



SEN and Pastoral Team Newsletter - May 2023

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Welcome to the SEN/Pastoral Team newsletter from Mrs Scott, Mrs Hitch, Mrs Preston-Heard and Mrs Douglass.

This newsletter is circulated to all parents. We want to be able to share any workshops, networks, resources and events that we hope will be of relevance to any parent, whether their child is on the SEN register or not. We will still include dates for any updates for those who are on the SEN register e.g. when SEN passports are due to be sent home.

Transition preparations for new academic year 2023-24

With Summer term underway, we start to make preparations for our next academic year. Transition for our pupils is prepared for with a number of different events:

Moving up day for Year 6 will be on **Tuesday 27th June**, when they spend the day visiting their new secondary schools and meet their new class tutors, teachers and classmates. This is the same day for the two most local schools -The Ashcombe School and The Priory.

While Year 6 are out of school, pupils in current Years R - 5 spend the day time in their new classroom/site with their new teacher. Parents of current Year R at Betchworth are invited to visit the Leigh site. We also invite the parents of those children transferring to Brockham to a meeting at the Brockham site too.

Handover meetings - We have a number of different handover meetings in school in the Summer term so teachers can share information about additional needs and strategies to support as the children change classes or schools.

- Year 6 teachers meet Year 7 teachers from The Ashcombe and The Priory
- SENCO meets with The Ashcombe and The Priory SEN team (plus individual contact with others schools' SENCO for pupils with SEN)
- In school handover meetings for North Downs teachers
- Meetings with any schools from which children may be transferring to NDPS.

If your child is on the SEN register and you have individual concerns about transition, please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Scott via email.

Accessing ELSA support in school



ELSA sessions offers children social, emotional and pastoral support in small groups or 1:1.

We run a triage system to manage the support and we operate a waiting list.

If you would like to contact the ELSAs to request support, please use the ELSA email. elsa@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Mental Health Awareness Week. Free events from Mindworks - flyer attached to newsletter



eikon

Please find details below of up-and-coming parent webinars. **Eikon** webinars for parents and carers explore ways in which they can support the mental health and wellbeing of their children and young people at home. These are **free** for all parents and carers in Surrey. Details can also be found on the website [Parent Webinars - The Eikon Charity](#)

Future webinars currently open for registration are the following:

- Thursday 11th May 2023 19.00-20.00
- **Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem and Confidence (Primary)** Register now by clicking [here](#)
- Thursday 6th June 2023 at 12.00-13.00pm
- **Supporting your Child with the Transition to Secondary School - for parents of children with SEND** Register now by clicking [here](#)
- Thursday 22nd June 2023 19.00-20.00 (A repeat of the webinar hosted on 23rd March)
- **Supporting your Child with the Transition to Secondary School** Register now by clicking [here](#)

Support Groups from NAS Surrey



There are meetings for:
Parents/carers of autistic children
Parents/carers of autistic girls
Parents/carers of children with PDA
Parents/carers of adults
Spouses and partners of autistic people.
Your child does not need a diagnosis for you to attend.
Click the link for details of meetings in the NAS Surrey [latest newsletter](#).



Lego Club®
After School Club

Wednesday 10th May for 6 weeks
(no session in half term)
4 - 5pm
£40, payable in advance

Lego® Club is for mainstream children age 6-11 that need to build on social communication skills.

The programme promotes social inclusion and helps to build confidence. Children will have the opportunity to socialise and make new friends while developing social communication and interaction skills.

The course costs £40 which we request is paid in advance via BACs if possible.

If you think this group might be right for your child, please call us to discuss reserving a place: **01306 740095**

Useful web links for parents of children with additional needs



Family Voice Surrey champions the needs and rights of SEND families in Surrey. For information on advice and events <https://www.familyvoicesurrey.org/fvs-events>



Information, impartial advice and support to parents, carers and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25 years. Helpline available 9.30-5 Mon-Fri. <https://www.sendadvice.surrey.org.uk/>



Links and information for events, activities and workshops for children with additional needs <https://www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk/parents-and-carers>



Charity organisation offering on-line and in person events and groups for autistic girls in Surrey age 7+ <https://www.appeer.org.uk/>



NAS Surrey Out of Hours Advice Line: Call 0300 222 5755
from 5pm – 11pm 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
Advice and information www.nassurreybranch.org



Details of where families in Surrey can find out what is available locally and where to receive help and support including childcare and parenting courses www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/