

# Sensory Inclusion Service Hearing Impairment Newsletter

Issue  
**37**  
July 2022

Sensory Inclusion Service, Floor 7, Darby House, Lawn Central, Telford, TF3 4JA

## Summer Cover

There is a Teacher of the Deaf on duty every week of the summer holidays.

Call 01952 385269 for support.

Mark Rutter (Hearing Aid Technician) is on duty for some of the time.

Call 01952 385269.

Family Group will run on 11<sup>th</sup> August and 25<sup>th</sup> August.  
for pre-school hearing aid wearers and their families.

## Reports

Just a reminder that reports will be sent via email, you need to respond to this email in order to be sent the password needed to open the document. Please keep an eye out for a separate email containing a password to open the document.

## Batteries and Tubing: a reminder about how to access these

The brown books that were previously handed out by audiology to allow parents to collect batteries from the GP, have now been discontinued. You can still collect batteries from your GP, but instead of being given a brown book, you will need a card to present. If you want one of these cards, please call Audiology and they will be able to supply you with one. You can also order batteries and tubing online, via the link below:

[https://  
wards-services/az-  
battery/](https://wards-services/az-battery/)



[www.sath.nhs.uk/  
services/audiology/](http://www.sath.nhs.uk/services/audiology/)

## Family Night

Family Night was a huge success!

It was wonderful to celebrate the achievements of some truly remarkable students!

### The Margy Lloyd Achievement Award

Harry is a delightful little boy and always great fun to work with. He has fantastic general knowledge and curious about everything. He hasn't always found it easy to keep his attention in one place but has worked really hard on this with the result that he has made lots of progress with things that he was finding quite hard. He is now a whizz at mental maths, is getting 10/10 at his spellings, has become an avid reader and is generally doing some great work at school. He particularly loves playing board games based on Maths with Effie, who is at school with him!

Well done Harry - you are a star!



Abdul is a hard working student. He always gives of his best and has an extremely positive attitude when faced with new challenges.



Maisie is a profoundly deaf girl whose first language is BSL. She is thriving in her fabulous school and is a confident, independent learner who loves to learn and socialise with her friends. She recently took part in the 'Shropshire Sings' music festival alongside her classmates.

Her family are incredibly proud of all her achievements!

## Family Night continued...

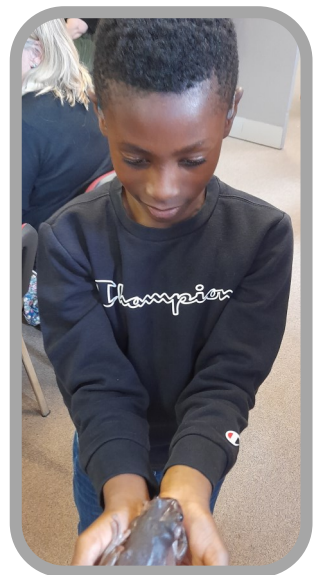
### The Andrew Broughton Award

Kirsten is extremely sensitive to the needs of people around her, which makes her a much sought-after friend in school. Her teachers are amazed at how well she is progressing in school, particularly when her hearing is so bad at the moment. They say that she is always very helpful and approaches school life with a great deal of maturity. She should be extremely proud of herself!



Pippa has had a difficult year in that her hearing band rubbed against the site of her shunt which caused an infection which needed treatment in hospital. She was extremely poorly for a while, but rather than give up on her hearing band she was determined to help us to find a solution for her, and tried various different hearing aids until we found the right sort on an Alice band. She was very patient in allowing me to measure up for this for Mark to make the band in her favourite colour. She is always a delight to work with, being chatty and happy no matter what is asked of her. In school she has some really lovely friendships and she works hard to do her best both in lessons and with her friends.

She shows remarkable resilience - well done Pippa!



