

17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Re: SEND Updates**

Dear Parent or Carer,

We are excited to be able to write to you about upcoming changes that are taking place and the opportunities it creates for our school community; specifically those identified as needing educational support to ensure we remain as inclusive a school as we can be.

**Assistant Vice Principal – SENCo Appointment**

You may be aware that Mrs Leftwick our school SENCo, and Mrs Naylor the SEND Administrator, both left us to start exciting new promotions at other schools at Easter. We wish them well with their new roles. We are very excited to have our new SENCo start later this term. Mr Eccleshare is an experienced senior leader with a passion for inclusion and supporting families. He is excited to join us full time and is already working in the background to prepare and get to know our community.

We are also excited to be able to share some changes that have already taken place or that we have been able to plan for, that we believe will benefit our work with you – much of which is based on the feedback provided by families, at events like our SEND Listening Evening from earlier in the year.

**SEND Email Inbox**

Previous feedback has been that at times families have struggled to reach the SEND department. Staff absence and staff changing roles made this harder for you. To support, we have introduced a SEND specific email address that will be monitored by multiple members of staff and will ensure that all messages are directed to the right people. The address can now be used for any and all SEND queries – those with known needs and those looking to request support. The address is [DBA-SEND@dixonsba.com](mailto:DBA-SEND@dixonsba.com).

**Autism In Motion**

AIM is a local charity organisation that works to support organisations, parents and children directly with learning about and understanding their neurodiversity. We are fortunate to be able to be supported by AIM and look forward to how we can build our relationship with them to offer support to staff and families alike. The start of this offer will take the form of a series of coffee morning and evening events. The dates for these events are below and any parent of a child with any neurodiversity (not just ASC) or those that think perhaps this is something that could be explored for their child is welcome to attend. The events are a chance to speak to some experts who are immersed in the field and can advise on your situation.

Coffee Mornings: 20<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> July, 9:30 - 11:30am

Coffee Evenings: 26<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> July, 5:30 - 7:30pm

**ADHD Foundation**

You may have come across the work that the locally based, nationally operating charity, the ADHD Foundation do. They are experts with the goal of supporting professionals and families with all neurodiversity barriers (not just ADHD) a child may face. This includes specialist training for staff and access to weekly support for students in school. We are thrilled to have formed a partnership with them to be able to have a full offer from them in the next academic year. We will keep you updated on how this exciting partnership progresses.

Kind regards,



Mr A Sammy  
Senior Vice Principal

