



Spring 2 2024

**DID YOU KNOW?**

# Inclusion News

Welcome to our Spring edition of Inclusion News - a termly newsletter to keep you up-to-date with school, local and national news and development relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and inclusion.

The term "Inclusion" is not only used to refer to the way in which we support children with SEND. Being an inclusive school is about ensuring that all children have equality of opportunity and are given the best possible education, so that they can achieve their potential and be well prepared for adulthood. Gifted and talented children, those who do not speak English as their first language, and children experiencing emotional distress all come under the umbrella of inclusion.

## Inclusion Team



Mrs. Caroline Loring: qualified SENDCo responsible for the co-ordination of SEND



Mrs. Claire Heffron: qualified ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

**We are currently working towards becoming a Leeds Communication Friendly Setting. We had our first audit in the autumn term on the environment, and whilst we had a lot of good practice to celebrate, we are working on improving some aspects of our school environment in order to promote communication skills even further for ALL our children.**

**When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower.**

**(Alexander Den Heijer)**



# NEURODIVERSITY

## **SEND Updates:**

### IPM reviews

**If your child has an IPM (Individual Provision Map), Spring reviews will take place with your child's class teacher at Parents' Evening (w/c 11th March 2024).**

**If you have not yet made an appointment with your child's teacher, please make an appointment ASAP.**

### Parent-SENCo meetings

**If your child is on the SEND register, and you would like the opportunity to discuss their progress and provision further, I would welcome a meeting with you, and am available on the following dates this term:**

**Monday 18th March 1-3, and Tuesday 19th March 9-12. Please contact me directly to make an appointment.**



Neurodiversity describes the idea that all our brains are different. There is no 'correct' way for the brain to work; instead there is a wide range of ways that people respond and perceive the world, and at Micklefield CE Primary Academy, these differences are encouraged and embraced.

For some children, these differences are complex and severe, which can lead to diagnoses of neurological conditions such as Autism, ADHD and Dyslexia, and understanding how our children process information is important to us.

### How do we support neurodiversity?

- ⇒ We show patience, and allow time for our children to process and think about their responses to questions.
- ⇒ We acknowledge that children have different preferences to how they communicate their ideas and thoughts.
- ⇒ We present information in small, sequential steps so children can master a concept without feeling overwhelmed.
- ⇒ We use different strategies and methods in our teaching to ensure all our children can access learning, including practical, online and outdoor learning.
- ⇒ We dedicate time to modelling and guiding our children through tasks before they have a go independently.
- ⇒ We build in opportunities for movement breaks, sensory circuits and the use of fiddle toys.
- ⇒ We value getting to know each and every one of our children's strengths and learning styles so we can give them opportunities to flourish.
- ⇒ We have a well-equipped sensory room.
- ⇒ We have high expectations of ALL our pupils, regardless of their learning style or barriers.

## **SEND CONTACTS & INFORMATION**

[SEND at Micklefield CE Primary Academy](#)

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Services \(SENDIASS\) in Leeds](#)

[Leeds Local Offer](#)

[Leeds Parent Carer Forum](#)

Leeds Parent Carer Forum is a voluntary organisation led by passionate parents and carers, who are working in partnership with the Local Authority, Education, Health and Social Care services to improve the quality of life for children and young people with additional needs, and their families, across Leeds.