



Named Clothing: Please ensure that all items of clothing are named (including PE kits, shoes and coats). Un-named items of clothing can go missing and it is very difficult for us to locate and return them.

Electrical Devices: We do appreciate that lots of our children travel long distances to school, and the use of technology can be a good method of distraction to reduce anxiety. However, we do need to make you aware that the school is unable to insure these, or accept responsibility for any loss of, or damage to, any electrical devices brought into school. All devices are brought into school at parents' and carers' own risk. If, for some reason, a device does need to stay on the school site, parents and carers are very welcome to book the devices into reception in the main office, where they can be locked away safely for the school day.

Change in Annual Review Processes:

From 1st of May 2019, the LA changed the Annual Review Process. The changes have come about after a review and through collaboration with parents, settings, schools and colleges. The Annual Review Process will be changed in the following ways:

- Your child's EHCP will only be updated at significant points of transition. For children in Oysters, this will mean that the EHCP will only be updated at the following times:
 - During the Year 5 Annual Review, in preparation for Secondary School transfer.
 - If parents/carers and school are in agreement that a change of placement is required as Oysters is no longer an appropriate setting.
- Instead of reviewing and updating the EHCP, the Local Authority has revised its documentation and has asked that schools complete a new form annually.
- There will be a greater emphasis on the Provision Maps (Section Fs) and on these being updated.
- The Local Authority has also recommended to schools that the new Annual Review should be completed in a one-hour time slot.

In line with these changes, our Annual Review slots will now take place on a Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Barrett, our Inclusion Assistant, will book these in and a two-hour slot will be given, initially. Parents and Carers will, however, be able to take their child early if the Annual Review is completed before the end of the school day.

Curriculum: Your child's Link-Worker will send home the appropriate year group curriculum newsletter which details information about the curriculum for your child. Additionally, there is information about the interventions offered by Oysters at the front of your child's contact book.



Family Fun Session:

Since Oysters children all have the opportunity to take part in Year Group Productions within their Partner Classes, Oysters will be holding a Family Fun session in March, rather than expecting children to learn and perform in an additional Nativity Production. Parents and carers will all be invited, and we will supply details, the date, and the time nearer the event!

I predict a fun-filled and exciting year and first term on our learning journey together! As ever, please don't hesitate to contact us should you have any queries or questions.

Many thanks, Mrs Dowling and the Oysters Team



Joy Lane Primary School Oysters Newsletter

Specialist Resourced Provision

Terms 1 & 2 2019

Welcome back from the summer break! We hope everyone had a great holiday and that the children are refreshed and ready for the new term. We are looking forward to the new school year and are excited to meet all of our new children over the coming weeks.

Our Oysters Team September 2019



Mrs Dowling



Mr Coultrip



Mrs Bowles



Mrs Watson



Miss Van Rooyen



Staffing: We are very lucky to be welcoming some new members of staff to our Oysters Team this September: *Mr Duffy, Mrs Phillips, Miss Collins, Ms Sutherland and Miss Van Rooyen.*

They will be working across the Provision, supporting children in both their mainstream lessons and during targeted interventions in the SRP.



Contact Books: Your child's contact book is the main source of information and communication between home and school, and allows all adults who support your child during the school day to stay informed.

For this reason, it is essential that queries, concerns, comments and helpful information about your child's wellbeing (e.g. "Hasn't slept well,"/"Missed breakfast,") are written in the Contact Book, as this is the first point of reference for adults in Oysters and the mainstream.

The contact book is a reliable way to ensure that important information can be shared, in written form, with all of the adults who interact with each child. Please feel free to stick in post-it notes or Sellotape/staple in a piece of paper if there is not sufficient room for your message. We also ask that all parents and carers sign their child's contact book every day, so that we are aware you have seen messages from school.

Your child will be issued with a new contact book each term, and the old one will be kept in your child's file.

Additionally, we always inform you of your child's wellbeing and attitude to learning during both the morning and afternoon sessions. As a Provision, we would expect most children to have 'Needed additional support to remain on task' ticked, as this is why they have the support of the Provision.

