

SEND Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 (2022)



Welcome

Welcome to the first Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep in touch with families of our young people with SEND, to keep you informed of updates, to share key information and signpost further support.

We hope you find the newsletter helpful. As always, we would be interested to hear your ideas for the school and families to work together going forward.

Dates for your diary

- 3rd-9th October 2022 – Dyslexia Awareness Week
- 9th – 15th October 2022 – Dyspraxia Awareness Week
- October 2022 – ADHD Awareness Month
- Thursday 3rd November 2022 - Coffee and Cake Afternoon for parents of pupils with SEND
- Wednesday 23rd November 2022 - Post 16 Market Place Event for Pupils with SEND at Dudley College (information shared via email)

Dudley Local Offer

Dudley's Local Offer is a one stop resource of information and services available to children and young people (aged 0-25) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), their parents, carers and families.

Dudley's Local offer has been re-developed to make it easier for young people, with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to access information and support services in the borough.

This can be accessed on:

<https://dudleyci.co.uk/send-local-offer>

Extra-Curricular

We are aware that some of our pupils have great difficulty joining in with their peers for extra curricular opportunities. Therefore, in Learning Support we run the following clubs at lunchtime:

- Games club
- Lego Therapy
- Bingo

Homework Support

For many of our pupils, home is home and school is school. If your child struggles with homework and homework club is not for them, Learning Support (F7) is open between 3-3:45pm for you child to complete their independent learning in school.

Dyspraxia Awareness

Dyspraxia (also known as developmental coordination disorder – DCD) is a surprisingly common condition affecting movement and coordination in children and adults.

Dyspraxia affects all areas of life, making it difficult for people to carry out activities that others take for granted.

Dyspraxia/DCD affects around 5% of school-aged children.

Characteristic traits:

- Difficulty coordinating large and small body movements
- Difficulty organising themselves, their equipment and their thoughts.
- Difficulties with attention, memory and time management.
- Some people with dyspraxia/DCD have difficulty keeping up with conversations and there may be long, awkward pauses before they respond to a question or comment.

Where to find support:

Dyspraxia Association –

<https://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk>

Dyslexia Awareness

Dyslexia is a common learning difficulty that mainly causes problems with reading, writing and spelling. It can also affect information processing and organisational skills.

It is estimated up to 1 in every 10 people in the UK has some degree of dyslexia.

Characteristic traits:

- Difficulty with accurate and fluent word reading and spelling
- Difficulties recognising sounds and how they make up words
- Difficulties with verbal memory i.e. the types of sounds that constitute speech
- Difficulties in recording information in written form
- A delay in processing speed
- Difficulties in planning and organisation

Where to find support:

British Dyslexia Association –

www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

The Dyslexia SpLD Trust –

www.thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk

**Pupils have spent some time in registration period exploring both Dyslexia and Dyspraxia.*

Meet the SEND Team:

Miss Jenna Rose (SENDCO)

Contact via 01384 818445 or jrose@ridgewood.dudley.sch.uk

Year 7 TAs	Mrs Dunn & Mrs Lamb
Year 8 TAs	Mrs Jenkins & Miss Hawkins
Year 9 TAs	Mrs Langridge & Mrs Bridgewater
Year 10 TAs	Miss Humphrey & Ms Hollowood
Year 11 TAs	Mrs Smart & Ms Needham
Rolling TA	Mrs Birch