



Special Educational Needs
Newsletter



Aspire, Believe, Succeed

Issue 1

Date 18/02/22

Meet the team!



Miss Beach
Special Educational
Needs Coordinator
(centre)

Mrs Blair
Special Educational
Needs Assistant and
Medical Lead
(left)

Mrs Williamson
Special Educational
Needs Teaching Assistant
(right)

What is 'SEND' and the SEND register?

'SEND' is the acronym for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The SEND register is a document held by all schools, outlining which children may need additional support above that of their usual classroom teaching. In order for a child to be placed on the SEND register, they need to meet the criteria of needing support which is 'in addition to or different from' that of their peers, as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice, across one or more of the broad areas of SEND - Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Physical and Sensory or Social, Emotional and Mental Health. To identify which children may need support in addition to or different from that of their peers, we use a variety of approaches including: observations, book looks and meetings with parents and/or class teachers. Further information about this can be found in our SEND Information Report on our school website. It is important to remember that the SEND Register is a fluid document which is regularly analysed, evaluated and updated. Some children may be on the SEND register throughout their school journey whereas others may be removed. Having your child on the SEND register may seem daunting and it can be an emotional experience, however it is definitely not a negative one! It is a fantastic way to ensure that your child is receiving the best support and that every adult involved with your child's education is aware of how to provide the most positive experience for them whilst at school.

Welcome

As Featherstone Primary School's Special Education Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo), I am here to offer support and advice regarding additional needs or SEND support for your child. At Featherstone, we are proud of our 'open door' policy so please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's teacher, myself or a member of the SEND team. For more information please visit our dedicated SEND area on our school website:

<https://www.featherstoneprimaryschool.co.uk>

or contact me on 0212 675 9740 or via email enquiry@feathstn.bham.sch.uk

Many thanks, Miss Beach (SENDCo)

Birmingham's Local Offer

On the local offer website, you will find help, advice and information about the services available for your child or young person from birth to 25 years with a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND).

<https://localofferbirmingham.co.uk>



In the Spotlight

SEND AREA OF NEED - COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION

Where children and young people have speech, language and communication difficulties which make it difficult for them to make sense of language or to understand how to communicate effectively and appropriately with others.

Area of Need Spotlight Communication and Interaction

Language is one of the most important skills we will ever learn. Everything we do at home or work requires us to communicate with our families, friends and colleagues. Without language, it is incredibly difficult to share our thoughts and feelings with others, to make lasting friendships, to give and receive information and to learn about the world in which we live.

Understanding spoken language

Children may have difficulty with understanding the meaning of words and concepts.

Spoken language

Children may have problems with using language. They may have difficulty with words or sentence structure.

Speech sound production

Children may have problems with the intelligibility of their speech - they may have a reduced number of sounds available to them and difficulty making particular sounds in simple or longer words.

Attention and listening

Many children who have speech and language difficulties have problems with listening to spoken language (often when their hearing is okay). They have difficulty concentrating on a task and listening to adult instructions.

What do we do at Featherstone to help children with Speech and Language difficulties?

We can support families by making referrals to NHS Speech and Language. If the referral is Accepted, your child will be placed on a waiting list for support.

We work with a Speech and Language Therapist from Soundswell. Our therapist works with pupils in school and sets them targets to work with.

We provide a range of interventions to support children with Speech and Language difficulties.

- WellComm
- Time to Talk
- Lego Therapy
- 1:1 targeted support

See the next page for more details about these intervention programmes.

Useful websites...



<https://www.speechworksservices.co.uk/resources/>



<https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents/resources/>



In the Spotlight

WellComm

WellComm screens children for their speech and language ability, often identifying problems early. If children need support following their screening, they will work with Miss Williamson. The WellComm programme provides around 50 fun activities and strategies that can be used to support children in their speech and language development. The activities are tailored according to ability and focus on particular areas of difficulty such as: understanding, grammar, vocabulary, narrative or social skills.



Lego Therapy

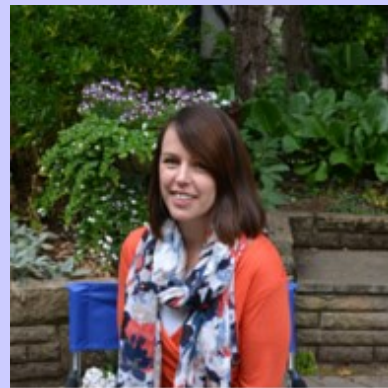
Lego-based therapy supports children with social communication difficulties. In Lego therapy, adults run a structured group where children work in teams of 3 to build a Lego model and each child has a particular role. Lego therapy can also be adapted to work on language targets, so it can work really well as an intervention for children with Speech, Language, and Communication Needs (SLCN). Mrs Blair runs our Lego Therapy groups in school.



Soundswell Speech and Language Therapy
and 1:1 targeted support



Soundswell
Speech & Language
Therapy Solutions



Hello! My name is Emily and I'm a Speech and Language Therapist from Soundswell. This means I help children with their understanding, talking and speech sounds. I visit lots of schools and have been visiting Featherstone on a regular basis to work alongside staff in order to support any children needing extra help with their speech and language. I only see school when concerns are raised and I have received parental consent. My main role is to help equip the adults who live and work with that child to best support their development. I will offer assessment, education and demonstration. Copies of any reports, plans, support and guidance is always sent home and shared with parents and carers. If you have any questions, you can contact me via Miss Beach.

We hope you enjoyed this half term's issue.

Have a lovely break and see you all back in school on the 28th February 2022!

From Miss Beach, Mrs Blair and Miss Williamson