships

Children with restricted or repetitive behaviours perform repetitive actions and rituals and can become fixated on minute details to the point of distraction. In addition, they may:

- Become upset by minor changes in daily routine
- Line, sort or organize toys or objects instead of playing with them
- Show a consuming interest in a specific topic or object
- Have unusual sensory sensitivities

To meet the criteria for ASD, a child's symptoms in these two areas must be present in early childhood, though they may not become fully clear until later, when social demands exceed limited capacities. Alternatively, they may be clear early on and then masked later by learned strategies. In addition, children with ASD often have sensory issues and varying cognitive and verbal abilities.

If you have concerns around your child's development and any of the above symptoms relate to your concerns, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance an/ or the SENDCo so that we can advise you in seeking the appropriate support for your child.

Further information can be found on our school website, in the SEND section;

<https://sandalprimaryschool.co.uk/send-further-information/>

Or

<https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/parents>

<https://aware-uk.org/>

The registered charity **AWARE**, are a great support for parents whose children have a ASD diagnosis or are on the pathway to obtain a diagnosis. They have a wealth of experience and knowledge in supporting families and children in navigating life with ASD.

Please see the attached leaflet, regarding a parent information event on 19th November. Places for this event need to be booked.

## What is FACE?- Family Advice Communication Education

Face Family Advice was set up to help any parents and families. With the stresses and strains of modern life, our children and young adults have never been under more pressure. They aim to offer advice, tips and support to parents who want to get the best out of their family relationships and need new tools to do that. For further information, please visit;

<https://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk/about>

Please see the attached leaflets for upcoming information sessions for parents.