



Patcham Junior School

Be curious not judgemental

Summer 2023

Parent Update by Sophie, Parent of a Year Five Pupil

With the personalised care from the staff and access to safe, quiet environments like the nurture room, Ollie can navigate school much more successfully (most days!).

The 'just right' programme is powerful and we are pleased the school support using the tool.

Finally, in Ollie's words 'Mrs Hobden and Miss Dodd really 'get me' mum' which makes us feel so safe and happy 😊

SENCO Update-Suzanne Spencer-Smith

As always there has been a lot happening in school with over sixty pupils on the SEN register. I felt very proud to share many of the things we do to support inclusion during our annual Governor Day with Henrietta, the SEN Governor. See her comments below.

Last term Mandy Leahy led the second workshop for parents or carers whose children have been identified or who are on the pathway of Autism. The topic covered was Demand Avoidance and Challenging Behaviour. This created a lot of discussion.

Do let me know if there are any workshops you would like to see next term or if you would like support from Sarah Gander. Please add your comments to your child's provision maps which will be coming to you in the next couple of weeks.

Professionals who Work in our School:

Sarah Gander

I am part of the Schools Wellbeing Service and work with Patcham Juniors to support young people with mild to moderate anxiety, worry, low mood or sleep issues using a low intensity CBT approach.

My offer covers 1:1 or group work with young people and guided parent led work for younger children who may not be at the developmental stage for direct work.

SEN Governor's Update-Henrietta Pike

Every year there is a Governor day. This year I went on a SEN learning walk across all years. Starting at 8.35am: Mrs Spencer-Smith and I viewed snippets of interventions. I saw programs like little Wandle, Clicker, Nesy, support in the classroom, transition into school, sensory breaks. I also saw adapted work, sat in on a nurture group, English as an additional language, guided reading and lunch time in the nurture room.

Having this unique insight into a school day, I saw confident and happy pupils and positive collaboration between all abilities. Teachers seemed passionate and energetic across all year groups and the staff knew pupils well.

There were some areas for development, however I left at 3:05 very tired (!) and confident the PJS team do what they can with the resources they have. And care. They care in the bucket loads!

Numbers Count Maths support at PJS

Daily ½ hour 1:1 teaching of the lowest attaining children (mainly in Years 3 to 5) and lasting for 3 to 4 months. The children learn actively, working at the right pace and level for them, following an Individual Learning Plan written for each child. During the programme there is close liaison with class teachers and families about ongoing progress – and at the end each child's Exit Report is shared with suggestions for ways forward.

Since 2014 I have given Numbers Count support to 82 different children and the average gain in Number Age that they have made on the programme has been 17 months. Teachers also report improved confidence, independence, resilience and engagement in maths lessons.

Phil Edwards – specialist maths teacher

Individual Needs Assistants

Mrs Hobden and Miss Dodd are part of the fabulous support staff team and work within years 5 and 3. As well as whole class support, they do small group interventions that focus on reading, spelling and handwriting. Their role is to help SEN children to access all areas of the curriculum enabling them to feel confident in their learning as well as safe and secure at school. 'We encourage them to reach for the stars, to thrive here at Patcham and beyond.'