

INCLUSION



Term 2, 2025

newsletter

Term 2 is always a busy term where children have settled into their new classes and have built positive relationships with their new adults.

As we edge closer to Christmas excitement and pressure builds, hopefully there are some hints and tips get through the darker winter months.

As we shared with you in the last newsletter, inclusion is removing all barriers to allow all children to have access to the same opportunities and experiences. These barriers could include attendance, SEND, medical needs, EAL, change in family dynamics or even sleep- the list is endless.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's needs or you would like to discuss the provision for your child, you can either speak to your child's Class Teacher or a member of the Inclusion team.

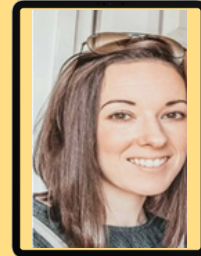
Our Team

We have our Inclusion Team, which consists of 4 staff members and combines both the Pastoral and Inclusion teams.

This team consists of



Fiona Roberts (Deputy Head and SENCO),
robertsf@greatstoneschool.co.uk



Hannah Ferris (Safeguarding and Pastoral Director), spd@lightyear.kent.sch.uk




Louise Harman (Inclusion Assistant)
harmanl@greatstoneschool.co.uk




Kelly Heath (Pastoral Assistant)
heathk@greatstoneschool.co.uk

Parent Workshop

Supporting Children with
Emotional Regulation 🌟

 Wednesday 26th November

 2:00 – 3:00 PM

A friendly, practical workshop focused on helping children understand and manage their emotions.

During this session, you will:

- 🌟 Learn simple, effective strategies to support emotional regulation at home
- 🌟 Gain confidence in responding to big feelings and challenging moments
- 🌟 Have the chance to ask questions and share experiences in a supportive space

We hope to see you there!



Baby and Toddler Group

All ages welcome
Tuesday morning
09:30 – 11:00
(term time only)

Please come along and join the fun in our
Early Learning Zone Sensory Room.
Free, but donations welcome

PSHE Update- Celebrating Differences

This term, the children's PSHE topic links to our school value of Care. This unit emphasises the importance of valuing and respecting ourselves and others. Children will start to recognise and appreciate differences among themselves and others by understanding this is what makes us special and unique. As children go through school, they will start to explore how conflict can arise due to noticing such differences and how we can manage situations like this by respecting and communicating with one another in a polite and sensible way. Overall, children are taught the importance of understanding and appreciating that everyone is different



YOUNG CARERS

As a school, we would like to celebrate our wonderful Young Carers and their secret superpowers!



A young carer is someone aged 25 and under who cares for a family member who, due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction, cannot cope without their support. As many as 1 in 5 children and young people are young carers in the UK.

Being a young carer can make young people feel good about themselves and proud of the useful skills they learn. However, many young carers don't see themselves as carers and miss out on getting the help and support they often so desperately need and deserve.

Young carers take on caring responsibilities not just occasionally but as part of their everyday lives, often over a long period of time, meaning they also often miss out on opportunities that other children have to play, learn and be young.

The Young Carers Service offer support and opportunities for outing, activities and trips throughout the year. We are looking to offer events and support at Greatstone in the near future, so watch this space!

If you have a child who you think would be considered a young carer please contact the inclusion team.

Safeguarding

In school one of our most significant responsibilities is to safeguard the children



in our care. If you have concerns about a child please contact the Mrs Ferris, Mrs Kay, Mrs Roberts or Mrs Bovingdon or contact KCC Children's Social Services 03000 41 1111

Our children are all encouraged to have 5 trusted adults including 2 from school – you could ask your child who their trusted adults are?

Claiming Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If you are entitled to any of the benefits listed below, please can you click this link and apply for Free School Meals. Free School meals application. If you need support with an application, please do ask in the office and one of the team will happily assist you in a confidential and discrete manner. Applications can be made throughout the year if your circumstances change.

Benefits

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act Credit run-on
- Universal Credit
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit

Equally, please notify the school if one of your children's parents is serving in the armed forces.