## Family Night continued... The Kimberley Jones Award

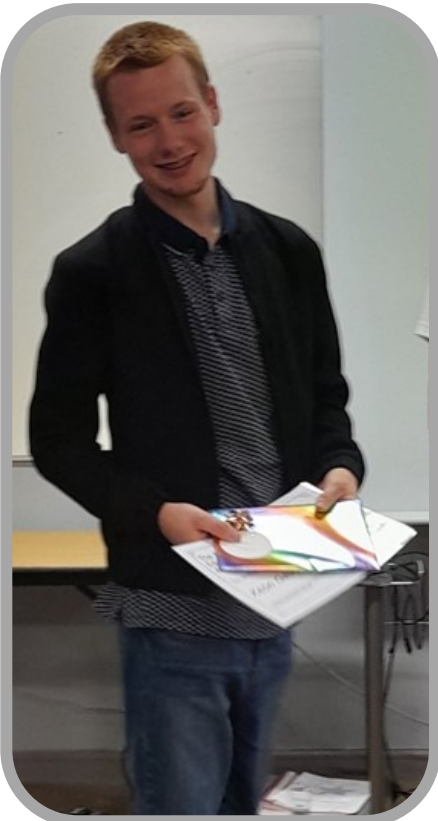


Emily has had a fantastic transition to secondary school. She has grown in confidence and is a great self-advocate regarding her hearing loss. She is also embracing new clubs such as Drama club and Enterprise club.



Iga was awarded a prize to mark her successful transition to secondary school from out of county and for improvement in developing her English as Polish is her native language. She has a moderate hearing impairment and wears her hearing aids consistently.

## The SDCS Further Education Achievement Award



Keon has achieved amazing success in the face of many challenges throughout his life. He is a kind and caring young person who always has a smile on his face. He is extremely sociable and has lots of friends at college who, along with college staff, will miss his cheerful greetings and entertaining company! He has worked hard during the three years of his college course and has completed work experience both in college and in a local community hub. He is leaving college this year to take up a volunteer role with Telford and Wrekin Council, working with local young people to encourage and support them to lead healthy lives. He remains in contact with friends he has met through SDCS and SIS trips and residential visits, which he has thoroughly enjoyed taking part in. It has been an absolute pleasure working with him, and everyone in the SIS team who has supported him over the years, agrees that he is a super student who thoroughly deserves this award.

We would like to say a huge thank you to SDCS.

The SDCS raises money which supports many of the activities organised by SIS as well as buying equipment and putting on events of their own and much more besides.

**Thank you!**

### **Hospital appointments**

Work is continuing at the Audiology suites. Please check your hospital appointment letters very carefully as your appointment may not be in the usual place.



**Did you know?**

The fire service offer free safe and well checks.

To organise a visit contact

01743 260200

[safeandwell@shropshirefire.gov.uk](mailto:safeandwell@shropshirefire.gov.uk)



### **Martial Arts achievement**

Tom trains with British Military Martial Arts. He started when he was three years old. He is currently a brown stripe and will grade for his black belt in January 2023. This will be a full weekend including a 3 mile hill run. Training includes techniques, drills, fitness, stamina and discipline. Tom is currently training three times week in preparation.

Fantastic achievement! Well done Tom!

## Family Group

SIS (HI) Family Group takes place every Thursday during term time for hearing impaired pre-school children and their families. The group meets at The Stepping Stones Centre in Telford. Families can arrive anytime between 9.30 am - 11.30 am.



### September

- 8<sup>th</sup> Dot painting crafts.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Talk - Tina Lowe - Shining Stars
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Recycled crafts.
- 29<sup>th</sup> **SIS course** (No group on this day)



### October

- 6<sup>th</sup> Talk - Ruth Lawton - Language acquisition
- 13<sup>th</sup> Super Hero crafts.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Talk - Nikki Coombes - Sign language
- 27<sup>th</sup> **Half Term**

### November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Firework crafts.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Remembrance crafts.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Talk - Peter Bridger - Hearing impairment and amplification systems
- 24<sup>th</sup> Tree crafts.

### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nikki Coombes - Sign language
- 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Trip to see Santa
- 15<sup>th</sup> Santa and party

**The Stepping Stones Centre, Brunel Road, Malinslee, TF3 2BF. Sat Nav TF3 2HZ**

If you have not attended Family Group recently, or if you are interested in attending for the first time, then please get in touch. It is a chance to meet other families, have a coffee, for the children to play and to engage in art and craft activities.

Mark Rutter also attends to check hearing devices.

If you are interested in attending, please contact

Hazel Snape on 07800 671799 or [hazel.snape@telford.gov.uk](mailto:hazel.snape@telford.gov.uk)

Nichola Clark on 07581035047 or [Nichola.clark@telford.gov.uk](mailto:Nichola.clark@telford.gov.uk)



I can't believe it's the summer newsletter already and that we are blessed with the sun actually shining as I write this!

