



"I can do all things through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13



Hello! My name is Miss Lees, and I am the Special Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at Barrowby Church of England Primary School. I have been in this role for about 4 years, and as part of this I write a termly Newsletter to keep parents of children on the SEN register 'in the loop' about all things SEND related. This newsletter will highlight support that is available in school, and workshops that may be taking place in the local area. For this week, I decided to provide a brief overview of things you can do at home to support your child. If you have any suggestions about what you would like to see in the newsletter please do let me know!

SEND services in school:

Your child's class teacher is always the first port of call for any SEND queries you might have. If you need any further support following on from this, you are always welcome to make an appointment with myself. You will have a second SEND Support plan review meeting with your class teacher on 09/02/23.

*"When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower."
Alexander Den Heijer*

Reading at home

It is vitally important to read at home with your child at least 3 times a week. This is a chance for you to help your child with their mechanical reading skills, but also a chance for you to have meaningful 1:1 time with your child. If your child struggles with the pace of reading, an intervention we complete in school to support this is called 'Paired Reading'.

Reading together:

1. Adult and child read along together. The adult needs to adjust their speed to fit the child. This also sets the example of how to read well including using expression and phrasing with punctuation.
2. Read every word. If the child struggles with a word then gets it right give praise.
3. Do not let the child struggle for more than 5 seconds – at this time just say the word yourself.
4. The child then repeats the word – make sure they repeat it properly.
5. Make sure the child looks at the words – it may help to point at the text as you read; ideally the child should do the pointing.

Reading alone:

As you read together and your child feels confident, they might want to read some part alone.

1. Agree beforehand a signal between you e.g. a tap, a squeeze, a nudge. (You do not want the child to have to say "Be quiet") It must be clear and easy to do.
2. When the child signals you stop reading out loud immediately and praise them for making the sign (it is demonstrating confidence).
3. When the child struggles with a word and/or gets it wrong say the word and the child repeats it – don't let them struggle for more than 5 seconds.
4. Continue reading together until the child gives another sign that they wish to continue alone.
5. Always go back to reading together when the child has a problem with a word.

Events for your calendar– all free!

8th February after school– SEND support plan meetings.

These meetings are incredibly important to attend, as they are a chance to have an additional 1:1 appointment with your child's teacher to be informed of the progress your child is making. We had 100% attendance at our last review meetings, we hope to have this again.

13th March 1pm-2:30pm– Toileting skills A virtual workshop delivered by a member of the incontinence team.
[Book here](#)

15th March 2:45pm– Coffee and Catch Up. Everyone is invited to come into school and meet other parents whilst having a coffee/ tea and some cake. We hope to see you there!

16th March 11:30-1:00pm– Juggling the joys of parenting. A virtual workshop for parents, grandparents or relatives of children with SEND, the focus being to have fun, meet other parent carers that want to make life easier and learn new strategies that can make a very noticeable difference.