



Itchen Abbas Primary School

Special Educational Needs Newsletter

Spring Term Edition 2019

"Some of the most wonderful people are the ones who don't fit into boxes."

Following the success and positive feedback I received from the first SEN Newsletter I produced in the autumn term, I decided to create a spring edition, to update you on the continued successes and strategies to further support children identified as having special educational needs within our school. I hope you find these useful, and if you would like any more information, please let me know. Kind regards, Mr Bogan (School Inclusion Manager & SENCO)

This term we have continued to build on the successes of the autumn term, by strengthening high quality of teaching and learning already in our school. This term I have led training on the effective provision for children with SEN & the effective deployment of teaching assistants. This was a great opportunity for all staff to develop their practice even further, and to hear some of the national statistics. Did you know that there are nearly 400,000 teaching assistants (TAs) working in schools in England and Wales. This equates to annual government spending of more than £5bn. So, we need to ensure that TAs, who are a significant resource within the education system, are being deployed effectively to help support the right children at the right time.

As part of our schools annual "health check", the local authority came in at the end of January to conduct their annual review. As part of her visit, the LLP (Leadership & Learning Partner) reviewed the effectiveness of the Hampshire English and Maths toolkit training we received from Hampshire at the beginning of the autumn term. In her report, the LLP commented that **although there are still areas to develop, the task design for pupils with SEN is beginning to really reflect the impact of this training.** This is excellent to see, and although we are aware there are still areas to develop following this training, we are pleased that it has been recognised that the training is really beginning to impact on the progress of children with SEN. The other part of her report which focussed on SEN, was the reflection of progress since the SEN Inspection of June 2018. In her report, the LLP writes: **Many areas identified for improvement in the SEN review in June 2018 have now been addressed. Children with SEN access a range of technology and teaching techniques to make good progress from their starting points; Additional adults, often with considerable expertise, encourage children with SEN to work independently on appropriately designed tasks.** I couldn't be prouder to demonstrate this to our LLP and for the local authority to see the hard work that all staff put into ensuring children with SEN have every opportunity to succeed.

Our next focus is on the development of the Amber Support Plans. I will be continuing to monitor the effectiveness of these in the coming weeks and into the summer term. I look forward to sharing further successes and developments in the summer term.

How do I contact the school about SEN?



You can ring 01962 779310 and leave a message with Mrs Smith, drop off a note to the office, FAO Mr Bogan or email through any feedback, questions or thoughts to admin@itchenabbas.org.uk. Thank you.

Did you know...?

Support for families of children and young people with educational needs and/or disability living in Hampshire is changing! Hampshire County Council, working with the five NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in Hampshire, has awarded a three-year contract to Core Assets Children's Services, to provide an impartial Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support (SENDIAS) Service in Hampshire.

This one service will encompass both Support4SEND (currently provided by Hampshire County Council), together with Parent Voice (operated by The Rose Road Association). In response to feedback from families, this service will provide a single point of contact for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability and their parents and carers. For more information:

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



We need you!



What do you think of our SEN Individual Support Plans? Are they useful? Do they make sense? How could we improve them? I want to know your thoughts as I begin to reflect on improvements for September 2019. If you have any thoughts, please email the school office.