

SEND Newsletter February - 2022-23

**Every Teacher is a Teacher
of SEND Pupils**

A Message from the SENDCo, Mr. Bray:

Hello everyone.

I hope you all had a lovely February half-term and are ready for our build up to Easter.

Thank you for your feedback on last month's SEND Newsletter - many of you told me you found the information on our systems helpful and I will look to do more of the same going forward, so you know what we can offer to support your child at school.

As always, if you have any concerns please contact your child's teacher in the first instance, then contact me if you would like to arrange a meeting should you seek any additional support.

Thank you. Mr Bray



February's theme is... Educational Psychologists

What is it?

An Educational Psychologist is a trained individual who tries to identify learning difficulties and social and emotional needs with children and young people in education. They work closely with school to offer support, but also with parents, all to help the child and 'put them first' so they receive the help they need.

How we use them:



Dr. Joe Dawson (seen on the left) is our Educational Psychologist across the Trust.

In the first instance, I as SENDCo would put in a referral to him to your child in the classroom, if we have noticed at school your child may need additional support with a learning difficulty or social and emotional need. This referral would need parental consent to be passed to him.

Before any referral, we would have tried several strategies in school to help your child in school. An educational psychologist would only get involved if we feel your child is showing signs in school of needing additional support.

Q & A:

How do I know if my child has social and emotional needs?

Social and emotional needs are complex to describe.

Some children may be particularly tearful about a certain topic, others may be scared or fearful in situations. You may notice your child does not talk about their friends regularly. Any concerns you have like this, could indicate something we can look into at school to support them.

How you can support your child at home:

Sometimes, your child may not show learning difficulties or social and emotional needs we have noticed traits of in school. In these cases, we might ask you to contact your GP, who will refer you to the local paediatrician service. Alternatively, you may wish to go privately to get your child assessed by an Educational Psychologist. Due to the limits on our Educational Psychologists capacity, we can only refer your child to his service if we notice the tendencies in school ourselves. As SENDCo, I am more than happy to help you with any concerns you notice outside of school and can write a covering letter supporting you to receive help outside of school. Any questions, please ask.

"Educational Psychologists (EPs) are "hope catchers"; when everyone else is finding out what a child cannot do, EPs explore what they can do and what support they need to be the very best versions of themselves" (*Educational Psychology Today, 2017*)