

## Parent Forum SPR 2 2024 - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March - A Summary

At Embsay Primary School, we value parental feedback and engagement with the provision and issues affecting SEND across the school. Given the recent changes in SEND Leadership this year, we also feel it is vital that we reach out to the wider school community, building new bridges and affording parents and carers the opportunity to meet staff and understand who is responsible for the SEND provision at Embsay.

To do this, I organised a SEND Parent Forum on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 9am. This was to give you the opportunity to ask those questions and provide feedback on our SEND Provision.

I appreciate not everyone was able to attend at that time, however the information I shared can be found [here](#).

(<https://www.embsay.org/learning/special-educational-needs-send/send-parent-forums>).



As part of the Forum, we asked for your views, questions and ideas...

We asked:

## Are you aware who our SENCo is?



So far, 'Yes', you are aware. This is great news! We don't like to assume this is the case throughout however, so please, if you are aware of parents who need to know - share my name and contact information and better still, ask for an introduction!

## What questions do you need answering?

You would like to know more about how we intend to provide for SEN children as part of After School Clubs and how we intend to cater to their needs through smaller group sizes and sensory awareness for example, but which would still encourage social interaction and development.

We couldn't agree more. Building relationships across our pupil cohort is incredibly important to us: we have recently supported the development of a pastoral arts and crafts group to help Mrs Smith decorate the Embsay Rabbit which will form part of an exhibition throughout Skipton.

This term alone has seen an increase in the number of after school clubs taking place, including Taekwondo, STEMbsay Coders and Rugby, however we acknowledge the need for providing clubs to those who may struggle with the idea of mixing in large groups or with heightened sensory impact. We are looking into this and are more than happy to take suggestions from parents and children alike. What would you like to see happening after school at Embsay?

How do you rate our SEND Provision up to now...?



How do you feel in terms of how well our SEND Provision looks moving forward? 9 1/2



What is it about our SEND Provision moving forward that makes you feel confident or otherwise?

- You've told us that you see a rise in our understanding of additional needs.
- You feel progress is being made.
- You see our provision evolving.



## Can you provide us with any other feedback or suggestions about our SEND Provision?

- Communication has been inconsistent at times and information not always passed on accordingly or responded to. It would be good to know that we are effectively using an improved system to record shared information that all staff can access.
- You have suggested we could broaden external links even further, making connections with SENDIASS.
- You would like to see us reaching out to parental support groups.
- Providing you with greater support in completing applications for help with outside agencies would be useful.
- We could update the information we provide about additional provision in the community for children with additional needs - and where they are located.
- You'd like to know where you can find groups, activities or holiday activities which provide support with SEN aware staff, and you'd like us to help refer you to these services if we can.
- You'd like to know more about local services offering mental health support for children to avoid long waiting lists.
- Do you have a choice when it comes to referrals for diagnosis - you'd like to know this.
- When are we going to provide Pastoral Support like we used to offer with our Communication and Pastoral Lead prior to her leaving - you miss this considerably.
- During the meeting, it was also suggested that we have a way for parents to alert us to a concern for their child via the school website - a way of initiating an Expression of Concern. We love this idea and will get moving on it asap, thank you.

Thank you for all your questions, suggestions and feedback.  
Here are our responses at this stage:

We use CPOMs (Child Protection Online Monitoring System) to record all communications regarding SEND and other matters. This has always been used, but not as effectively as it could have been. We have changed this, and all documentation received relating to your child's SEND needs will be recorded onto this system. We have also worked back to upload previously received reports - this has taken time, as you can imagine, but we are getting there, and it has seen a huge improvement. We are in the process of ensuring all staff can access this. We now also have an incident log to report any issues arising through the day that require a rag rated action and response.

We are in the process of updating our SEND Information Report which will contain links to many of the above suggested services and I have been actively using SENDIASS to support the guidance we give to parents. I have not yet made direct communication with a representative but will certainly look at the possibility of this.

As we all know, waiting lists for referrals and assessments are hitting an all-time high. This is something of an issue we are facing nationally. That said, there are some companies who offer to take referrals for children based on the NHS Choices system. This is another aspect of SEND Provision I am looking at and, through the advice of some outside agencies, I am beginning to build a list of services available. This will be added to our Information Report as well as our Emsay Echo.

The SLT have met to discuss my aims for our Whole School Provision Map which would include specific intervention time for small groups and 1:1 children, delivered by an Intervention Lead and overseen by the SENCo. We would also like to have a Pastoral Lead in place to undertake small group and 1:1 sessions and interventions with those children who need additional pastoral care and support. We are looking at how both plans can work with current staffing and timetabling to make sure when we do implement them, it is done so as efficiently and effectively as possible and providing the most impact.



<https://sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk/information-and-advice/parents-carers/>

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or suggestions you would like to add to this Parent Forum, please do not hesitate to do so via the link/QR code below, or email me at:

[senco@embsay.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:senco@embsay.n-yorks.sch.uk)

<https://forms.office.com/e/SByT4P0mWE>



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