

SEND Sessions Episode 2

****Intro Music****

Hello, I'm Mr Keys and welcome to SEND Sessions.

This is the next short video in a series that will inform you about what SEND is and how we can work together to get the best possible outcomes for the children. Make sure you check the previous episode which talked about what SEND is – I'll be referring to some of those things in today's episode. Today we are going to look at SEN Support Plans.

As I mentioned in the previous episode, around 12% of children across the country are identified as having special educational needs or disabilities and are placed on an SEND register. Children on the SEND register should have specific targets set for them at multiple points in the school year – this is usually documented on something called an individual plan. In Newcastle, schools are asked to use SEN Support Plans – you can see an example on screen now.

The SEN Support plan will give a little snapshot into your child – including their likes and dislikes, what you as parents say etc.

It will then work as a tool for setting something called SMART targets. These are targets that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound. The targets will be linked to what your child is working on at school, at home or both. We usually set 2 or 3 targets per term that all feed into a bigger picture.

For example, in the long term, we might aim for a child's speech and language to improve so that they are more confident in communicating with their friends. One of their short term targets might be: Pupil A will be able to identify and produce the s and t initial sounds in speech in 8 out of 10 trials.

The plan will also detail any support that is going on to help achieve those targets (for example, the child will achieve this by practicing with flashcards and engaging in phonics activities that focus on the sounds s and t at least twice a week for five minutes per session). This section might also include some other support – not necessarily linked to those targets.

Last time we talked about working together to make sure the best possible outcomes are achieved. From Summer term 2023, you will be invited into school to meet your child's class teacher (and possibly me) to set and review targets. This will happen 3 times per year.

It is also good to point out at this point that if there is something you really wanted to your child to work on – please suggest that at the targets meeting.

I hope you have found this episode useful. The next SEND session will focus on our first wave of support – which is called Quality First Teaching and then looking for advice from other professionals. If you want to know more about SEND at St. Bede's, click on our website link and have a look at the documents on there or feel free to get in touch with the office.

****Outro Music****