



SEND Newsletter

Autumn 1 2025



"Sometimes real
superheroes live
in the hearts of
small children
fighting big
battles"



Autsera

Welcome to the first SEND Newsletter of the new academic year! All staff have been so impressed by how well all of the children have settled into their new year bands and by how hard they are working. We have been very busy behind the scenes looking at all of the support we are providing, updating our interventions, expanding our offer and supporting the children to make a flying start to Autumn 2025!

I will be hosting our next SEND Coffee Morning this half term and am just waiting on a response from Onside to let us know when they are available to come and see us after we had to cancel the Summer one due to the heat wave (that seems like a very long time ago now as I dig out my scarf and gloves!). I am aiming for the Coffee Morning to be in December and will get the date out to you as soon as it is booked. If you have any other ideas for who you would like to see invited to these events, please do let me know. *Kind regards, Miss Bagnall*



Updated Policies and Plans

The following SEND documents have been updated for the 2025-26 academic year (Please click on them to view them):

- [SEND Policy](#)
- [SEND Information Report](#)
- [Accessibility Plan](#)

These important documents clearly outline our processes in relation to SEND and I am so grateful for all of the thoughts and insights you share with me, which all help to shape our approach at Clifton. These documents can also be found on the SEND page of our school website, which can be found [here](#). This page also contains lots of other sources of information and support for you as families.



Have you shared your comments on your child's IEP yet?

You will have all received your child's IEP this term. I hope you have all had a chance to read through these and agree the targets. If you have not yet done so, please share your responses via the forms which I have linked again below. We really value your comments, insights and ideas ☺

[Robins Form](#)

[Woodpeckers Form](#)

[Eagles Form](#)



The October 2025 Update from Worcestershire County Council on what is being done to improve SEND Services can be found [here](#).

Changes and improvements include contact with those waiting the longest on the Autism and ADHD pathways, a new postcode checker for EHCP teams and a co-constructed language around neurodiversity.



A big thank you to Sally!



The SENDIASS Jigsaw Parent Course we ran in school last term was such a HUGE success and we would like to thank Sally Lindley for her time, support and expertise. It was great to have such a large group of you able to attend and benefit from the course. I would absolutely love to know which strategies you have used and any successes you have had since taking part. Please do let me know!

More great stuff from SENDIASS! Parent Workshops and Information Sessions

The new dates for the SENDIASS Parent Workshops and Information Sessions have been announced. I have attended several of their professional workshops myself and they have all been excellent so I would really recommend these. They offer online and in-person events. Sessions include:

- Autism & Me
- What a good EHCP looks like
- Understanding Dyslexia
- Supporting your child to cope with change
- ... and more!

Dates and booking information can be found [here](#).

A local update on the Umbrella Pathway

We have a number of children who are currently on the waiting list for the Umbrella Pathway in Worcestershire for an Autism Assessment. Worcestershire recently issued an update on the waiting times:

"The waiting time has recently reduced but is still in excess of 30 months. The Umbrella Team receive a lot of correspondence from parents with regard to waiting times but are unable to answer specific questions about where a child is on the waiting list. This takes time away from getting out reports and booking appointments. The team will contact the families when they reach the top of the waiting list."

This waiting time is obviously still very far from ideal but please know we are committed as a school to supporting you and your child while you wait for an appointment. Some of our families have recently had experience of using the 'Right to Choose' pathway for Autism Diagnosis with greatly reduced waiting times using Paloma Health in Exeter and the Family Psychologists in Kidderminster. A range of other local providers have also recently become accredited and all offer Autism and ADHD assessment and diagnosis services that are recognised by the NHS. If you would like more information on your options here, please come and speak with me or drop me an email on senco@clifton-upon-teme.worcs.sch.uk and I would be happy to help.



Hereford and Worcester Dyslexia Newsletter

Please find the latest newsletter from this fantastic group [here](#). It is full of useful information, workshops and important dates.



Solving the SEND Crisis – Education Select Committee Final Report

A cross-party House of Commons Select Committee published a report in September based on their findings in relation to the current situation with SEND in the UK. You can find the full report [here](#) if you would like a little, light bedtime reading! For an overview of the report, IPSEA have put together a summary of the things you need to know [here](#).



Could you be a SEND Champion for our school?

To keep improving the support available to families of pupils with SEND at Clifton, I would really like to set up some parents as SEND Champions. This voluntary role would involve meeting with me throughout the year (two or three times to suit you!) to offer your insights and opinions and being a point of contact for other parents of pupils with SEND. We are looking for parents who would feel able to discuss their own experiences of being a parent of a child with SEND, offer support within school to families beginning the process and help the school to identify and remove barriers to learning and achievement for our pupils. I am committed to ensuring that the time commitment would be manageable.

If you would like more information or to put yourself forward for the role, please come and speak with me or drop me an email at senco@clifton-upon-teme.worcs.sch.uk.

I look forward to working with you soon!



Is your child a fussy eater?

If so, you are not alone. [Here](#) is a great booklet produced by Berkshire Healthcare to support you with trialling new foods with a fussy eater.



Fussy Eating Leaflet

The Worcestershire School Nursing team is also able to support with eating. Please speak to me if you think your child would benefit from a referral to this service.

Book recommendations

Tom Percival is an amazing author of picture books which we use in school all the time with children of all ages. His books explore themes which children with SEND might experience and really benefit from exploring through story e.g. managing emotions, making friends, self-image, resilience, telling the truth, coping with anger and navigating social situations. Below are a few of my personal favourites that I would highly recommend. Lots can be found on YouTube. Please do ask if you want any more recommendations or information. You know me, I can talk about books all day!

