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# Newsletter for parents/carers of students with SEND

September 2023



Dear Parent/Carer

We aim to produce a regular newsletter highlighting key events occurring to support the attendance, well-being and outcomes of our students with SEND.

## The SEND team

Mr Ben Middleton is our SENDCo and he works closely with his team to support students with SEND. The team are shown on the SEND website page and you can also meet us at many of the events listed below.

## Which students are considered to have a SEND?

Students come under the remit of the learning support team when they sit on wave 3 or above on the school's graduated approach. This covers students with an EHCP (wave 4) or those that receive regular and/or multiple interventions (wave 3 or 3+). This means their needs cannot be met by quality first teaching on its own and additional support is needed. This is co-ordinated by the learning support team and shared with all relevant staff.

## APDR cycle (term 1)

For students on wave 3 or above, we complete a termly cycle of Assess, Plan, Do, Review (APDR). This cycle will start at the end of September. Targets for your child will be shared with staff, you and the student and we aim to report back to you by the end of the term. Details on how this works will be published on the SEND section of the school website in due course. Please bear with us as we are in the process of a big update for the SEND pages.

## Attendance and SEND students

Last year, students with SEND at Redborne averaged an attendance over the year of 72%. This figure is lower than other schools nationally.

For the 'average' student with SEND last year, 1 day per week was missed. To catch up, a student would need to do an extra 5 hours of work each week outside of school. This level of attendance for a student makes it very difficult to achieve their target grades. Attendance is the most important factor in achieving good outcomes for any student, especially those students with any SEND.

For students with 100% attendance (0 days off school in one year), 65% of these achieved a 5 in English and maths. For students with 93.5% attendance (12 days off in one year), only 38% of these achieved a grade 5 in English and maths.

# Upcoming events for parents/carers

## Parent/carer drop in sessions with Mr Button:

Informal drop in held in the Croft Centre, next to South school reception, every Wednesday: 3.10pm to 4.10pm. No appointment required. **Ms Brennan, representing the learning support team, will be there.**

## Parent/carer event on suggestions to support a student with ADHD: Tuesday 3rd October 2023

Although this is not a session led by an expert, it is an experience based session aimed at parents/carers, looking at what has worked for other students; what we do in school and what you could do at home. Details have been emailed home and you will be able to indicate if you can attend.

## First meeting of the support group for parents/carers of children with SEND: Monday 16th October 2023

Thank you to those parents/carers who have already responded to the offer to form and join a support group for parents/carers of students with SEND.

Our first meeting will be Monday 16th October in the Croft Centre, situated next door to South school reception. There is plenty of parking. The times will be 4.00pm to 5.30pm and you are welcome to arrive at any point during the time slot. We will be finishing at 5.30pm promptly. Refreshments will be available.

For the first meeting, we aim to meet key members of the team and will include a short presentation to explain how the learning support department works and what we can offer within a school setting.

We want to work with our parents/carers and so there will be a chance to ask questions. In order to manage the time, we may get back to you with replies at a later stage, but it will be useful to know where the queries lie.

**Parent feedback:** positive feedback is always welcome and we thank you for any comments you wish to share.

*'As ..... student has completed her first complete 2 week cycle it feels a good opportunity to say a BIG thanks. We feel so grateful for your support and effort that has gone into helping ..... settle so far. It really is appreciated. We couldn't be more pleased with the start she has had and the support you and the team have shown.'* **Parent of student in year 9: Sept 2023**

Please remember that most queries can be resolved by contacting your child's form tutor in the first instance. I look forward to meeting you at various events over the year.

Kind regards  
Nikki Brennan  
Assistant headteacher