

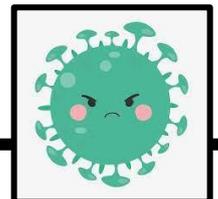
SEND newsletter for parents – June 2021

Introductions

My name is Pauline Adams, and I have been the SENCo at Winford since 2005. I work 1.5 days a week (or 3 days a fortnight). This is currently every Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays.

My role is to coordinate provision for children with SEND / additional needs. This involves a range of things, such as reviewing support strategies with staff; accessing resources and training; referring to external agencies; and managing the requirements of Education, Health and Care Plans for those children with more complex needs. I spend most of my time with teaching and support staff, and with external professionals, and I am continuing to build on my contact with children and parents (as Covid restrictions have allowed this year!).

Should you wish to contact me directly, to share information, discuss concerns, or request a meeting / phone call, you can send an email to the school office and Mrs Greenham or Mrs Hobson will forward it on.



Individual Support Plans



All our children with identified additional needs will have an Individual Support Plan. This outlines their interests, strengths and difficulties; strategies that support them in the classroom; targets and interventions; and outside agencies involved.

Hopefully you had the opportunity to discuss the support in place for your child with their Class Teacher at the parent consultations in Term 5.

Your child's Class Teacher is the person working with them day to day, and so they are always your first point of contact if you have any questions or concerns.

Support in light of Covid

What a strange year (and a half) this has been!

The covid restrictions and lockdowns have certainly interrupted or changed some of the ways we have done things in school, and this has been a learning curve for all of us. But we have tried to provide the right support for all our children throughout, whether in school or when learning at home during lockdown.

I'd like to thank all our teaching and support staff for all their hard work in providing that additional support where it has been needed, in challenging circumstances, and to our parents and carers as you have supported the children at home.

We are unsure yet what restrictions may still be in place in September, and what this means for support across the classes. We are planning this now as best we can, and I do know that all our staff will continue to do their very best to support all our children.



Dyslexia

In April and May our teaching staff undertook 2 twilight sessions on Dyslexia. These were led by Andy Baker, who is an Advisory Teacher for our LSP Trust and who has a lot of experience in this area of SEND.

In addition to what was already happening before, this has given staff greater awareness and ideas for supporting children in the classroom.

We will be revisiting this in the Autumn to discuss what else we can do and to develop more of a whole school approach.

Transition

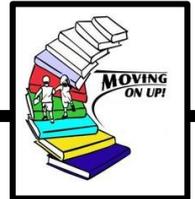
This term is when we prepare for transition, with new beginnings and endings for everyone, and we know that this can be an anxious time for some.

Our children will be preparing to move to different year groups, classes and teachers, and all staff will be helping their children to prepare for the next stage.

Current teachers will also be spending time handing over relevant information to the next teacher, to ensure support for individual children continues.

Our Y6 children will soon be leaving us for Chew Valley and other Secondary Schools, and we hope there will be extra visits this term to help them prepare too (as covid restrictions allow).

We will also be liaising with parents and preschools to welcome children joining our Reception class in September, and starting to plan any support that may be needed.



Website & Padlet

On our school website there is a page devoted to SEND provision, which includes school and LSP documents such as the policy and information report.

- <https://www.winford.n-somerset.sch.uk/> >> About Us >> Inclusion (Support)

This page also contains links to local sources of support and information, including the North Somerset Local Offer and Parent Partnership Service.

- <http://nsod.n-somerset.gov.uk/localoffer.page> (= N Somerset local offer)
- <http://www.supportiveparents.org.uk/> (= N Somerset parent partnership service)

You will also find a link to a "padlet" which I have put together ... an online noticeboard full of links to websites, information and resources for a range of needs and support, both locally and nationally. There is also more general information on there for supporting well-being and mental health. I have also included child-friendly articles / videos on there, to support any parents who are having conversations with their children around different additional needs.

- <https://padlet.com/padamssenco/padamssenco>

Just click on this link, then navigate across and down the columns.

Feedback welcome on the current content or if there is anything else you would like me to include.