



# HOLMER LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SEND Newsletter

November 2022

At Holmer Lake Primary School, our children are at the centre of everything we do. We aim to identify the needs of all pupils as early as possible. This is part of our graduated approach, in which we **Assess, Plan, Do, Review**. This ongoing cycle ensures that effective provision is put in place and removes barriers to learning. We have a range of interventions taking place daily in our school to meet the needs of all our children. We believe in **inclusivity** for all and strive to make this a reality for all our pupils.

### SEND Review Meetings



This term, parents evening will be taking place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. At this meeting, your child's **first SEND review** for this school year will take place. Your child's class teacher will firstly discuss, review and assess (**Review and Assess**) your child's provision map from the Summer Term. Your child's Autumn term targets will be shared (**Plan**) and the provision that has been put in place in order for your child to achieve their targets. (**Do**). At these meetings, it is a great opportunity to ask any questions and discuss any concerns you may have.

A copy of your child's 2021-2022 provision map and Autumn 2022-2023 provision map will be sent home before this meeting.

### SEND Parents Evening

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November from 1.30pm, I will be available to speak to parents who would like to discuss their child's needs further. These appointments are not just for parents whose child is on the SEND register but is for any parent who may have SEND concerns about their child. If you haven't already signed up for an appointment, please ring the school office.



Mrs Mahoney  
SENCO



On Tuesday 8th November, we are hosting a Coffee Morning. This is an opportunity for you to come into school and have a chat to the staff on Holmer Lake's Inclusion Team.

Our Inclusion Team consists of:

- Mrs Mahoney (SENCo)
- Mrs Davies (Parent Support Advisor)
- Mrs Gapper (ELSA & Nurture Lead).

Also present will be Lauren Edwards, our Mental Health Support Worker.

Come along – we look forward to seeing you.

PODS is a parent carer/peer led charity with staff and volunteers who have the relevant 'real life' experience to support families who have a child with a disability or additional need (aged 0 – 25 years). Parent participation is at the heart of the forum, as parent carers can pinpoint problems frequently experienced by families with disabled children.

This knowledge is useful to professionals in helping to improve how children's services are delivered so they better meet families' needs. PODS continues to ensure communication links exist between these families and the strategic decision makers.

Research has proven the value of the Face2Face scheme across 31 areas of the UK, including Telford and Wrekin. At a local level the scheme has demonstrated the importance of one-to-one and peer-led support, particularly to families who have a newly diagnosed child and/or in times of crisis and transition.

## What we do:

- Hold family groups across Telford and Wrekin
- Provide emotional and practical support via the Face2Face scheme
- Run workshops and events relevant to the needs of PODS families.
- Work in partnership with Telford and Wrekin Council, Health, Social Care, Education, Voluntary and Community Services.
- Provide family representation at many local and national meetings, workshops and conferences and input to consultations, reviews and strategic planning. Click [here](#) to see a list.
- Hold social and fundraising events for PODS families.
- Provide relevant information via information events, family groups, e-bulletins, website and other social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.
- Work with Contact a Family, the national organisation that supports families of children with a disability across the UK, whatever their condition or disability
- PODS is a member of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) and meets regularly with the West Midlands regions to share information and keep up to date with policies and affecting our children.
- PODS members have spoken at conferences on personal experiences of life with a child with a disability and regarding parent participation.



## Who benefits from PODS work?

There are 5 main groups of people who benefit from the work of PODS.

### Parent carers of young people aged 0 – 25 years with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND):

Parent carers are supported to ensure that their views are heard around local and national issues regarding services and provisions. PODS ensures that the parent carer voice is carried to the decision makers. Parent carers are supported one-to-one or in groups to help reduce their sense of isolation and increase their level of resilience. They are provided with relevant information and offered training on issues that benefit their health, well-being and understanding, and ensure that they are able to access the services their child needs.

### Volunteer Parent Representatives:

Parent carers are encouraged to become parent reps, as they will benefit through personal development. This enables them to take more responsibility and partnership in representing the parent carer's perspective in meetings. This has been seen to increase their own levels of confidence, well-being and resilience.

### Volunteer Trained Befrienders:

For those parent carers who have completed the basic Face2Face training, further training will be offered to enhance the skills that they can offer to other parent carers.

### Befriendees:

Parent carers who need support are supported by one-to-one Face2Face befrienders in their home. A much larger number of parent carers can access emotional and practical support at the family groups, where experiences can be shared.

### Local and National organisations:

Organisations benefit through ongoing consultations with parent carers, as these organisations will ensure their services and provisions have the information they need to be able to effectively address the needs of SEND children and their families.

## SEND Information

### School's SEND Offer:

<http://www.holmerlakeprimary.org/key-information/send>

### Telford & Wrekin SEND Local Offer:

<https://www.telfordsend.org.uk/site/index.php>

## Emotional Wellbeing Support

If you feel your child needs some support with their Emotional Wellbeing Support BEAM are offering drop ins at the following places.



**The  
Children's  
Society**

### EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER 25

**Monday - Drop In's** at The Lantern, Meadow Farm Drive, Shrewsbury. SY1 4NG - From 12pm - 4pm (last session 3:15pm)

**Tuesdays - Drop In's** at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP - From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

**Thursdays - Drop In's** at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP - From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

This service is run by The Children's Society: Proud to be part of Bee U.

