



Devonshire SEND Newsletter Summer 2024

Transition

We are looking forward to introducing your children to their new class teachers and teaching assistants and for them to learn which class they will be in next year!

Please see the next page for more details.



SEND Survey

How can we help and support you further next year? Are there any parent workshops you would be keen to attend or any further topics you would like information about?

Let us know here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKu1akn17MK0UqL8qYHB7EycWzsTg34skl0medLU2sCmboz_g/viewform



Summer Holidays

The summer holidays are almost here! For those of us who like routine, the summer holidays can be a little unsettling.



Here are some tips for successfully surviving the summer holidays:

- Develop a loose routine for the holidays e.g. breakfast, play, lunch, out and about, dinner, family time. Share this with the children e.g. with a visual daily timetable.
- Put up a calendar and write/draw things on it that are coming up.
- Make a list of things as a family that you would like to do this summer holiday, so everyone has things to look forward to.
- Keep connections with friends by meeting up at the park if you can or writing a letter to post to them.
- Try to leave chat about school to the last week if your child is anxious about it - "We don't need to talk about that yet. Let's..... instead".
- Give children summer holiday jobs to earn some pocket money, screen time, TV time or another reward. This can give them a sense of purpose and something to focus on.

Holiday Activities and Workshops



Sutton Sports Village Trampoline Park SEND Sessions

Weds and Fri over summer 9am - 10:30am.
£9 a session. Carers free.

All Aboard Club

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/allaboardclub/1063820>

Sat 6th July 11am - 12:30pm.

Tickets from £5.

Autism Service Parent Workshops

Autism and Emotional Regulation

Weds 10th July 1-4pm.

Autism Surgery

Thurs 22nd August 1-4pm.

Email - theautismservice@cognus.org.uk

Useful Links:

Sutton SEND Local Offer - support, advice and a directory of services.

<https://suttoninformationhub.org.uk/pages/send-local-offer>

School SEND email address:

sendco@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk

To access a child on the SEN register's IEP:

<https://edukeyapp.com/parent/login>



Transition Schedule

Part 1 - Introducing their new class and teacher.

The children's current class teacher will share with them which class they will be in next year and who their new teacher will be. Their new teacher will then visit them in their current classroom to share a transition book of photos and information about the next year e.g. which adults will be there to support them, what topics they will learn, where the toilets are. This transition book is made available to all children to look back at over the summer via their *Google classrooms* or via email if they are not yet set up.

How you can help at home: Speak positively about their new class and teacher. Look through the transition book with them and ask them to tell you about what they have found out. You can encourage other members of the family to get involved too!

Part 2 - Visiting their new classroom.

Children will then have an opportunity later in the week to visit their new classroom and spend some time there with their new teacher and other adults working within the year group.

How you can help at home: Ask them to show you from outside where their new classroom is and where they will be picked up/dropped off in September.

Part 3 - Children's Voice

Some children from the year group above will visit the children transitioning to that year group to share some of their experiences and answer any questions the children might have.

How you can help at home: Talk about what questions they might want to ask and help them to have them ready if they do want to ask something.

Part 4 - Parents

Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's new class teacher at our 'Meet the Teacher' events held in September. You can also drop by to say hello to any teachers who are already part of the team this year after school when they are at the doors or out on the playground for Home Time.

Part 5 - Behind the Scenes

The teachers and teaching assistants will be busy sharing information with each other to help the staff receiving the children to get to know them a little better and help to ensure a smooth transition. This will involve any relevant information that might be useful in supporting the children and beginning to make bonds e.g. likes, dislikes, strengths, areas that they may need support in.

How you can help at home: Please let your child's current teacher know if there are any big changes that may be occurring or any information we are not already aware of that may need to be passed on to the new teacher e.g. a house move, a new sibling.



Transition can be a tricky time for us all with lots of changes and new experiences, but particularly for some of our children with SEN. Our plan for transition is based on principles of attachment theory and has the aim of reassuring children that they will still have a secure and safe base with their new class teacher, but will not be forgotten about by their current teacher and teaching assistants. Some children do find this process harder than others and may need some additional support.

Here are some ways we offer children additional support:

Extra drop ins or visits - Children may be given extra opportunities to drop in to their new classroom or drop by to see their new adults. This helps to make them more familiar and start making a bond.

Relocating their things - Children may move some things that are important to them and help set them up in their new classroom, so that they know where they will be e.g. a workstation or calm area. This reassures the children that they will still have the important places and things they need at school.

Additional transition activities - Children may complete additional activities, such as creating a book about themselves for their new teacher to get to know them or create a memory book from their current class. Children may also have photos taken or make something with their current adults as a keepsake to remind them that they are still held in mind.

Transitions are a part of life and we use this time as a learning opportunity for the children to develop and show the 6Rs - Resilience, making Relationships, Responsibility and Reflectiveness. We are committed to doing all we can to make this a positive and exciting time for the children and support them through any worries they may have about the upcoming changes.

More information about how you can help you child manage any anxieties over the summer and use their transition book positively will be shared alongside the transition books on *Google Classroom* or via email.

We thank you for your support in making this transition a positive experience for the children.