



ST Thomas' Kilnhurst SEND Newsletter

Autumn 2025

Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the St Thomas' Kilnhurst Primary Academy SEND newsletter. We are excited to share with you what we do at St Thomas' for pupils with SEND. This will include information about staff training, useful links, tips to try at home, upcoming events and changes to any school policies relating to SEND.

As part of our commitment to inclusive practice all teachers are trained to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Staff also attend regular training in line with new developments and best practice. We encourage you to speak with your child's class teacher about any SEND concerns you may have.

Essential for Some, Good for All

St Thomas' is proud to be part of the Diocese of Sheffield Academy Trust (DSAT). As part of this, we have pledged to uphold their 'Vulnerable Pupil Charter'. This outlines how, by putting things in place that benefit vulnerable pupils, we also benefit the rest of the school community.

Examples of this that you might see in one of our classrooms:

- Limited use of white screens on interactive boards, as this can be challenging for pupils with dyslexic tendencies.
- Use of visual timetables.
- Staff using the PACE approach when dealing with dysregulated pupils – Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy
- Whole class sensory circuits.
- Flexible grouping of children



If you need to contact Mrs Hall please email enquires@stp.dsat.education marked for the attention of Mrs Hall



Did you know that many successful and famous individuals, are known to have dyslexia, including Albert Einstein, Richard Branson, Steven Spielberg, Tom Cruise, Whoopi Goldberg, Walt Disney, Keira Knightley, and Steve Jobs.



News and updates

Specialist Provision at Kilnhurst St Thomas'

The Hive

We were excited to open the doors of The Hive on Tuesday. This is a specialist provision designed to support children at our school who have specific language and communication needs. This development has been undertaken with the support of the local authority, with advice from the high needs team.

The Hive is focused on targeted, specialist support. The high needs team continue to support us with specialist training, resources, assessment and the development of a bespoke curriculum tailored to the needs of a small cohort of pupils

SEMH

Across the school, all staff have received training in supporting children with SEMH needs. As a school we access sensory training via the Virtual school -this is also open for parents to access online. We are also working in partnership with 'With Me In Mind'. Please look out for events and information throughout the year.

As part of our commitment to inclusive practice, we embed daily classroom adaptations to ensure every child feels supported and able to thrive.

Useful SEND contacts

SENDIASS: Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service www.rotherhamsendiass.org.uk

Rotherham Local Offer website
www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk

Autism information and advice service (post-diagnosis)
<https://www.autisminformationsservice.org.uk/>

Rotherham Parent and Carers Forum – get linked up with other SEND parents
<https://www.rpcf.co.uk/>

Events this half term

SEN Parent coffee club 8/10 2:30pm

With Me in Mind – Wellbeing & Enrichment

- 23/10/25 9–10am Parent Session – Supporting Children with Self-Harm
- 10–14 Nov 2025 Mental Health Awareness Week

Workshops (Children Only):

10/9/25 Y1 Worries Workshop

SEN PARENTS COFFEE CLUB

This year we are hoping to introduce an SEN parent group.

The aim of this group is to provide a space for parents of children with SEN to meet each other for a coffee and chat.

We also hope to invite some of our partners from other agencies to some of these to provide information and signpost support.

If you are interested please contact Mrs Hall Via email or DOJO to express interest.

The first session is penciled in for the 8th October starting at 2:30pm.

I will be available before the coffee club from 1pm for a limited number of pre booked appointments.

If you do want an appointment please email me with details of the concern you wish to discuss and the child's name and class.

safeguarding@stp.dsat.ed