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, we celebrated the Family Fun Night with many of the children and their families. It was a very memorable night with the animal man filling the room with the usual array of chinchillas, hedgehogs, tarantulas and snakes to name but a few of the usual suspects! Every ticket was taken and the room was filled with laughter and joy. The children who were awarded prizes shone with pride.

Many of the parents fed back the benefits of their children (including siblings) meeting others with hearing loss and seeing others with hearing aids and cochlear implants. Everyone there left with a sense of great privilege at being part of such an incredibly inspiring community and we look forward to many more of you joining us at future events – watch your emails!

Some of the SIS staff also recently ran a very successful transition Day for Year 6s and 7s at Upton Magna. The feedback from this was overwhelmingly positive – again young people with hearing loss were able to spend a day with others their age who are facing the new challenges of secondary school and to share experiences and tips. Thank you to Nicky Clark, Peter Bridger, Rachel King and Ruth Lawton who organised and staffed this!

On the staffing front, it is hard to believe that Graham has already been gone for 4 months and the two Lead Teachers Nikki Coombes and Ruth Lawton are well settled in their new roles. In September, we will also be joined by Robert Tipton who will take on the role of Lead Teacher for VI. Rob is a highly experienced teacher who has led the Wolverhampton team and his expertise is greatly welcomed.

The team has also been joined by Nicky Clark who replaced Dawn Ball – as you know Dawn is now off in pastures new working to support fundraising for Cancer Research UK. Nicky has had a 'baptism of fire' with transition day for the year 6 and 7s, Family Fun Night, SDCS meetings and now the newsletter to sort in her first 3 weeks. All of this on top of supporting Family Group and their summer outing and visiting individual children in settings.

In September, we will also welcome Eleanor Miles who will join the team as a Teacher of the Deaf. Eleanor is a very experienced teacher and SENCo who has worked in many settings and brings a wealth of experience to her new role.

So yet again, it has been a period of recruitment and change but as always the current team continues to strive to provide stability and the very best support possible for children and young people across Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire. Many staff within the team have taken on extra work so that the service continues to run smoothly – a huge thank you to them all!

## Sensory Inclusion Service update continued...

As ever, also many thanks to the wonderful SDCS for their fundraising efforts which make much of what we can offer possible. The charity is really keen to have some new members on the committee so if you can spare a few hours a year or have ideas for fundraising please get in touch with Ian Barrett (the Chair of SDCS) or Nicky Clark at SIS. A special thank you to Nichola Coombes who has worked tirelessly interpreting at SDCS meetings and this year at the Family Group to support families using BSL.

Finally, for the first time in 3 years we are able to run the SIS training course for professionals in September. This allows us to share good practice with colleagues in mainstream schools. Our mainstream speaker this year will be Beck Preece, the Headteacher of Woodfield Infants in Shrewsbury who has had extensive experience of including infant children with many degrees of hearing loss into her school. A ten year old and a college student, both with profound hearing loss will share their experiences of school, college and managing hearing loss (always the best moments of the course)!

In the meantime, please keep sending in your good news stories to share in our newsletters!  
Wishing you all a wonderful summer, may the sunshine continue!

Warmest wishes,

*Theresa*

### Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Discover everything you need to know about education, health and care services in your local area for children and young people with SEND 0-25yrs at...

[www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)



### Key features...

- Search for clear and accessible information, advice and sources of support.
- Explore leisure, fun and short breaks activities.
- Find out about specialist services and education health and care plans.
- Learn how schools support special educational needs.
- Use the interactive map showing what is available near to where you live.
- Have your say through our online feedback form.



[www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)

## Need this in large print or Braille?

If you would like to receive this newsletter in Large Print or Braille, please email

**sendandinclusion  
@telford.gov.uk**



[Shropshire's SEND Local Offer](#) is a single place for information and services for children and young people with special education needs and/or disabilities, their families and the practitioners who support them.

Take a look at the [SEND Family directory](#) for local events, groups and things to do. For news and updates please like and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Email: [Local.Offer@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Local.Offer@shropshire.gov.uk) Telephone: 0345 678 9063

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