



Skelton
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong - Believe - Achieve
Kindness, Respect, Teamwork

Inclusion Newsletter

April 2026

School SENDCo: Mrs Rachel Mackay

Usual working days: afternoons at Skelton, Tuesday to Friday

Welcome to our termly newsletter with a focus on SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and Inclusion. We hope you will find it useful. You will also find further information on the SEND offer page on the school website:

<https://www.ske.hlt.academy/key-information/send>

New SENCo email address

We now have a SENCo email address which is senco@ske.hlt.academy but this may not be checked everyday.

If your email is urgent, please continue to use hello@ske.hlt.academy so that your message can be seen more quickly.

Spotlight on Scaffolding

You might hear children or adults in school talking about scaffolding. They are not referring to the structures we see on buildings but to a range of supports used in the classroom to help children with their learning.

Scaffolds can be used to enable all children to work on the same task where some children might just need a little extra structure or support to achieve the learning objective. Examples include writing frames (like templates to write in), word mats, sentence starters (for children to write the rest of the sentence), models to copy or adapt, and visuals to support understanding.

Please ask your child's teacher if you would like to know more about the types of scaffolding used in your child's class and for your child.

Jargon Buster: SEND White Paper

You may hear people talking about the new SEND White Paper published by the government in February 2026. A "white paper" is a document that sets out the government's plans for possible future changes to the law and how services will work. The SEND White Paper explains proposals to reform the system that supports children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in England.

The aim is to make support easier to access, reduce long waiting times, and help more children get the right support in mainstream schools. It also looks at how plans such as Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) may change and how schools, health services and local authorities will work together.

The proposals will be introduced gradually over the coming years and many details will continue to be consulted on. You can find more information and a link to the consultation here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-first>

Provision Map Update



Provision Map is the platform we use to create and share learning plans and/or passports for pupils with SEND. Parents of pupils with passports and/or learning plans should be able to log in and see these documents.

Learning plans have been reviewed recently and you should be able to access these on the site. Children had the opportunity to talk about their targets with their teachers and reviewed their progress together. You can request a meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their targets or you can add a comment on Provision Map by clicking in the parent/guardian contribution box.

A Way with Words

It can feel really frustrating repeating instructions at home, especially when everyone is in a rush to go somewhere or do something on time. Advice that is often shared by speech and language therapists is to repeat instructions in the same way, with the same words, rather than changing how they are said, or to minimise the words used to just the information carrying words. For example, when asking a child to get ready to go out, we might say any or all of the following before they put on their shoes:

“It's time to get your shoes on.”

“Can you get your shoes on, please?”

“I've asked you twice now to put on your shoes.”

The more times we ask, the more we are likely to rephrase but the key words are 'shoes' and 'on' and these could be missed by the inclusion of all the other words. “Shoes on,” can be used in an encouraging way, hopefully with the outcome of the shoes then being put on, ready to leave on time!



Support for Parents and Carers in York

The City of York Local Offer website contains a whole host of information about groups and services that are available in York, including links to activities and things to do: <https://www.yorksend.org/>



Parent Carer Forum York is also available to support parents: <https://www.parentcarerforumyork.org/>

Launched in September 2025, SEND CENTRAL is York's Family Hub that specialises in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This is a hub that families can seek advice and information about what's available in York when they have children and young people who have additional needs, any age from 0 to 25. Find out more here: <https://www.yorksend.org/parents/send-central>



NEW! The Go To is a website full of resources to support mental health in North Yorkshire. <https://thegoto.org.uk/>

Other Useful Sources of Information

ERIC: Supporting children and families with bowel and bladder issues: <https://eric.org.uk/>

BBC Tiny Happy People: Tiny Happy People can help you develop your child's language and communication skills, so they get the best start in life. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

CBeebies Parenting: A new website with ideas and support from before birth to age 6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting>

Let's Make Sense Together: Developed by local Occupational Therapists as part of a sensory processing pathway, supporting children and young people who have a physical and functional difficulty due to sensory processing differences.

<https://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/childrens-centre/your-childs-hospital-journey/therapy-services/occupational-therapy/lets-make-sense-together/>

Get Cycling: Get Cycling CIC is a not-for-profit community interest company that supports cycling for everyone. Based in York, they have the UK's largest selection of demo cycles. They sell, hire, loan, service, and repair a wide range of inclusive cycles. This includes trikes, recumbents, and other specialist cycles for disabled people, families, groups, schools, and workplaces. They believe everyone should be able to enjoy cycling – and will help find the right cycle for you and your family. <https://www.getcycling.org.uk/>



GET CYCLING