

# SEND Termly NEWSLETTER



## SENSORY DIFFERENCES DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD

For many children, the senses can be over or under sensitive, or both, at different times. At this time of the year, everywhere you go is loaded with additional sensory information (lights, sounds, smells etc.) Being prepared for this is key to avoiding or reducing big emotions and behaviours.

Tips to Support:

- **Be prepared** - use calendars and visual schedules when changes to normal routines may happen.
- **Planning** - consider the length, size and venue of any Christmas events.
- **Know what helps your child to regulate** - a quiet room/space, sensory toys, ear defenders etc.
- **Triggers** - know what may be a sensory trigger and reduce this where possible e.g. The noise when pulling crackers or the textures and tastes of Christmas foods.

The National Autism Society have collated support resources which have useful information and strategies for this time of year - [Preparing for Christmas: autism resources](#)

## SENSORY WORKSHOPS

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the following workshops run by Virtual Schools Rotherham are designed to support parents/carers in a variety of areas. To register your interest in attending please complete and submit the form on the link below;

[VSR - Sensory Workshop 2023/2024 - Foster Carer/Parent sessions \(office.com\)](#)

Date of session	Focus of this session
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identifying Sensory Struggles</li></ul>
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sensory circuits for regulation</li></ul>
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sensory struggles through the festive period</li></ul>
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sensory diets and routines</li></ul>
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See behaviour, think sensory</li></ul>
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designing Sensory friendly spaces</li></ul>
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sensory strategies to prepare for SATs</li></ul>
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interception - What's going on inside?</li></ul>
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting with Transitions (Sensory Edition!)</li></ul>

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 9am - Coffee Morning

The intention of this coffee morning is to discuss our behaviour policy, however this has our SEND children at the heart of it. Mrs Bothma will be in attendance and is happy to have a cuppa and catch up with anyone who wants a natter about all things SEND. The plan for this session is:

9-9.20: Cuppa and a chat (this can be with each other, with our leadership team or with a governor)

9.20-9.50: Presentation about our behaviour policy and some input from James, our governor who leads on behaviour and attitudes.

9.50-10: Group Q+A

10-10.15: Opportunity to ask any questions 1:1

February 2024 - Provision reviews for all children with additional provision through SEND Support Plans or One Page Profiles.

## ACTIVITIES



- Accessible swimming  
Inclusive swimming, Instructor led inclusive swimming sessions. Time: Tuesday 7.00 PM - 8.00 PM  
Rotherham Leisure Complex, Effingham Street, Rotherham S65 1BL

- Play Valley – soft play  
This session is exclusively for Children with Special Educational needs and their families. We ask that your child is either diagnosed with a SEND or is on the pathway to diagnosis. However, we will not ask for any kind of proof on arrival. We hope that your child will benefit from these quieter, more relaxed sessions. £5 per child per session  
Time: Once a month 4pm or 5:30pm  
Play Valley Rotherham, Rotary Drive, Wath Upon Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7FD

- Rotherham Parent Forum – Youth Club  
A Youth Club with Rotherham United Community Sports Trust at New York Stadium in Partnership with Rotherham United Community Sports Trust. Wednesdays during Term-Time, 6:30- 7:30pm (11+) or 5pm-6pm (7 years-11 years)  
Time: Term-Time, 6:30- 7:30pm (11+), 5pm-6pm (7 years-11 years)  
AESSEAL New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham S60 1FJ

## USEFUL LINKS

- Rotherham Parent Carers Forum - <https://www.rpcf.co.uk/>
- Rotherham SEND Local Offer - <https://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk/>
- Rotherham SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service) - <https://www.rotherhamsendiass.org.uk/>