

SEN Team Termly Newsletter

We are here to help-

Call us on 01983 299233 or email

LPS-SENTeam@lanesendprimary.co.uk

Summer

2025



Every issue we explore some practical strategies to support with an area of SEN. This time, we are looking at the use of social stories.

What is a social story?

Social stories are a personalised, visual approach that: describe a social situation or context in a way that helps child (often with Autism) to understand. They can help a child or young person to make sense of social situations, routines, the meaning of language and the unwritten social rules and they can help a child or young person to understand what behaviour is expected and why it is important.

How do social stories work?

A social story is made up of several different types of descriptive sentences:

Setting the scene - These use descriptive sentences. For example: 'At school we sometimes line-up. We line up for PE, to go outside and to go for lunch.'

Explaining the problem - These also use descriptive sentences. For example: 'Sometimes my friends and I get excited when we line up, because we're going somewhere fun like out to play' You can then focus on some other perspectives such as: 'It is ok to get excited but it is important to try to walk in the line. Running can cause accidents and my friends or I could get hurt.'

We use the software Widgit to create social stories which allows us to use simple pictures or symbols alongside the words.



When might we use Social Stories?

In school, we can use Social Stories to support children with additional needs to understand changes to routine such as a school trip, to help with personal care such as why we wash hands or to support a child if they are struggling with an element of behaviour.

If you would like to find out more about social stories or to discuss making some social stories to support with any upcoming changes (e.g. a new baby, an operation etc), please do let us know!

SEN Team Updates

The Lanesend Primary School SEN team have been busy meeting lots of families in our weekly bookable sessions.

Some of the topics covered in the sessions have included:

- Exploring potential Autism or ADHD
- Discussions around adding to the SEN register
- Help with routines and personal care
- Support with DLA forms
- Exploring anxiety and mental health worries
- Handwriting and fine motor support

We will continue to offer bookable slots **every Wednesday afternoon** for the rest of this term for you to talk to a member of the SEN team. They fill quickly so book in soon!

Please use this time if you want to find out anything about your child and their progress. We can listen and liaise with the teaching team to support in a wide variety of areas.

Just call or email or book in.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

Mrs Napier, Jessi and Jade

Dates for your diary:

Edukey closes to families for teachers to review: 20th June 2025

Edukey review opens for families to view: Monday 21st July 2025



What are the different areas of Special Needs?

How are these supported at Lanesend Primary School?

At Lanesend Primary School, first and foremost, children's needs are by quality first teaching in all out classes. Class teachers are responsible for the learning and progress of all children in their class.

When the support needed for your child to achieve is considered as *different to* or *additional from* other children in their class, we will seek your consent to add them to the SEN register.

When a child is added to SEN register, it will be for at least 1 of the 4 identified areas of SEN :

Cognition and learning – for example, where children and young people learn at a slower pace than others their age, have difficulty in understanding parts of the curriculum, have difficulties with organisation and memory skills, or have a specific difficulty affecting one particular part of their learning performance such as in literacy or numeracy.

Communication and interaction – for example, where children and young people have speech, language and communication difficulties which make it difficult for them to make sense of language or to understand how to communicate effectively and appropriately with others.

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties – for example, where children and young people have difficulty in managing their relationships with other people, are withdrawn, or if they behave in ways that may hinder their and other children's learning, or that have an impact on their health and wellbeing.

Sensory and/or physical needs – for example, children and young people with visual and/or hearing impairments, or a physical need that means they must have additional ongoing support and equipment

Some children and young people may have Special Needs that covers more than one of these areas.

A child on the SEN register will then have appropriate provisions, interventions or adaptations to support them to make progress in their identified area of need. You will be able to see this information of your child's IEP (Individual Education Plan) which is reviewed online every term.

A few children in school need even more support beyond that school offers at SEN support. These children may require support from a range of professionals and could be working at a very different level to their peers. These children may have an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** to ensure they achieve the very best outcomes possible. These children have an IEP also as well as a statutory Annual Review to track their progress.

If you are unsure of what level of support your child is receiving or want to discuss adding or removing your child from the SEN register, please do contact us and we will be happy to help.

Don't
Forget!

SEN team bookable sessions- every Wednesday afternoon in person or online.

Book in to discuss anything related to your child and their needs including discussing referrals for Autism or ADHD.

If your child is on the SEN register, their IEP (Individual Education Plan) will be reviewed by their teacher at the end of this term on our online system, Edukey.

Please let us know if you are struggling to log on and we will be happy to help!