



Families really enjoyed our last SEND newsletter, so here is another one! We hope you find it useful and informative. As before, we welcome any feedback and would love to hear about any items or topics you would like to be included in the future.

We would like to thank all the parents and carers who came along to the SEND Coffee Morning last week hosted in partnerships with Bristol Parent Carer Forum. Here is a link to the leaflet shared signposting lots of opportunities and activities for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Bristol:

<https://simplebooklet.com/dl4pagelocalservices>

## What does SEND mean and what is the 'school offer?'

### **SEND stands for Special Educational Needs and Disability.**

- All children are individuals and their abilities in each area of the curriculum vary across a wide spectrum.
- There are situations where a child's needs are such that it is difficult for a class teacher to provide appropriately for them without additional and/or specialist support. This is usually when a child is described as having 'special educational needs.'
- All schools have a duty to be accessible and inclusive for the children within their community. It is our job to support parents in providing the best possible education for children.
- There are four broad areas of need within SEND: Cognition and Learning Needs  
Communication and Interaction Needs  
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs  
Sensory and/ or Physical Needs
- We do not 'fit' a pupil into a category, but rather provide support based on their particular area/s of need as stated in the Code of Practice: "These four broad areas give an overview of the range of needs that should be planned for. The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school needs to take, not to fit a pupil into a category. In practice, individual children or young people often have needs that cut across all these areas and their needs may change over time. For instance, speech, language and communication needs can also be a feature of a number of other areas of SEND, and children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may have needs across all areas, including particular sensory requirements. The support provided to an individual should always be based on a full understanding of their particular strengths and needs and seek to address them all using well-evidenced intervention/provision targeted at their areas of difficulty.

## Support for Families



<https://lovesquared.org.uk/our-story/>

A charity who provide services for children and families with SEMH (social, emotional and mental health needs).



<https://www.ignitebristol.co.uk/> Ignite Bristol is a movement to get more disabled people active in Bristol. They have produced a directory to inclusive sport happening in Bristol including activities such as boxing, horse riding, watersports and yoga. You can view the full directory here:

<https://www.ignitebristol.co.uk/files/ugd/be55cae3744bcb757447c68c00e7f8454fbc65.pdf>



<https://www.adhdfoundation.org.uk/services-for-families/> The ADHD Foundation Neurodiversity Charity supports parents and carers so they can understand and meet the needs of their child. They offer a range of webinars, courses and resources.

## Upcoming events

29.02.24 – Class assembly for children – Autism Awareness

18.03.24 09:00-10:00 – SEND Coffee Morning for families

19.03.24 – Assembly for children – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

20.03.24 – Together for SEND local area event at BAWA, BS34 7RF



Please follow the link to find out more about the talks, workshops and exhibitors on offer and to book your place.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/together-for-send-family-and-practitioner-support-tickets-755879886087?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

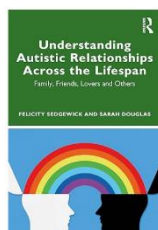
If you book and think you could offer another family a lift then please do let us know.

22.03.24 – Class assembly for children – World Down Syndrome Day

## Parent to Parent



Please follow this link to watch a video and develop your understanding of neurodivergence and how it can affect how people communicate and interact with the world: <https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/what-is-autism>



The parent support group recommend this book that they have found to be a helpful read. It's been published recently and is based on experiences of local, autistic women.