



Laurence Jackson School's Parental Bulletin

21st April 2023

Messages from the Headteacher

Delivering Better Value in SEND Programme—Redcar & Cleveland has been participating in the Department of Education's Delivering Better Value (DBV) in SEND programme. The programme was commissioned to identify the changes a Local Authority can make to sustainably support children and young people with SEND. We are asking parent/carers to complete a survey that will help us understand your views and experiences of your child or young person's current educational setting and the SEND support they receive. Please click on this link <https://forms.office.com/e/Ou70UerVjc> to complete the survey – it should take around 6 minutes to complete and submit.

For next steps, the information that you provide is going to be used to support the data analysis that has taken place and will be used to create the implementation plan that will be submitted to the DfE later this year. If successful, a grant of £1million will be awarded in order for the Local Authority to implement the plan. Please see the information overleaf for further details.

We have this week sent parents information about the NEU strike day on 27th April. Parents will receive information regarding the strike on 2nd May early next week.

The deadline for indicating which trip you would like your child to go on, on 17th July, is today—please see the letter that we included in the last parental bulletin for further details.

Many thanks for the prom drive donations following the appeal and all the work carried out by one of our LSAs, Mr Rowbotham; we have been overwhelmed with kindness in support of our students and we are very grateful. We now have an amazing number of items to work from and therefore we are no longer accepting donations. Thank you again.

Safeguarding Spotlight

This week we are raising awareness of the national alert system which is planned to happen this Sunday (23rd April) at 3pm. This is a national warning system that the government is planning to alert people of any serious incidents which may occur—further information can be found here ([About Emergency Alerts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/about-emergency-alerts)). This is not related to school directly but it is also to raise awareness and support anyone who may, for whatever reason, have a phone hidden. Please see the guidance which has been shared via Citizens advice.

We would also like to take the opportunity to share the support available in Redcar and Cleveland in connection with domestic abuse—they are always there to support if people feel they need it. [Domestic abuse support | Redcar and Cleveland \(redcar-cleveland.gov.uk\)](https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-support)

Do you know at 3pm on 23rd of April 2023, a UK-wide test of an emergency alert system will take place on EVERY MOBILE PHONE in the country. This loud alarm will sound on your phone and make it vibrate, even if it is switched to silent or notifications are off.

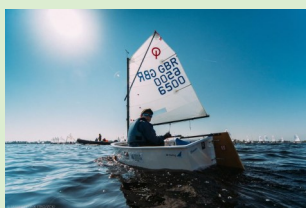
If you're living with domestic abuse and you have a mobile phone hidden in your house "just in case"? Please remember to switch it off on Sunday 23 April 2023

Your hidden phone must be switched off completely during this time to avoid discovery.

- Even if this post doesn't apply to you, please support/ share/repost
- You will be connected to someone who is living with domestic abuse right now, even if you think you're not.
- Sharing this information could help keep them safe



citizens
advice Hull &
East Riding



Congratulations to Henry B (Y9) who during the Easter holidays represented team GBR at the annual magic marine Easter regatta in Holland (on Braassemermeer lake). He came 128th overall and 7th in bronze flight. For his first international event, in his words, he has set the bar for fun very high! Well done Henry this is awesome!

Following a successful performance at the recent open talent day, Callum E (Y10) has gained a place on the England performance pathway for boxing until the 2024 national championship. **Well done** Callum this is a fantastic achievement.



Delivering Better Value in SEND



Why are we participating in this programme?

We know we can improve the outcomes for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The UK government has long term aspirations to reform the system supporting children and young people with SEND, however these will take time to come into fruition. The DBV Programme acknowledges the current challenges we face and will provide valuable support in the short term to Local Authorities (LAs) and our local systems supporting children with SEND.

What is the DBV Programme?

The programme was commissioned to identify the changes a Local Authority can make to sustainably support children and young people with SEND. The programme is keen to put children and young people at the heart of this approach, and to also understand the experiences of the partners within the SEND system, including yourselves as the parent carers.

We will be involving yourselves and other local partners when designing what we can do differently, ensuring the programme is underpinned by a comprehensive data-driven and evidence-led diagnostic. There is also the opportunity for Local Authorities involved in the DBV Programme to apply for an implementation grant offered by DfE.

What makes this Programme unique?

As part of participating in the DBV programme, we will have dedicated capacity from Newton and The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). They will work with us to bring their experience and skills on identifying opportunities for change. This should help our local leaders and managers across the system keep things on track through the inevitable periods of operational pressure.

After our work with Newton and CIPFA, the LA will have access to grant funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to support implementation work – enacting positive change for children and young people, our staff and local partners.

We will be progressing on our SEND improvement journey alongside 54 other LAs and systems in this Programme. This will provide us with a unique opportunity for collaboration with other areas. It will also mean we contribute to a wider evidence base that will be fed back to the DfE to inform future national reforms.

Who are Newton and CIPFA?

Newton specialise in operational improvements and have extensive experience in working with public sector systems like ours. They pride themselves in working side-by-side with those leading change – and those most affected by it – to form a single team. Their experience includes analysing complex processes and systems, as well as working with frontline teams to understand the biggest challenges they are facing so they can create a bespoke solution.

CIPFA are the only professional accountancy body in the world dedicated exclusively to public finance. They have 14,000 members who work to ensure public money is effectively managed and champion high performance in public services. They have extensive experience working in the police force and with Central & Local Government. Their team of chartered accountants includes experienced Local Government finance directors and officers with a deep knowledge of the education funding system.

What have we done so far?

Newton & CIPFA have had a planning conversation with your Local Authority's senior leaders to understand your local context and position. We've shared the documentation with Newton and CIPFA that we felt was relevant and discussed areas where their diagnostic support would be helpful.

We've then discussed how to best involve our partners throughout the diagnostic and how we tailor the diagnostic work.

What are we doing now?

We are carrying out a diagnostic that will take just over 3 months to complete. This diagnostic will be made up of three modules with different partners involved in each to ensure we make the best use of your time and experience.



Delivering Better Value in SEND



What is a diagnostic?

To make impactful change that is sustainable, we need to identify the root cause of challenges - not just the visible symptoms. To do this, we need to be able to step back from our busy day to day lives and gather objective evidence. We will analyse data and combine it with rich insights from our local experience. Newton & CIPFA, who are our partners in this, will work collaboratively alongside us, supporting us with techniques to identify the biggest opportunities to do things better - things that will have the most positive impact for children & young people with SEND.

We will utilise forums to meet throughout the diagnostic, to share progress and ensure that the right people can be involved in shaping the diagnostic work.

To transform our services and make positive and lasting change, we will also consider our culture/how we work together - our strengths, similarities and differences and the impact of these on achieving a sustainable difference to the lives of children with SEND.

Ways to get involved



Surveys

Share your experiences through surveys to gather a wide range of views.



Virtual Drop-Ins

Opportunities for you to hear about what's going on, share views and ask questions.



Workshops

You may be invited to discussions about children and young people with SEND – what happened and what we could do differently.

Why is it important to carry out a diagnostic?

1. To identify sustainable changes that can drive high quality outcomes for children and young people with SEND
2. To enable us to build an evidence-based application to the DfE for a grant to assist with the implementation of those changes.
3. Build a strong, objective evidence base across a third of local authorities, which can be used to influence future national reforms

What happens after the diagnostic?

The diagnostic is just the first step. The evidence will show us where our biggest opportunities are so that we can plan, prioritise, and build on what we've learnt. There will then be a decision point regarding what to take forward from the diagnostic to incorporate in our improvement plan for implementation.

How do I get involved?

We know the whole system needs to work cohesively to support children and young people with SEND. Each local partner has valuable insights and experience we want to listen to and understand. These different perspectives will collectively inform our decisions.

Workshops, studies and surveys are just a few of the ways we will be looking to gain this insight. There will be lots of opportunities for you to stay updated and get involved. Some of you will be asked to take part in studies, others will be invited to attend workshops where we'll discuss anonymised real cases in detail.

It's important we have the right balance of experience and areas of expertise, so we'll be inviting people directly. If you are asked to attend, please do your best to do so. Thank you in advance for taking time out to provide us with your valuable insights. For everyone else, there will be various surveys and drop-in sessions where you will be able to share your thoughts, experiences and insights, and of course, to ask questions.

Who is leading this work & how can we get in touch?

This will be led by our local system leadership, facilitated by our partners from Newton & CIPFA. Please reach out to the SEND Team for more information.

School Rewards Trips: Monday 17th July 2023

Following student voice, below are the options for the rewards trip offer taking place on Monday 17th July 2023 for Y7-10 students:

- Flamingo Land - Cost = £35
- Level X - Cost = £35 – dependent on numbers
- In-school activities (to be confirmed) – no cost

This day is a reward for students who have met school expectations throughout the year. As a result, not all students will automatically be permitted to take part. If students have committed serious breaches of the school behaviour policy resulting in suspensions (Internal/External), they will not be eligible on the trips/in-school activity and will be expected in school as normal to complete school work.

The cost of the trips includes entrance, insurance and transport. Payment must be made in full for the selected trip via School Gateway by Monday 5th June 2023.

We realise that not all students will want to go on a trip for various reasons and there will be a range of planned activities in school for these students.

If your child does wish to go on one of these trips, please ensure that you have completed the online data collection form, which indicated your consent for school trips and visits. If you have not yet completed this form, please click on the link below. Your child will not be able to go on their chosen trip unless we have consent in place, and instead they will be in school and complete the in-school activities if they are eligible.

[Educational Visits / Home Contact Update for 2022-2023 \(office.com\)](#)

Please indicate using the form below which trip/activity you would like your child to participate in, by Friday 21st April 2023:

Trip Choice

On the day of the trip, students will need to arrive at school at the normal time of 8.30am. Those on the Flamingo Land trip will not arrive back to school until 5.30pm. **Normal school buses will not be provided for transport home for those attending Flamingo Land.** Those taking part in the Level X trip or doing in-school activities will finish school at the normal time of 2.40pm.

Students who are attending Flamingo Land, Level X or in school activities **are not** required to wear school uniform. However, students not eligible to attend a trip and are in school doing normal lessons will be required to wear their normal school uniform. Students will need to bring a packed lunch for the off-site trips; however, if they are eligible for free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Stewart and Miss Sarginson
Trip Organisers