Social Stories: Over the year, a number of Social Stories will come home with your child to prepare them for upcoming events in school, helping them to manage their expectations and therefore reduce their anxiety. Social Stories are a valuable strategy to help coach children through events which could be challenging, allowing them to visualise and have prepared strategies so that they feel in control. These are most effective when shared regularly. When sharing these at home, it is best to find times when everyone is feeling calm and relaxed. Repeat as many times as you think is required and please feel free to adapt them further to your child's specific needs and challenges. We also have a Social Stories library in school, which allows the adults working with your child to send home Social Stories which may support with social skills or life events, when shared. Please feel free to ask for Social Stories on anything you feel your child may need support with.

Weekly Newsletter: As a school, we send out a weekly newsletter on a Friday; many parents and carers will have opted to receive this electronically. The idea of the letter is to combine all the information that you need for the week ahead into one space. The newsletter includes: attendance, house points, important reminders, and dates for your diary, music and sport updates, and class announcements. It is important to check this letter, both for Oysters information, and for information from the year group and partner class that your child integrates to.

Speech and Language: As some of you will be aware, our NHS Speech and Language Therapist (Suzie Wells) has left the team. Her post is currently being advertised, and we will let you know as soon as the NHS have appointed her replacement.



Class Dojos: We will be using Class Dojos and Class Story again this year. We would love as many of our Oysters parents and carers as possible to join up and celebrate all of our children's successes and 'wow' moments. We expect SRP parents to be able to access both the SRP Class Dojo and their child's Partner Class. If you do not have a login to either of these accounts, then please contact the school office, who will be able to provide these for you.



Integration: As you are aware, we have been working with the Local Authority to ensure that our model of a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) is in-line with the county model, within the context of Joy Lane Primary School. As an SRP we are not a Special School but are classed as a mainstream placement. This means that the Government and Local Authority expects Oysters (and all SRPs) to:

- Allow children to access a mainstream education in a mainstream class.
- Be considered a mainstream placement.
- Allow children to receive their core learning within mainstream classrooms. (As a rough guide, this should be between 45%-80% of their timetables and, where possible, should increase incrementally.)
- Provide an individualised curriculum, which is organic, flexible, and changes to fit the wellbeing and educational needs of the child.
- Provide a designated, specialist teacher, in our case Mrs Dowling, who is able to offer daily specialist advice and intervention to support the needs of children with ASD.

We will, therefore, be working with you and your child to ensure that they are integrating into their mainstream Partner Class, daily, with their Link-Worker. The integration model will be tailored to the needs of each individual child but, in all cases, will increase incrementally, as we are considered a mainstream placement and are therefore expected to have all of our children integrating for the majority of their core learning.

Afternoon Tea: Because contact and co-operation between home and school are important to us (and we believe we are better together) we have arranged an afternoon tea for parents and carers on Wednesday 18th of September. This will be a time to get together, share experiences, share the school's vision for this academic year, and discuss any general issues and feedback.

Due to time constraints and confidentiality, we will be unable to discuss individual children at this event, but parents and carers are always very welcome to talk to us on the phone, at Annual Reviews or through a separate appointment for more personal matters.



Liaison Times: Should you need to speak to us, we will be available to deal with any queries between 3:00pm and 4:00pm each day. If you require a phone call home, please indicate this in your child's contact book or leave a message with the main school office. Any logistical questions, such as dates for non-school uniform days or queries about swimming or school dinners, can usually be dealt with by the school office, either via a phone call or an email.

Swimming: This year, Oysters children will swim with the Partner Class they integrate to during the afternoons. Children who follow the Life Skills curriculum in Oysters during the afternoons will swim on a Monday afternoon.

PE: Oysters children will access PE on a Friday in Oysters, unless your child's Link-Worker writes to you separately.



Snacks: Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to school for break time. Please be aware that Joy Lane Primary School is a nut-free school.