

Special Educational Needs

Newsletter

Mrs Woods

I have been the SENCo at Dursley C of E Primary Academy since September 2023. I have twenty years' experience working in education with children across both mainstream and specialist provisions.

As a member of the Senior Leadership Team, my role is to support the development and leadership of the school to ensure an inclusive provision for all of our children. My responsibilities include serving as the Designated Teacher (e.g., holding PEP meetings) and acting as a Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

Additionally, my role involves collaborating with external agencies to secure the appropriate support and provision for your children and family. This includes making referrals for Early Help and organizing Team Around the Family meetings to ensure that all agencies involved are working in unison.

If you wish to discuss your child's needs and provision further, your first point of contact should be your child's Class Teacher. The Class Teacher will consult with me on all SENCo matters, and I will contact you to arrange the next steps if needed.

My office days are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.



A spotlight on...

ADHD

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition. This means that if you have ADHD, there are differences in how your brain works, which can impact how you act and experience the world.

It's important to note that ADHD is not a mental health condition or a learning disability. However, having ADHD might affect your mental health, and some individuals with ADHD may also experience mental health conditions such as anxiety or depression.

Many children go through phases of being restless or inattentive, which does not necessarily mean they have ADHD. If you have concerns about your child's behavior being different from most children their age, it's a good idea to discuss this with their teacher, the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO – myself), or a GP.

The ADHD Foundation is an excellent resource for understanding ADHD, its traits, and avenues for support.

If you think your child might have ADHD:

- Speak to your child's Class Teacher as the first point of contact. They will consult with me for further guidance.
- Be aware that all parents seeking an ADHD assessment for their child are required to engage in parenting courses beforehand, such as the Triple P course. More information about this can be found on the Glos Families website.

Support Strategies for ADHD:

Creating routines supported by a total communication approach that do not feel like demands on your child can be an effective strategy. Incorporate your child's interests into these routines to keep them motivated and to build self-esteem. Consistency is key, but it's important to remain adaptable, as there will likely be some trial and error along the way.



Quarry Chapel
CREATIVE CLUB
Thurs from 16th Jan 6.30-8pm
6 week subsidised course £30/18

Do you have a child or teenager who is struggling with their mental or physical health? Are they anxious or could just do with quality time with you? Would they love to be part of a group but can't go on their own? We know that there are many families looking for a supportive, fun class and would like to invite you to attend a weekly non pressured creative group where you and your young person can relax, try something new and have time together. Delivered by practicing artists who love nothing more than sharing techniques and quirky ways of working! Our calm, small groups will offer fun activities including 2D & 3D approaches. Neither of you need to be good, just open to having a go! Our subsidised prices cover materials and refreshments for both of you.

To book: www.quarrychapel.org.uk The Quarry Chapel The Quarry Cam GL11 6JB