



# Highfield Inclusion News



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the final term of this academic year. We hope that you and your family had a lovely break. This is the Summer Term Inclusion Newsletter for parents and carers. We hope that you find this informative.

We have some important dates for SEND events happening this term. The first of these will be on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 9am – 10am**, where the **Mindmate Support Team** will be having a coffee morning in school for parents and carers. The Mindmate Support Team will be starting to work in Highfield from this term, and we are excited for all of the support they are going to be able to provide for our pupils and their families. Further details can be found on the school website.

Our **Summer term SEND coffee and catch up** will be held on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 2:45pm**. The focus of this session will be supporting children around transition. We hope that you can find that the coffee and chat provides you with the opportunity to network with other families, to reach out and offer support to each other, but also to know that you are not in this alone. We hope that you will be able to attend this coffee morning. If you aren't able, please don't worry. Information will be shared on the school website following the event.

If you have any further questions, or would like to talk to us about any concerns which you have, please get in touch with me (SENCO) to discuss children from Year 1 – 6 or Mrs Shelley (Deputy SENCO) to discuss children in Reception on 0113 2930155 or via email [senco@highfield.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:senco@highfield.leeds.sch.uk). SEND days as SENCO continue to be Monday to Wednesday all day, and Thursday afternoons.

## The Inclusion Team at Highfield Primary School 2025-2026

SENCO – Mrs L Dalgliesh

Deputy SENCO – Mrs J Shelley (and Reception class teacher)

Learning Mentor – Mrs H Calvert

Speech and Learning Key Worker – Mrs D Booth (also HLTA)

## Important SEND dates (Summer term)

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – SEND consultation closes (see Gov website on next page)

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – Mindmate Support Coffee morning in school (9am – 10am)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Summer term IEPs and SEND plans will be shared with parents by this date.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – SEN Coffee and Chat @ 2:45pm

## Useful websites:

[Leeds SENDIASS](#)

[Leeds SEND Local Offer | Leeds Local Offer](#)

[Leeds Parent Carer Forum – The voice of parent carers in Leeds](#)

[HENRY in Leeds | Leeds.gov.uk](#)

[MindMate Support Team - MindMate](#)

[What is autism](#) (National Autistic Society)

[ADHD Support For Your Child | Parents Advice Guide | YoungMinds](#)

[Example-sensory-circuit-info-and-ideas-for-home-STARS.pdf](#)

NB our School SEND Policy is currently being updated. Please continue to check the school website for updates.

## Types of SEND Needs

**Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)** – includes children with speech difficulties that impact their learning, and children with a diagnosis of Autism (ASC).

**Moderate/ Specific Learning Difficulties (MLD/SpLD)** – includes children who are working at least 2 years below age related expectations

**Social, emotional and Mental Health Needs (SEMH)** - includes children who are struggling with their behaviour and emotional wellbeing which is impacting on their learning.

**Physical/ Medical Difficulties (PMD)** – includes children with diagnosed physical and medical conditions who need adaptations to be made to support their learning.

## Spring Term Reflections.

- Spring Term Inclusion Newsletter for parents
- SEND Bulletin for staff, providing key updates.
- SENCO and teacher individual SEN meetings
- Cycle 2 IEPs created and sent to parents.
- Further numbers of staff to complete Tier 2 Autism training.
- Staff meeting led by the school link Educational Psychologist, focusing on supporting children with SEMH needs.
- Children receiving further support from NHS Speech and Language therapists, via assessments and plans being put in place.
- Spring Term Coffee and Chat (4<sup>th</sup> February @ 2:45pm)
- SENCO and Deputy SENCO completing further CPD in supporting the needs of SEN learners.
- SENCO to meet with parents to discuss individual children during Parents Evening (30<sup>th</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April)

## Parent Voice

Thank you to those of you who completed the Parent Voice questionnaire shared with you at the beginning of the Spring term. We appreciate your feedback and will endeavour to put the suggestions that have been made in place. Do feel free to book an appointment with us if you would like to talk about any SEND matters. My door is always open.

## Summer Term – What is next?

- Summer Term Inclusion Newsletter for parents
- SEND Bulletin for staff, providing key updates
- SENCO and teacher individual SEN meetings
- Cycle 3 IEPs created and sent to parents
- SEND training for staff
- Highfield beginning to work with the Mindmate Support Team which will include meetings and sessions for parents, individual/ small group work with children, cohort workshops with year groups and training for staff. See website in the useful websites above, and attached flyer.
- Children receiving further support from NHS Speech and Language therapists, via assessments and plans being put in place.
- Spring Term Coffee and Chat (3<sup>rd</sup> June @ 2:45pm)
- SENCO and Deputy SENCO completing further CPD in supporting the needs of SEN learners.

## The White Paper and SEND Reforms

At the end of February, the government published The White Paper and the SEND Reforms that set out the plan for SEND provision that will begin in the next few years. There are a number of changes that are proposed for children with SEND, and it is important for you as parents to be aware of these. Parents and school staff are encouraged to respond to this consultation which is open until 18<sup>th</sup> May. I would like to encourage you to familiarize yourselves with the plans, and complete the consultation. The link to the Government website which explains the SEND reforms can be found here [SEND reform: putting children and young people first - GOV.UK](#). The link to complete a consultation can be found here [SEND reform: putting children and young people first - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#).