



# SEND Newsletter

Issue 4, Spring 2023



Lilian Koder, SENDCo

Welcome to this term's edition of our newsletter specially produced for parents and carers of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at DHJS.

The aim is to provide you with useful and up-to-date information about how SEND pupils are supported at DHJS and signpost you to further information and resources.

We are very proud to be an inclusive school, where every child is valued and supported as an individual. We believe that our skilled staff team, combined with our positive and nurturing ethos, enables all children to be happy and successful learners.

## Introducing... Matthew Hart, Educational Psychologist



Matthew is a self-employed Educational Psychologist who works with us at the Hamlet for around 10 days each year. He is registered with the British Psychological Society and Health Professions Council and has been working as an EP for 24 years in a wide range of schools. Before this, Matthew worked in mental health, children's services, a special school in Islington and as a secondary school teacher in Southwark.

Lilian (SENDCo) works closely with teachers and school leaders to identify children who are not making expected progress despite having additional support with their learning as well as pupils who may have a specific difficulty such as dyslexia. Lilian will always ask for parental consent before arranging an EP assessment and you will always be given a copy of Matthew's report and be invited to discuss it with the SENDCo and the class teacher.

### A typical day for Matthew at the Hamlet might include:

- Meeting with the SENDCo to set the schedule for the morning and gather background information about children to be assessed
- Observing individuals or groups of children in class
- Discussing the progress and difficulties of individuals or groups of children with their teachers and support staff
- Carrying out 1:1 assessments with individual children to find out more about their strengths and difficulties
- Advising staff about teaching strategies, resources and any further assessments that might be needed.

## Individual Learning Plans and SEND Meetings

If you are a parent or carer of a child on the SEND register at the Hamlet, you will have received their individual learning plan via email this week. This shows the targets your child has been working on in class this term and their progress towards each one.

You will also see that we have now started to use the Edukey software to show more clearly the extra support that your child receives. Any provision that your child has received this term will be listed at the bottom of the learning plan and the class teacher will be able to explain this in more detail at this term's parent and carer meetings for pupils on the SEND register. If your meeting had to be cancelled due to the Ofsted inspection, the teacher will be in touch to rearrange it.

**A few examples of the extra support you child may be receiving are:**

- Nessy - online phonics and spelling program
- Spelling groups - these may be run by teachers or support staff, including Helen Mardling and Amanda Freshwater (dyslexia-trained HLTAs)
- Times tables/ Maths recall groups
- Extra reading
- Use of a laptop for longer pieces of writing
- Sessions with the Learning Coach, Lorraine Thomas
- Play therapy (1:1 or groups) with Sonia Gomez
- Handwriting groups
- Sessions with our Speech and Language Therapist, Bidy.

### SEND Parent and Carer Café March 2023

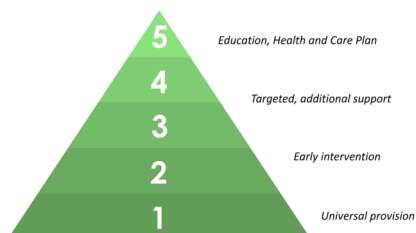
It was great to see many parents and carers of pupils with SEND at our SEND café earlier this month.

This was an opportunity to meet our Trust SEND Lead, Will Cannock and our SEND Link Governor, Felicia Johnston and to gain an overview of the systems in place at the Hamlet to support our SEND learners, including:

- The Waves of Support model (see right)
- How we work with external professionals (including the Educational Psychologist, see page 1, above)
- Systems to identify pupils' individual needs and plan the support that they require.

If you missed this café, you can find the key information in our SEND Policy and SEND Information Report here: <http://www.dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk/policies.html>

Look out for details of our next SEND café in the Hamlet Herald!



We use the Waves of Support model to ensure that pupils receive the appropriate level and type of extra help in school. Most pupils' additional needs will be met through Wave 1 'universal provision', which means high quality inclusive teaching within the classroom.

Some children may need additional support within the classroom (Wave 2) or take part in interventions outside of the classroom (Wave 3 and 4). The list above gives some examples of wave 3 and 4 provision at the Hamlet. If you are unsure about the support your child receives, their class teacher will be able to explain more at your next meeting.



## Neurodiversity Celebration Week

March 13 - 19, 2023

[www.neurodiversityweek.com](http://www.neurodiversityweek.com)

We marked Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2023 earlier this month with a special assembly and a home learning task.

Many children completed their homework task of designing their own neurodiversity symbol and Mrs

Koder will be making a display of them very soon. Below are just a few of the eye-catching and informative designs created by Hamleteers!

As parents, you may be interested in accessing further resources on the subject of neurodiversity. There is a wealth of information that has been collated from across the internet on the Neurodiversity Celebration Week website which you may find useful and can access [here](#).



### Dyslexia Resources

**Bell House, Dulwich** - links to dyslexia courses and events: <https://www.bellhouse.co.uk>. A touch-typing course is available in the Easter holidays.

**Neurodiversity Celebration Week Resource Hub** - <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub>

**Immersive in Microsoft Word** (go to View menu > Learning Tools > Immersive)

**Mind-mapping tools** e.g. <https://www.xmind.net/>

**Barrington Stokes dyslexia-friendly books**  
<https://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/>

**'See dyslexia differently' video** (British Dyslexia Association)

**British Dyslexia Association website**  
(Go to Advice > Child)

### Useful Links

**Southwark Autism Support Team (AST)**  
- contact Mr B for advice on 078 0286 0871 or [blagoje.vucinic@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:blagoje.vucinic@southwark.gov.uk)

**Southwark Information and Advice Service (SIAS)** 0207 525 3104 or [sias@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:sias@southwark.gov.uk)

**Touch-Typing Programmes** - BBC Dance Mat Typing (free); Doorway Online Typing (free); Nessy Fingers. See also Bell House.

**Parenting Support** - you can find details of courses and groups run by Southwark Council [here](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/childcare-and-parenting/children-social-care/family-early-help-feh/parenting?chapter=8): <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/childcare-and-parenting/children-social-care/family-early-help-feh/parenting?chapter=8>

### How to get in touch

In the first instance, contact your child's class teacher. If you need to contact the SENDCo, you can email [lkoder1.210@lgflmail.org](mailto:lkoder1.210@lgflmail.org) or phone the school office on 020 7525 9188 and ask for Lilian.