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## Special Educational Needs and Wellbeing at Havannah Primary School

We are very pleased to be writing to you with updates regarding our SEND provision at Havannah Primary School, along with additional services we offer about supporting the social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of all our pupils. The mental health and wellbeing of our pupils is paramount to us here at Havannah and we pride ourselves on the emotional care that we offer from Pre-School to Year 6. Please see below information about our provision and the key members of staff who are at the heart of delivering our mental health and wellbeing support.

### The Oasis

From September, Miss Barry will be the full time teacher in our enhanced mainstream provision along with two other full time teaching support staff. The Oasis – now a class based approach, will provide a bespoke curriculum to meet the needs of some of our pupils at Havannah.

In previous years, The Hub provided support to a range of pupils and in addition to maths and literacy, The Hub offered other interventions including Lego Therapy, Life-Skills, Sensory Circuits, Touch Typing, Social Emotional and Mental Health support, Fine Motor Skills plus many others. These interventions will still continue next year, supported by Mrs Tagell. Mrs Tagell has a wealth of experience and training in this area and is really looking forward to working with children across the school helping to support their physical, social and emotional development.

### ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

Mr Mollard is our School's ELSA teacher. ELSAs are teachers who have received training from educational psychologists to support the emotional development of children and young people in school. ELSA sessions help children develop coping skills to deal with life's challenges. It is very much a respectful relationship where the child can feel heard and listened to. ELSA is a supporting role and isn't about fixing pupils but helping them find those coping strategies and understanding of their feelings.

Mr Mollard already helps pupils at Havannah with their social, emotional and mental health on issues including, friendships, bereavement and loss, self-esteem and confidence amongst others. He works Monday to Wednesday each week and will be working with children in the afternoons. This service can be accessed through discussions with your class teacher, Mr Mollard and the school SENDCo.



## **SWaNS (Supporting Wellbeing and Nurturing Strength)**

At Havannah we work in partnership with SWaNS, a community interest company formed by three well-qualified practitioners who are counsellors, experienced in working with adults and children. SWaNS support our children working towards emotional resilience and positive mental health through counselling. SWaNS at Havannah provide one to one counselling, offering a safe, confidential space for our children to work through issues and problems that are affecting them. Sarah is our fully qualified and experienced counsellor at Havannah and has worked with us for a number of years.

## **Play Therapy**

At Havannah we work in partnership with Cheshire Play Therapy. Play Therapy is a form of counselling in which play and creative arts are used as a means of helping children and young people express, communicate and process their thoughts, feelings and life experiences. In the process of growing up, most children face challenges, worries and fears and sometimes need help in getting through the tough times.

Rachael Gotham is our Play Therapist here at Havannah and builds fabulous relationships with our children. She works with children of all ages in a safe and trusting environment to help shift perspectives of difficult experiences and increase confidence and self-esteem. Rachael's main aim is to equip children with adaptive behaviour and better coping mechanisms for everyday life. She works in a holistic child centred way and uses both non-directive and directive techniques to meet the needs of the individual children. This service can be accessed through discussions with your class teacher and school SENDCo.

We hope this information has been helpful should your child ever need to access any of our SEMH support services, however if you require any further information then please contact the school SENDCo, Mrs Slater-Baynes who will be able to assist further.

Kind regards and have a lovely summer holiday.

*Mrs Slater-Baynes*

Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo

