SEND NEWSLETTER

St Catherine's

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to the first SEND Newsletter of the new academic year.

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and continuing to work in partnership to support every child to thrive. Throughout the year, these newsletters will provide updates, information about SEND provision, useful resources, and ways to support your child.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic year together! 🌟

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING PLANS (ILPS)

At Parents' Evening, your child's Individual Learning Plan (ILP) was shared with you. ILPs are designed to keep parents informed about their child's current targets, progress, strengths and the support being provided in school. This year, we have worked hard to improve the quality of our ILPs to ensure they provide a clearer picture of your child's needs, achievements and next steps. We would therefore encourage you to read your child's ILP carefully and take some time to reflect on the information it contains. Alongside the ILP, you will receive a short parent survey. Your feedback is incredibly valuable and will help us continue to develop and improve our SEND provision, so please take a few minutes to complete and return it. Together, we can ensure the best possible support for your child.

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NEURODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT REFERRAL UPDATE

You may have heard that there have been some changes to the referral process for autism (ASD) and ADHD assessments across Greater Manchester. From 1st October, there is now a single referral form for both ASD and ADHD assessments, designed to gather information about a child's strengths, needs, the support already in place, and how their difficulties affect everyday life.

The NHS assessment criteria has also changed, meaning that fewer children may now be eligible for an NHS assessment. Referrals are more likely to be accepted where there is clear evidence that a child's difficulties have a significant impact on their daily life and ability to access opportunities.

At St Catherine's, we want to reassure families that we will continue to support children as soon as a need is identified, whether or not they have a diagnosis. The support we provide is based on a child's individual needs and not on a diagnosis alone.

If you have concerns about your child's development or would like to discuss a possible referral, please contact admin@stcatherines.tbft.uk to arrange an appointment. We are always happy to offer advice, guidance and support.

ZONES OF REGULATION

After half term, we will be introducing the Zones of Regulation across school. This whole-school approach helps children to recognise their feelings, understand their emotions and develop strategies to regulate themselves when needed.

Over the coming weeks, children will begin learning about the different zones. We will also be sharing information with parents so that you can support this learning at home. Keep an eye out for further information after half term! 💙💚💛❤️

Signposting

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

- Play-based drop-in sessions where families can speak to the Speech and Language Therapy Service, Family Hub Practitioners or other staff.
- For pre-school aged children (0-4yrs) where there may be a concern about their speech, language or communication.
- Practical advice and activities to try at home
- Takeaway leaflet to share with other professionals
- Signposting to further support and services
- Children must attend with a parent/carer (consent needed for foster carers)
- Not needed for families already receiving Speech and Language Therapy support.





BOLTON FAMILY HUBS

The QR code takes you to Bolton Family Hubs' Guide to Free Services and Activities for Families in Bolton. The guide provides information about free activities, services and support available for children and young people aged 0-19, and up to 25 for those with SEND. It includes details of local Family Hub activities, helpful support services, and resources for families at every stage of their child's development.