SUPPORT AND ADVICE

available to families

Book Recommendation

Each update will include a book recommendation. Reading is core across our whole school and that is no different when we think about our wellbeing and emotions. Books help us to see our own feelings- making us laugh, cry, worry and know that we are not alone.

Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival is an excellent book to share with children of all ages about how sharing your worries- no matter how big or small- with a trusted person will help them feel smaller and more manageable.



Tom Percival has an excellent range of picture books looking at a number of feelings including anger and loneliness- check them out!

Speech and Language

Useful links

Kent Community Health - school aged language

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/childrens-therapies-the-pod/speech-and-language-therapy/school-aged-language/>

Speech Link Parent Portal

<https://speechandlanguage.link/parent-portal/>

Children's Therapy - The Pod

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/childrens-therapies-the-pod/speech-and-language-therapy/>

The Balance System

<https://pathway.thebalancedsystem.org/parents-and-carers/parents-and-carers-framework/>

As parents and carers things can occasionally feel tough, especially when your children are finding things



tricky. Knowing where to look or who to ask first is normally the hardest first step. Take a look at the Mind website. It is a great resource to offer advice and suggest where to go next <https://southkentmind.org.uk/youth-services>



Home-Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times. We are there for parents when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

Home-Start works with families in communities right across the UK. Starting in the home, our approach is tailored to what the family need. No judgement, it is just compassionate, confidential help and expert support.

Being a parent has never been easy. It can be lonely, frustrating, heart breaking and over-whelming. Life-changing events can happen to anyone. That is why Home-Start is ready to support families through their toughest times.

Every Home-Start volunteer is trained to help them work alongside you to overcome the challenges you are facing. We work with you to build on your strengths and give you the support that you tell us that you need.

www.homestartshepway.org.uk



Kent Adult Education offers a diverse range of Family Learning courses for parents, many of which are free. To find out more information, please follow the link below;

<https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk/>

Strategies to Support Your ADHD Child - Webinar

Funding area Life Skills

ONL/152903/Q/PF

Location: Delivered online	Start date: 25/11/2025	End date: 25/11/2025
Level: Mixed Level	Time: 10:30 - 11:30	Duration: 1 session
Course hours: 1 hour	Day of week: TUE	Tutor: Keziah Lovell

Price: FREE

✓ Concessions

[Enrol now →](#)

Supporting Your Child's Anxiety

Funding area Managing mental health and well-being

ONL/152467/Q/PF

Location: Delivered online	Start date: 26/11/2025	End date: 26/11/2025
Level: Mixed Level	Time: 19:00 - 21:00	Duration: 1 session
Course hours: 2 hours	Day of week: WED	Tutor: Nikki Wiles

Price: FREE

✓ Concessions

[Enrol now →](#)

First Aid for Babies

Funding area Life Skills

ONL/152466/Q/PF

Location: Delivered online	Start date: 27/11/2025	End date: 27/11/2025
Level: Mixed Level	Time: 13:00 - 15:00	Duration: 1 session
Course hours: 2 hours	Day of week: THU	Tutor: Keziah Lovell

Price: FREE

✓ Concessions

[Enrol now →](#)

Managing Sleep

Funding area Managing mental health and well-being

ONL/152468/Q/PF

Location: Delivered online	Start date: 01/12/2025	End date: 01/12/2025
Level: Mixed Level	Time: 10:00 - 12:00	Duration: 1 session
Course hours: 2 hours	Day of week: MON	Tutor: Lauren Gupta-Miles

Price: FREE

✓ Concessions

[Enrol now →](#)

CONNECT!

Group activities for neurodiverse young people aged 9-18
across Kent*



Creates fun opportunities in an Autism Friendly environment



Allows young people to connect through shared interests to
develop social skills

Empowers young people to build their confidence, resilience and wellbeing

Gives parents and carers the chance to have a break and meet others
with shared experiences

*Eligibility Criteria will apply.



Who is this service for?

- Young people aged between 9 and 18
- Young people who struggle to access universal or mainstream clubs and services
- For young people who are keen to meet others, have fun and try new things

*There may be fees and additional costs for some activities.

To refer a young person to Connect!

Email: youth@involvekent.org.uk

Call: 07474 708132

Web: www.involvekent.org.uk

