



SEND Newsletter

Issue 5, Summer 2023

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.



Lilian Koder, SENDCo

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 and we are delighted that the quality of our SEND provision was recognised by Ofsted when they inspected our school in March. Inspectors concluded that pupils with SEND 'are very well supported to access the full curriculum' and this continues to be very much at the heart of our approach to inclusion at Dulwich Hamlet.

Introducing...Will Cannock, Trust SEND Lead



Will Cannock, SEND Lead,
The Charter Schools Education Trust

Will is the SEND Lead for the Charter Trust. Will previously was SENCo at Charles Dickens Primary School and now works across each of the primary and secondary schools. A part of this work includes working as an Evidence Lead in Education (ELE) with the Charles Dickens Research School, sharing research and evidence-informed best bets for SEND provision, behaviour and implementation planning.

Within SEND, Will's main areas of interest and expertise lie in supporting teachers and leaders develop inclusive teaching and learning practices with a particular focus on Autism, Speech and Language and Sensory Processing.

A typical day for Will at the Hamlet might include:

- Meeting with school leaders, including the SENDCo to develop and implement strategies for supporting children with SEND through effective universal provision.
- Providing training, guidance and support to school staff for identifying, assessing and providing for the needs of pupils with SEND.
- Assisting the development of individual learning plans using Edukey Provision Map software.
- Monitoring the progress of children with SEND, identifying opportunities for improvement and sharing best practice among the across the schools.
- Coordinating and facilitating regular meetings and workshops with school staff, parents and carers.
- Working with external professionals and agencies to access additional support and resources.
- Developing a culture of collaboration and shared responsibility among schools within the trust.

SEND Link Governor Blog by Felicia Johnston



At the Hamlet, we understand that neurodivergence impacts all areas of your children's lives, from how they connect with others to how they relax and recharge. That's why we are committed to providing parents and carers with the utmost support to help your children flourish in education and beyond. As part of this term's newsletter, I'm delighted to share three organisations that have significantly aided me in navigating my own Dyslexia, ADHD, and Slow Processing Speed. I hope you find them as valuable as I have!

1. ADDitude Mag

ADDitude is an ADHD magazine, community & [website](#) dedicated to strategies and support for individuals and families living with ADHD and related conditions (almost every other form of neurodivergence!). I am a massive fan of their expert-led webinars, articles, and [YouTube channel](#), all free. Check them out to benefit from their incredible expertise and understanding of the complex and intersecting nature of neuro-differences.

2. Understood

Understood is a non-profit devoted to shaping the world for difference. Their [website](#) and YouTube channel provide excellent resources and advice to help neurodivergent people thrive. One playlist that I highly recommend is the '[Tips and Tools](#)' series on YouTube. However, it's their podcasts that I enjoy the most. My current favourite is 'How'd You Get That Job?!' which explores the unique career paths of neurodivergent individuals. That being said, '[In It](#)' is a better fit for parents and carers as it delves into the joys and frustrations of supporting kids who learn and think differently.

3. Made by Dyslexia

Made by Dyslexia is a global charity led by dyslexics that aim to increase understanding, appreciation, and support for dyslexia. Again, they have a fantastic [website](#) and a YouTube channel filled with helpful resources. I first encountered them when HRH Princess Beatrice read their children's book, "[Xtraordinary People](#)," during a commission for the Hay Literature Festival - a must-watch for anyone with dyslexia, regardless of age! Additionally, I recommend watching their informative [Microsoft Learning Tools Demo](#) on YouTube to help your kids make the most of assistive technology. For me, it was an absolute game-changer!

See below for Felicia's top tips for inclusive fun things to do this summer...

Inclusive fun things to do this summer

SEND Link Governor Blog by Felicia Johnston

Relaxed Opening Tours at London Zoo

Every month until November, London Zoo is hosting a special day dedicated to relaxed opening tours. These brilliant tours enable neurodiverse children to experience the breathtaking wildlife in a calm and safe environment.

Event webpage: <https://www.londonzoo.org/plan-your-visit/events/relaxed-opening-tours>

Relaxed Openings at Tower Bridge

On the third Saturday of every month, Tower Bridge hosts a Relaxed Opening for anyone who would like to explore the Bridge in a calm, tranquil atmosphere, including people with autism and other neurodiverse needs, as well as their siblings, families and carers.

Event webpage: <https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/events/relaxed-opening>

Rise And Roar: Quiet Session in the Magic Garden at Hampton Court Palace

Get ready to enter a world of enchantment and wonder at the Magic Garden in Hampton Court Palace! On selected dates, the Magic Garden is hosting quiet sessions for children and young people with autism or any other sensory needs. Entry is included in the price of admission to the palace so that you can experience all the magic at no extra cost!

Event webpage: <https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace/whats-on/rise-and-roar/#gs.tfl12h>

Dawnosaurus by the Natural History Museum

Dawnosaurus is a free event that allows children with neurodiverse conditions to explore the Natural History Museum, free from the hustle and bustle of the general public. Keep an eye on their website for their next event date. You can also join in on the excitement from home with Dawnosaurus Online, where kids can access a variety of fun activities that will keep them engaged and learning, including an exclusive visit to Ranger Stu's zoo!

Event webpage: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/events/dawnosaurus.html>

Dawnosaurus Online: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/events/dawnosaurus-online.html>

National Autism-Friendly Cinema Screenings

At least once a month, ODEON, Cineworld, Vue, Showcase, Picturehouse, and Everyman cinemas show popular films in a relaxed/sensory-friendly environment. To find out about upcoming screenings, give your local cinema a call or check out Accessible Screenings UK's helpful online database.

Accessible Screenings UK: <https://accessiblescreeningsuk.co.uk/about-us/>

Edukey Learning Plans



We are continuing to develop our new system for creating and sharing children's individual learning plans, using the online platform, Edukey Provision Map. At the end of this term, if your child is on the SEND register you will receive their summer term learning plan with the teachers' comments on their progress against each outcome. You will also be able to read some comments about their progress in some of the interventions they have participated in this term. We hope that this will give you a better picture of how your child is supported in school and the impact these interventions are having on their progress and development.

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 or phone the school office on 020 7525 9188 and ask for Lilian.

You can find our SEND Policy and SEND Information Report [here](#).

Useful Links

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

Southwark Information and Advice Service (SIAS) 0207 525 3104 or sias@southwark.gov.uk

Bell House, Dulwich - [courses and events](#)

[Magic Link Intensive Handwriting Course](#)

Touch-Typing Programmes for the summer holidays - BBC Dance Mat Typing (free); Doorway Online Typing (free); Nessy Fingers.