



Inclusion at Pitton

Autumn Edition

Family friendship and fulfilment

Welcome to Inclusion at Pitton

This newsletter is shared three times a year, each edition shares how we support pupils, information for parents and news. We use the term inclusion because all pupils are given support throughout their time at Pitton to support, stretch and challenge their learning.

As we reach the second half of the Autumn term we have just had our first parents evenings of the year. This allows us to come together and share you child's school year so far. It allows as educators to share with you what we are doing to enable your child to make progress in their learning. We do this at this time so that the children have had time to settle in and show their actual ability as well as to enable you as parents to see how the intervention or provision in place is supporting, as it is already in action!

Every teacher is a SEN teacher and as SENCo I review and monitor the outcomes, supporting when needed.



Suze Pearce
SENCo

The importance of regular eyesight checks

The sooner any eye problem is found, the sooner you and your child will be able to get any treatment and support needed. Children may not realise they have a vision problem so, without routine tests, there's a risk a problem may not be spotted. This may affect their development and education.

Your child's eyes are examined soon after they start school. This is called vision screening and it checks for reduced vision in one or both eyes. The aim is to detect any problems early so that treatment can be given if needed.

Children's eyesight needs to be checked very regularly by a trained children's optometrist as their eyesight can change rapidly.

Signs of a possible eye problem can include:

- the eyes not pointing in the same direction
- complaining of headaches or eye strain
- problems reading - they may hold books close to their face or lose their place regularly
- problems with hand-eye co-ordination - for example, they may struggle to play ball games
- being unusually clumsy
- regularly rubbing their eyes
- sitting too close to the TV/ bringing tablet close to their face



Eyesight difficulties (much like hearing) can lead to difficulties learning.

Please make sure your child is seen by an optician regularly.

Remember: Children's eye tests are free

'High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching.' SEND Code of Practice 2014

At Pitton we know that the best support for children is through high quality teaching. We strive to ensure class teachers know their pupils' individual needs to support effective learning. This support is for everyone. Inclusive practice ensures that every child gets the support they need within lessons to build independence, resilience and learn effectively. The longer a pupil is out of class for interventions, the more of this high quality teaching they miss and is proven to hinder learning which is why we always aim to provide support through differentiation in the first instance, such as resources and group work in class, and ensure any interventions are carefully planned into the school day to limit the time pupils are away from the classroom.

Staff at Pitton will also use research carried out by organisations such as the EEF to ensure we use the most effective methods to support pupils' needs.



Wiltshire Autism Assessment Service (WAAS)



Wiltshire Autism Assessment Service provide a news letter to all those who are on the waiting list for assessment as well as those who have already an assessment. This has a variety of information and support opportunities. Here I have given an example of information about Helen Ortner, one of the specialist team and Online Information sessions in February. It also provides links to other services which can offer support (which I have provided at the bottom of the newsletter).

Meet the specialist

Hello, I'm Helen Ortner. I'm an autism/communication and interaction specialist and lead the Specialist SEN Service in Wiltshire Local Authority working with parents, carers and schools to support young people with autism or suspected autism. I have worked with young people with autism in both mainstream and specialist settings from pre-school to post-16 and have a particular interest in supporting behavioural challenges and mental health needs. In April 2022 I started a part-time secondment with HCRG Care Group to further develop the neurodevelopmental pathway and enhance connections between Health and Education. I work closely with my colleagues in the WAAS team to support the assessment process. You may have spoken to me for additional advice about meeting your child's needs following your initial telephone consultation.



Online information sessions

You are welcome to attend our online sessions about the autism assessment pathway. These short sessions (about 30 minutes) will tell you about what happens as part of the autism assessment pathway, as well as some helpful signposting while your child is on the pathway.

To receive a Microsoft Teams invite to these sessions, please email familysupport@hcrgrcaregroup.com with the date of the session you would like to attend (see table below).

Upcoming sessions:

Topic	Date and Time (sessions last approximately 30 minutes)
Information about the assessment pathway including information about the pathway, what to expect, and what to do while you are on the pathway, and a question and answer session.	Tuesday 5 th December - 11am
Information about the assessment pathway	Tuesday 6 th February - 11am
Understanding emotions and behaviour including understanding emotions and behaviour and advice about where you can go for more help.	Tuesday 27 th February - 11am

If you are on the pathway or have already had an assessment please opt into the newsletters. A pdf will also be provided under each inclusion at pitton on the website

Listening and Understanding



I need help... → 5 B's



Listening, attention and understanding are key elements which are vital to promoting learning and good progress of our learners. Through High Quality Teaching we identify and support pupils through environment, placement in the class, repetition, visuals and check with questioning. We also enable our learners to support their own understanding through learning strategies such as using the 5 B's which you will see in all classrooms and are recommended by specialists.

Listening and Understanding Group

Some children need additional support in learning how to attend and listen in different situations and some need support in identifying when they don't understand and explaining this to their class adults. The Speech and Language Therapy team have created a Listening and understanding group to support these needs and build the skills and support strategies some pupils need to help them overcome this obstacle to learning



Meet Mrs Davis

Mrs Davis is the Wrens Teaching assistant and EYF5 specialist. She also carries out our Speech and Language Interventions across the school. She has recently started carrying out the new Listening and Understanding group having had the new training from the Speech and Language Therapy Team



QR links



NHS: Eye tests for children

Wiltshire Parent Carer Council

Autism Central

SEND
#YourVoiceMatters

Are you a parent of a child with special educational needs or disabilities?
Is your child in alternative provision?
If so we want to hear from you.

Be part of positive change in Wiltshire by sharing your views as we plan SEND and Alternative Provision for the future.

Join our interactive sessions at:
Face to face on these dates with a break for coffee and cake.

- 10 January Calne Town Hall 10am - 1pm
- 16 January St John's Parish Centre Trowbridge 10am - 1pm
- 26 January Guildhall Salisbury 10am-1pm

Book online here: surveymonkey.com **Wiltshire Council**

Local support

Wiltshire children's services

Wiltshire Local Offer

<https://wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk>

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/>