



**Skelton**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Belong - Believe - Achieve**  
**Kindness, Respect, Teamwork**

# Inclusion Newsletter

July 2025

School SENDCo: Mrs Rachel Mackay

Usual working days: Tuesday at Skelton, Wednesday and Thursday in the Trust

Welcome to the first issue of 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>

## Spotlight on Transition

**‘The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.’ (Lao Tzu)**

Transition is the word used to describe moving from one place to another. In education, transitions can take place during the day, the move to a new class in September, or starting at a new school.

This year, we have included additional transition sessions for pupils with SEND to get to know their new teachers: a meet up in the child’s current classroom, a meet up on mutual ground like the playground, and a meet up in the next classroom. We have also provided Social Stories to help children prepare for the move. You can find out more about Social Stories here:

<https://therapyworks.com/blog/language-development/home-tips/using-social-stories-improve-childs-development/>

You can even make social stories at home - see below.

## Creating Social Stories

Social stories can be really helpful for all children in understanding certain situations or routines, and preparing for change. You can now make your own social stories, quickly and easily, using [Chat GPT!](#)

Try using a prompt like: 'Write a social story about going to the dentist for a 5 year old.' and let the computer or your phone do the work!

## Provision Map Update

We're now into our second academic year with Provision Map, which is an online platform used for creating and sharing learning plans and passports. Parents were sent log in details earlier in the year. If you need any help logging in to see your child's passport and learning plan, please ask your child's teacher in the first instance, or contact Mrs Mackay.



Children have the opportunity to talk about their targets with their teachers and review their progress together. New plans are now available for those children with targets. You can request a meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their targets and provision or you can add a comment on Provision Map which can be added to the plan.

## Jargon Buster: Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP!)

Ordinarily Available Provision refers to the support, resources and strategies that schools in a local authority are expected to provide for children with SEND, without an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan).

While schools can vary widely in their space, staffing, and resources, we are proud of the strong core offer we provide at Skelton. Our approach includes a rich variety of strategies designed to support the diverse needs of all our pupils, and further exciting developments are being planned for the coming year.

More information is available on the SEND Information Report on the school website: [SEND Information Report](#)

## Emotion Coaching

School staff were fortunate to have received a training session from a leader in the York Virtual School team on using Emotion Coaching with pupils.

Emotion Coaching is an approach to support pupils to recognise and manage their emotions through nurturing and supportive relationships, ultimately leading to positive outcomes and resilience. In recognising and labeling emotions, then validating feelings, setting limits and agreeing outcomes, staff can support pupils to regulate and return to a state of being ready to learn.

You can find more information and some useful videos here:

<https://www.emotioncoachinguk.com/resources-for-professionals-parents-carers>

### Regular Dental Check-Ups

Regular dental check-ups are an important part of supporting your child's overall health.

We know it can sometimes be tricky to find a dentist taking on new patients, but the summer holidays might offer a good opportunity to register and book an appointment if you haven't had the chance yet.

## 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/>

## 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/>

**DLD and Me:** Did you know that approximately two in thirty children have Developmental Language Disorder? You can find more information here: <https://www.dldandme.org/>

## Have you heard of Pharmacy First?

Parents and carers in Humber and North Yorkshire are being reminded to use their local community pharmacy this summer, if their child needs help with minor illnesses or ailments.

The NHS Pharmacy First service allows children to access treatment for five common conditions from their local pharmacy, without needing a GP appointment.

Children can receive NHS treatment, including antibiotics where appropriate, for five common conditions including:

- impetigo (aged one year and over)
- infected insect bites (aged one year and over)
- earache (aged one to 17 years)
- sore throat (aged five years and over)
- sinusitis (aged 12 years and over).

The aim of Pharmacy First is to make it easier for people to get the help they need and free up millions of GP slots.

Parents can simply walk into a participating pharmacy and request a consultation for their child. If further treatment is needed, pharmacy teams will signpost families to the most appropriate local health service.

Hayley Patterson, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB's Pharmacy Lead, said: "As the school holidays approach, we are encouraging parents and carers to think Pharmacy First if their child is unwell, allowing them to be seen quickly and conveniently at their local pharmacy.

"The scheme enables community pharmacists, who are trained health professionals, to supply prescription-only medicines, where clinically appropriate, to treat five health conditions for children which would previously have required a GP appointment."

The Pharmacy First scheme is also available for adults and covers the following seven common conditions:

- sinusitis (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- sore throat (adults and children aged five years and over)
- earache (children and young adults aged one to 17 years)
- infected insect bite (adults and children aged one year and over)
- impetigo (adults and children aged one year and over)
- shingles (adults aged 18 years and over)
- uncomplicated urinary tract infection (women aged 16 to 64 years).

To find a local pharmacy to you visit the NHS website: [www.nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy](http://www.nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy)

There's further information about what pharmacies can do at Let's Get Better:  
[www.letsgetbetter.co.uk/get-the-right-care/pharmacy/](http://www.letsgetbetter.co.uk/get-the-right-care/pharmacy/)