

6th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Learning Support 2017-18

The Learning Support Team at Oswald Road would like to welcome you back to a new term. We hope you have had relaxing summer break.

We are writing to inform you that the SEND and Pastoral Team have joined together to form a new Learning Support Team, led by Helen Woolf and Donna Wealleans. Details of the new team can be found on the school website on our Learning Support Page, which is under the 'School Info' menu.

This change has been necessary due to capacity and budgetary issues within school. Unfortunately, this means that the number of staff previously available on both teams has substantially reduced for the coming academic year.

Whilst we will continue to provide the best possible provision for our children and families, our availability will be much reduced. Therefore, we will be offering drop-in sessions for parents and carers. Dates are as follows for the coming term (these have been added to the school calendar, which can be found on our website):

Thursday 21st September

Thursday 5th October

Thursday 19th October

Thursday 9th November

Thursday 23rd November

Thursday 7th December

We will be available to meet with parents/carers from 2:30pm-3:30pm on these dates, and each appointment will be 20 minutes. If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the school office.

The purpose of these sessions will be to give parents/carers of children who are supported by our team the opportunity to; share good news; update us on recent key developments; and obtain support network advice and strategies that might help at home. Please ensure when booking your slot with the office staff that you are specific about what you would like the focus of the session to be on so that we



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can ensure the meeting is efficient and productive, as we will be able to prepare support documents if we think they might be useful. Due to capacity we are no longer able to facilitate meetings outside of these sessions. Our commitment to our children means that every spare pocket of time we have will now be allocated to direct work and providing interventions for our children.

Please note that Team around the Child (TAC) meetings, Early Help Assessments (EHAs) and Person Centred Annual Reviews will be scheduled by the SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) outside of these drop in sessions.

Kind regards,

Helen Woolf & Donna Wealleans
Assistant Headteachers



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