

Newsletter for parents/carers of students with SEND

May 2024



Dear Parents/Carers of students in years 8, 9, 10

Here is the final SEND newsletter for this academic year. It includes some key dates for your diaries.

Staffing updates

We have some staffing changes in the team and some additional postholders. For clarity, I have listed the entire team below:

Mr Ben Middleton	SENDCo	
Miss Lorna Lopez	Deputy SENDCo	New postholder
Miss Tasha Davis	Teacher of SEND	New postholder
Mrs Sarah Baker	SEND Administrator	
Mr Gordon Hodges	HLTA (neurodiversity specialism)	New postholder (now full time)
Miss Jo Walker	HLTA	
Mrs Sarah Wowczynna	HLTA	
Mrs Lynda Haxell	Neurodiverse Lead	New postholder (now full time)
Miss Tara Baskerville	Access Arrangements Officer	
Mrs Myrtle Anderson	TA	
Ms Lou Cooper	TA	
Miss Daisy Forbes	TA	New postholder
Mrs Hannah Holbrook	TA	
Miss Charli Knight	TA	
Miss Morgan Lawrence	TA	
Miss Rebecca Smith	TA	
Mr Kasey Wilding	TA	
Ms Nikki Brennan	Assistant headteacher and SLT link for the Learning Support Team	
<p>Key: HLTA - Higher Level Teaching Assistant TA - Teaching Assistant</p>		

The last APDR cycle review for the year

Individual SEND update meeting (online) - **booking opens 26th June 2024** and you will receive an email confirming details. **Do not reply to this letter.** There will be the option of an **online** SEND update meeting to discuss your child. Time slots for this meeting will be available at the following times:

- **Wednesday 10th July (10.15am - 4pm)**
- **Thursday 11th July (8.30am - 1.45pm)**

You will be able to book **one** 10 minute meeting with one of the following members of the SEND Team: Ben Middleton, SENDCo or Lorna Lopez, Deputy SENDCo.

Informal meet the team event: open to all parents/carers including those of year 8 students: Wednesday 26th June 2024

Wednesday 26th June, 3.10pm until 4.15pm in the Croft Centre, next to South school reception. Come along, find out about the parent/carer support group and meet all of the LS team. If you are running late, please do not worry and come along when you can.

Parent/carer event: supporting a student with ADHD: Tuesday 2nd July 2024

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. If your child has an ADHD diagnosis (or is on a pathway), details will be emailed home and you will be able to indicate if you can attend.

Parent/carer drop in

As a reminder, there is a weekly drop in available for all parents/carers every Wednesday 3.10pm to 4.10pm. Arrive at North school reception - no need to pre-book.

Transition support for year 8 students with SEND

For your information, these are the planned events to support the transition for year 8 students with SEND:

Date	Visit
13th March	1st visit
8th May	Morning visit - 9.15am to 11am
27th June	Morning visit including break time - 10am to 12noon
20th June and 26th June	Meet the Form Tutor evening
3rd July and 4th July	Meet the SENDCo event for parents/carers times to be confirmed in a letter to you
5th July	Whole year group transition day

Supporting autistic students

Following on from all staff becoming trained in autism awareness (delivered by the National Autistic Society), our SENDCo and neurodiverse lead will attend the Autism show, London, in June.

Parent/carer course (to support autistic students)

The Teen Life programme for parents/carers, developed by the National Autistic Society, starts after half term - 6th June to 11th July at Redborne every Thursday afternoon.

Supporting students with ASD/ADHD

We continue to offer 6 week intervention programmes led by Mrs Lynda Haxell and Mr Gordon Hodges. These are listed on the SEND section of the website. The aim is always to support neurodiverse students to understand ASD/ADHD and how it may affect them. We also look at strategies and tools that can help a student to self manage in school.

Learning support football

This runs after school every Wednesday. Please speak to Mr Kasey Wilding if interested. All welcome.

Staff training

Four staff members are now fully trained in using lego play as a therapeutic intervention. We have 5 afternoon sessions scheduled in July to train all of the team in questioning skills; setting and reviewing appropriate targets; Toe by Toe and Reciprocal reading (to support weaker readers).

SEND study club

Currently, there is a waiting list for the club. However we are busy recruiting additional tutors so that we can offer places to students on the waiting list, in particular for maths support. Contact jo.walker@redborne.com to request a place on the waiting list.

Study skills sessions for selected students with SEND

We recently held the last English study skills session for selected students with SEND to prepare them for the English GCSE language exams and will continue to run this next year.

Feedback for the team

As always, if you have concerns, please do raise them with the team, or better still come to a drop in session. When things go well, **please do share these too**. Positive feedback is a boost to our hardworking team and lets us know when we have done something well.

SEND@redborne.com

Wishing you a wonderful half term break. I'm hoping for some sunshine!

Nikki Brennan
Assistant headteacher