

SEND Newsletter

Summer 2 2025



Welcome to the final SEND Newsletter of the year! Gosh, what a busy year it has been. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your openness, honesty and involvement this year. It has been such a privilege to work with you and your children.

I'm so sorry that the heatwave led to the cancellation of our planned Coffee Afternoon event. Unfortunately, with such a busy and unusual end to term, I have not been able to rearrange this during the Summer Term but will put in a date for Autumn 1. Sarah Neal from Onside is more than happy to find another date and is looking forward to meeting you all soon... in a much cooler room!

Have a wonderful Summer!

Kind regards, Miss Bagnall

Reflecting on the Year

In terms of SEND, there have been some real positives to celebrate this year including the set-up of these newsletters, our first Coffee Morning being a big success, an improved IEP format being rolled out and the opportunity to be able to run the SENDIASS Jigsaw programme in school to support parents. These things could not have happened without your support and involvement. Thank you!

As with any aspect of provision, there will always be more to do and a next target to strive for and I look forward to continuing working with those of you remaining in school next year to keep us moving forwards. A key element of this will be supporting new staff to get to know our vision and approach to SEND at Clifton. If your child is in Year 6 and moving on, I wish them, and you, all the luck and happiness in the world with the next adventure. My email remains open to you if you need anything else or I can be of support in the future.

As parents, I would be really interested to hear about your experiences as parents/carers of learners with SEND this year and your insight into where our priorities should be moving forwards. I would invite you to complete the following end of year feedback and encourage you to be open and honest. I really do value your feedback and want to keep working hard to get it right for the learners in our care. You can access the form [here](#).



Does your child have ADHD or are they waiting for an appointment on the ADHD Pathway?

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire have worked with the ADHD Foundation to create a series of webinars to support parents in this situation. There are two webinars available: '[Supporting My Child on the ADHD Pathway](#)' and '[Understanding and Supporting my Child's ADHD](#).' Please click on the name of the webinar you are interested in to access it. The password for both sessions is: **WORKSHOP**.

If you do access these, please do let me know and give me some feedback on them



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

A message from Worcestershire County Council about changes being made to SEND Services relating to EHCPs:

Why are things changing?

Parent carers have told us we need to improve the EHCP process. The main issues are:

- parent carers can't get in contact with casework officers when they need to
- EHC Needs Assessments and Annual Reviews are not always completed quickly enough (including within the statutory timescales)
- the quality of EHCPs is not good enough

What are the key changes?

- we have an additional 4 EHCP Co-ordinators, 1 Team Managers, 1 Senior EHCP Co-ordinator, 2 Initial Screening and Contact Officers (ISCOs) and a second Complaints Officer
- we have split the teams into 'Pre-14' and 'Post-14' in different areas of the county. This means EHCP Co-ordinators can focus on the specific needs of these educational phases and make sure EHCPs and Annual Reviews include the right support for that stage of life
- we're introducing a Postcode Finder to allow families to find out which team their child is allocated to
- each team will have its own email address and phone number, so if an EHCP Co-ordinator changes or is hard to reach, families can still contact the team for support
- Casework Officers are now going to be called 'EHCP Co-ordinators' as families reported back to us that they didn't like children being referred to as a 'case'
- we will now have one Group Manager and one Practice Manager. The Group Manager will focus on strategic changes (e.g. looking at how to make improvements to the whole EHCP system). The Practice Manager can focus on day-to-day activity to make sure EHCPs are good quality and completed on time
- we have introduced a 11-week induction programme for new EHCP Co-ordinators to ensure they are fully trained before they start working on children's EHCPs

Are you a podcast person?

Below are links to two SEND Parenting podcasts that may be of interest to you. I cannot comment on their quality!



The
SEND
Parents
Survival
Guide.

[SEND Parenting Podcast](#)

[The SEND Parents Survival Guide](#)



Important Note: The phone number for the Occupational Therapy Advice Line has changed. Details of the new number and the role of the advice line can be found below:

Paediatric Occupational Therapy

NHS
Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Health and Care
NHS Trust

Advice Line

This provides advice for:

- Parents and carers of Worcestershire children aged 0-18yrs
- Health professionals and those that refer to the OT Service
- Schools/teachers/SENCO's

We will provide information on:

- Practical advice relating to difficulties in areas of self-care, school skills, play and leisure
- Whether a referral to OT is appropriate

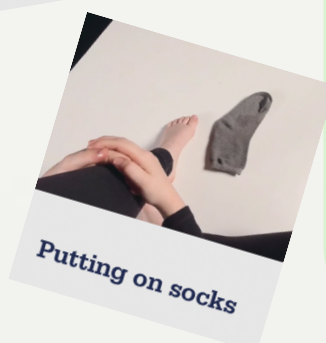
By providing this service we hope to:

- Offer immediate advice and support to families without any referral needing to be made
- Reduce unnecessary referrals
- Reduce waiting times

To speak to a Paediatric Occupational Therapist please call:
0300 247 0017 on Wednesday between 9:00am-12:00pm and
Thursday between 1:00pm-4:00pm.

You can also stay up to date with the team by following us on
Facebook: www.facebook.com/HWHCTPaedOTPT
Or via our Website: www.hacw.nhs.uk/paediatric-therapy

Click [here](#) for the Worcestershire Occupational Therapy YouTube channel which is full of really helpful videos on a range of topic linked to gross and fine motor skills



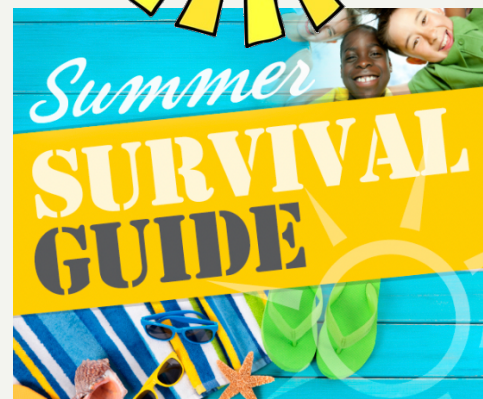
Watch Me Do It

If your child needs help with gross and fine motor activities such as tying their laces, using cutlery, using a ruler, brushing their teeth etc, this website provides videos of doing these things from a first-person perspective. It can be really difficult for children to watch us face on and translate this into their own perspective, so these videos are great! You can find them [here](#).

Tips for an SEND-friendly Summer Holidays

We know that the Summer Holidays can be a challenging time for our children with SEND, and their families. There is less routine, more choices to make and lots of change to contend with. Special Needs Jungle is a brilliant website to support families of children with SEND and they have produced a blog post with tips and tricks for an SEND-friendly Summer, written by parents in exactly the same boat. You can find the blog [here](#). You are not alone and it is ok to find the Summer a tricky time.

If you are accessing a Summer Holiday provision, you might find this government guidance helpful in helping you decide which ones to use. The guidance is relevant for ensuring the safety of all children, not just those with SEND. Click [here](#).



Supporting your child with Speech and Language Needs this Summer

Below are some great blogs, full of ideas

[Speech Link Blog](#)

[Elklan Training](#)

[Magic Words Therapy](#)



SUPPORT WITH SMART PHONES

Do you want more information on keeping your child safe on smartphones? With technology moving so fast, it can feel like an uphill battle and research shows that many pupils with SEND are at higher risk of engaging in unsafe behaviours online or experiencing exploitation through an electronic device. Kooth are hosting an online webinar all about smartphone safety for young people on 23rd July. Details and sign up can be found [here](#).



See you in
September!

