



## Parent Forum Minutes 18/02/2025

**Topic: SEND at Dinnington (Start 5.00pm)**

**Mrs Yate, Mrs Ash, Miss Fletcher, Mr Donnelly, Mrs Parker, Mrs McGeary Rep from Clennel education.**

Mrs Ash

- highlighted the strengths of the school reported by Ofsted
- set the scene for what is happening with SEND both nationally and locally, highlighting a growing number of children with needs, limited funding and a lack of specialist provision and support services. This information was backed up by Amy \_\_\_ from Clennel Solutions who used to work as part of the local authority SEND team.

(Slides 2,3,4)

Mrs Yates

- clarified what Special Educational Needs is defined as
- explained the roles of different professionals dealing with SEND at Dinnington
- explained the SEND graduated response which is followed by all school settings in Newcastle and how this is followed at Dinnington.
- Explained how support plans work and how they are used to set targets on a termly basis that are then reviewed with the class teacher – normally at parents evenings.

(Slides 5-11)

Miss Fletcher

- Explained the differences between an EYFS support plan and the plans used throughout the rest of the school, highlighting the importance of the personal information for pupils who are very young.

(Slides 12,13)

Mrs Yates

- Explained that the majority of children with SEND diagnosis had their needs met by adapting provision at school.
- Explained SEND support looks like at Dinnington
- acknowledged that there are limits as to what can be achieved in a mainstream setting and highlighted the huge waiting lists to access external support or specialist provision – ranging from 2 - 5+ years.
- Clarified which agencies may become involved if progress is limited.

(Slides 14,15)



Mrs Ash

- Shared that the school had requested support from the local authority and explained that we were hoping to have some modifications made to the building to create a small sensory space.

Mrs Yates

- Shared information about SENDIASS who can help support parents of children with SEND.
- Shared information about the Newcastle Local Offer.

(Slides 16,17)

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The meeting then changed to informal personal chats between staff and parents where ideas were collected about what was working well, could be tweaked and could be added to school provision.

Meeting ended 6.25pm



## Points discussed with parents

Notes from SEND Parent's Forum		
What is working well	What do we need to tweak	What might improve what we do
<p>School are approachable and class teacher is really supportive.</p> <p>Staff are supporting my child and myself very well.</p>	<p>Communication regarding SEN plans has clearly improved.</p> <p>From Y1 to Y3 we didn't receive any updates or even see the plan again. At parents evenings until start of Y3 Sept'24. Very useful and reassuring to discuss the plans at parents evenings especially with Mrs. Yates attending the meetings also. We know the teaching is excellent and there is ongoing assessment of our children, but the communication on this could improve.</p> <p>Regular contact regarding any SEND info to help my child</p>	<p>Not aware of how my daughter is being supported, apart from the support plans and longer appointments.</p> <p>I would like to see a clear support programme for emotional regulation and SALT (we can provide resources) can be offered.</p> <p>Communication of what is available. Today is the first time I have heard anything about this.</p> <p>More understanding on kids with ASD and ADHD.</p> <p>Equipment that can help my child regulate Dizzy Whizzy, Dark Den, Peanut ball, Balance board, Lycra suit, fidgets, weighted blanket, wobble cushion, chew buddy, ear defenders</p>