



SEND



Bulletin:



Autumn



Term

1

One

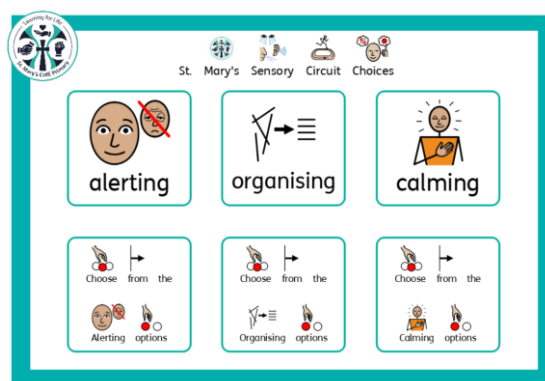
Each half term, this bulletin will highlight what we are doing to make St Mary's even more inclusive for our children with SEND. It will also signpost you to resources and information that can support you and your family at home.

**Freemantles School** came in on our Inset Day in September to deliver training to all staff on supporting children with autism throughout the day and solutions for Demand Avoidance. This was such useful training and we have been putting all advice into practice this half-term!

**ELCI (Enhanced Language & Communication Initiative)** is going really well in our Reception classes! We applied for this initiative in the summer. The Reception Team receive a full day of training and modelling every other Wednesday from a Speech and Language Therapist, which has been incredible and so far focused on the use of visuals, aided language displays (ALDs), 'Attention Autism' technique, Zones of Regulation, communication passports and Makaton.

We have started a project called **PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools)** which runs until Easter. This project ensures that schools offer environments in which neurodiverse students can thrive. So far, we have met with our Neurodiversity Advisor from L-SPA and Occupational Therapy. Parents of children on the SEND register were invited to a meeting with Family Voice Surrey. We will extend this meeting to the whole school community next term and look forward to working in partnership with our parents!

We are improving our **Sensory Circuits** offer throughout the school. Although we have had Sensory Circuits and Sensory Boxes available in every class for a number of years, we have improved these so they are easier for the children to understand and use. They are available in the SEND provision section of our website if you would like to try using them at home to support sensory regulation and integration .



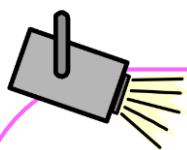


## What did Ofsted say about SEND at St Mary's when they inspected us in July 2024?

*Support for pupils with SEND is a strength of the school.  
Every classroom is inclusive and responsive to pupils' sensory and emotional needs.*

*Pupils with autism or dyslexia blossom with consistent help across all classes.*

*Pupils with SEND achieve well, and particularly strong progress has been achieved with writing.*



## SEND Staff Spotlight

**Each half-term I will 'introduce you' to a member of the SEND team to share their SEND experience with you all. Starting with me!**

- I grew up with two brothers, both with Autism. One of them went to Freemantles School.
- I have an Honours Degree in Psychology from The University of Sheffield and then trained to be a teacher at Cambridge University.
- In 2006, I moved from mainstream teaching into Special Educational Needs and have taught in outstanding SEND schools, including Freemantles School, Meath School and then moved onto a deputy headship in Greenmead in London.
- I completed a SEND-focused diploma at Kingston University and got a distinction in my SENCO award at Roehampton University.
- I joined the team at St Mary's in September 2022. I work four days a week and am usually off on a Thursday.
- I am a mummy, with two primary-aged boys!



**Mrs Georgie Tongue**  
**SENCO**

**Congratulations** to Mrs O'Connor and Mrs Burley who have been chosen to be **OT Champions** at St Mary's and support staff to meet our children's Occupational Therapy Needs with Ordinarily Available Provision!

**Congratulations** to Miss Roberts who has been selected to be our **Speech, Language & Communication Champion** and support our provision within school! The roles will involve termly training sessions.



# Resources and Support



## NEURODIVERSITY ADVISOR PADLET

FOR PARENTS/CARERS

We understand that navigating life with a Neurodivergent child can be overwhelming. We have brought together key resources and information in a easy to use format.

Please scan the QR code to access our Padlet for Families.



[NDAdvisors@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:NDAdvisors@surreycc.gov.uk)



### WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

#### SEND Online Support Group for Parents/Carers

Free support group for parents/carers with children aged 0-16 with pre or diagnosed SEND.

The course will cover topics like:

- Back to school and discussions around EHCP's
- Boundaries and useful parenting tools
- Accessing useful websites and other support networks
- Support on applying for DLA and other funding options.

For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



Woking Family Centre, The Bungalow  
Sythwood, Woking GU21 3AX



### WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER LIVES

for children with disabilities or additional needs

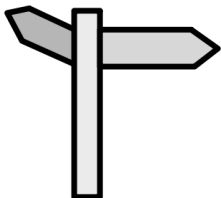


## Are you the parent of a child or young person with an additional need?\*

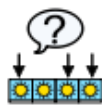


If so, scan here to find out why Family Voice Surrey is of interest to you.

01372 705708



For more useful resources, please visit the [SEND Provision](#) page of our website.



# Frequently Asked Questions

**I feel, or have been advised, that my child needs an EHCP. How do I get one?**

**EHCPs** are for children and young people aged 0 to 25 years, who need greater **specialist support** than their school or other setting can provide. The school or setting will have exhausted all possible support within their Local Offer.

A school cannot decide which children will be issued an EHCP. A panel will decide if a child needs to be assessed for an EHCP - the application can come from school or home but it is important we work together.

Post EHCP assessment, a panel will decide if an EHCP will be issued and what banding of support the child will receive.

**Each member of the panel looks for the following when making a decision to assess for an EHCP:**

- Evidence that the child or young person has SEND;
- A costed provision map that shows need that is additional to or different from the targeted provision (OAP);
- Three cycles of the Assess, Plan, Do, Review and the impact;
- Specialist support from professionals has been implemented which has had little to no progress;
- Any social care needs.

If an EHCP is issued, the school is allocated funding (usually Targeted 1) as outlined below. It is important to realise that this is not enough money to fund 1:1 support but might be used for group interventions or staff training. An EHCP does not necessarily lead to more options for secondary schools, unless the panel decides a Specialist Provision is required.

Band	Finance for each child for 24/25 FY*
Targeted 1	£1,646
Targeted 2	£3,774
Enhanced 1	£6,525
Enhanced 2	£9,597
Bespoke	£10,632+

Funding through bands allows schools greater flexibility by enabling them to use the funding awarded to deliver the provision outlines in the EHCP, in the most appropriate way. One of the key purposes for the funding is to promote independence for all children and therefore it should not be used for one-to-one support when a child does not require it.

Funding can be used, in part, to finance the training of the teacher/assistant who supports the child to meet their specific individual needs and for the child to access group interventions that will support targets within their EHCP.