



AUTISM / ASD SUPPORT AND SIGNPOSTING

June 2022
Issue 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) awareness is a subject close to our hearts and we want to ensure that if you have a question, concern or want more information you know where to go. The message we often get from parents and carers is "What do I do now?" or "Where can I get support?". This is sometimes from parents at the start of their child's journey or for those who are well along the path, post diagnosis.

In this month's newsletter we want to shed some light on what to do and where to go if you suspect your child might have Autism / ASC and how to access support.

Do get in touch if you have any queries.

SENCO SURGERIES



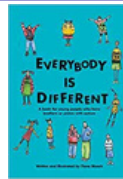
Last month we highlighted dates for upcoming SENCo Surgery sessions which are an opportunity to meet with Mrs Griffiths to offer information, share concerns relating to your child or raise queries about additional / special educational needs.

SENCo Surgery sessions will take place every half term. This week has seen our final surgery for this academic year however we will communicate future dates via the school newsletter.

SPOTLIGHT ON BOOKS.....



Autism: How to raise a happy autistic child
by Jessie Hewitson



Everybody is Different: A Book for Young People Who Have Brothers or Sisters with Autism
by Fiona Bleach

DID YOU KNOW?

The process for getting a diagnosis and accessing support can be daunting and not always clear. Here are a few pointers that might help you along your journey:



- Keeping a diary of concerns and observations of behaviours over time is really useful and can be used as key evidence if an assessment is pursued.
- In an assessment stage, the professionals assessing will ask about birth history and early years, as well as the current situation.
- Before making a referral to CAMHS, you will likely be required to attend a parent course such as Family Links, Barnardo's or similar. If you need help accessing a parenting course, we can help with referrals.
- CAMHS has a helpline for advise and queries: **0300 123 6661**
- We have put together an SEND specific padlet which includes a whole range of support including a break down of the assessment process. It's ever evolving as new information and services are shared with us but please take a look by clicking on the SEND link above or looking on the school's website.

FURTHER INFORMATION & SUPPORT

www.autismhampshire.org.uk -

Autism Hampshire is an independent charity offering support and advise. They have a helpline which is available Mon - Fri **02380 766162**

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk>

There is a whole wealth of information including videos, information sheets, podcasts etc covering a wide range of support needs, including Autism Spectrum Conditions

www.fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/localoffer.page

Services and information for children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities