

Sensory Inclusion Service

Hearing Impairment Newsletter

Issue
46
Summer 2025

Sensory Inclusion Service, Floor 6, Darby House, Lawn Central, Telford, TF3 4JA

Summer Cover

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

Contact SENDandInclusion@telford.gov.uk or 01952 385269 for support.

Family Group will run on 24th July and 21st August for pre-school children only.



Wishing Ruth a
Happy 40th Birthday!



Congratulations to Jordan who was
awarded 1st prize by the Wrekin Art
Society for his work inspired by visits to
Sunnycroft Victorian villa in Wellington.



Adam Davies has been on a 2 week excursion to Thailand
with 19 other students from North Shropshire College
where he helped out in a school in Mae Sariang, had time
sightseeing in Chiang Mai and worked in an Elephant Nature
Park.

What an adventure!

Zoe has multiple conditions that make her everyday life difficult, including cerebral palsy, left hemiplegia, learning disability, deafness and epilepsy. She also has incredible determination and doesn't let anything limit her! She has recently completed her DofE bronze award which included her completing a 2 day expedition including camping overnight, a fabulous achievement!

Zoe enjoys dancing and performing. She is in two dance schools, and has recently performed in productions of Peter Pan and The Wizard of Oz. She has also recently taken exams in street dancing, commercial and musical theatre.

Zoe also loves horses. She has riding lessons and is a regular volunteer at the RDA Cavalier Centre. She gets involved in all aspects of pony care.

In years 10 and 11 at school, Zoe will be completing an Equine Studies course at Reasheath College which has been organised by her school.

We are very proud of you Zoe!



Transition Day 2025

In June we held our Transition Day at Upton Magna Village Hall.



The year 6's met the year 7's and we talked about transition from primary to secondary, made pizzas for lunch and met lots of new friends. A great time was had by all!

A quote from Rachel King—Teacher of the Deaf

"I would just like to celebrate all the children in Year 6 that I currently work with. I have supported some of you for many years and watched you grow into confident and mature individuals. I feel that you have all become excellent role models to younger children with a hearing loss and I am extremely proud of you all. I wish you all well as you approach secondary school and continue your journey. Keep being your best. Keep aiming high. Most of all believe in yourselves. I have been lucky to work with you all!"

Deaf Awareness Week



Hattie is a true breath of fresh air, always cheerful and full of smiles! She approaches her schoolwork with dedication and manages her hearing aids and transmitter independently. Hattie played a key role in assisting the Teacher of the Deaf to present a deaf awareness session to Year 5, where she impressively shared her knowledge about how the ear processes sounds. She also educated her class on effective communication strategies to use with her. Naturally chatty, Hattie loves talking about her family and school experiences. She has a passion for rock climbing, which she enjoys weekly at her club. Congratulations on your fantastic achievements, Hattie!

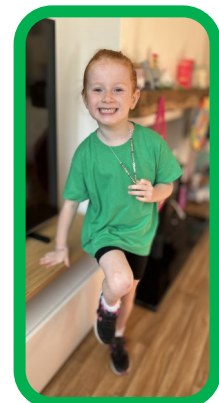


During Deaf Awareness Week, Teacher of the Deaf, Hazel Snape was very busy working with children to deliver deaf awareness sessions to their peers in school. Lincoln even presented his via Teams, he did a fabulous job!

Both Eden's and Lincoln's schools held bake sales to support Shropshire Deaf Children's Society. A huge thank you to everyone who held events during Deaf Awareness Week to raise awareness and to support our local charity.



Eden, now in Year 1, has shown incredible independence in managing her hearing aids and transmitter, even identifying and reporting faults with her equipment. She confidently assisted the Teacher of the Deaf in delivering a deaf awareness session to her entire class, showcasing her growth in maturity and self-assurance. At just 5 years old, Eden has achieved so much and continues to impress with her confidence and progress. Well done, Eden!



The Andrew Broughton Award 2025



I have nominated Freya for this award because she is amazing! She has had a difficult year, moving from mainstream primary school to Southall School in September. At primary, Freya lacked confidence and often seemed overwhelmed. Her hearing deteriorated rapidly and her vision also began to worsen, so Freya's world shrank and she started to become isolated and withdrawn. She would sometimes choose not to wear her hearing aids and was struggling to come to terms with her situation.

However, since starting at Southall School she has flourished. She has worked incredibly hard with her HI and VI teachers and with Jodie from Guide Dogs to overcome her sensory challenges. She has made some really strong friendships and enjoys being supportive to other hearing aid wearers in school, helping them to settle in and sharing her experiences with them. She has worked hard to understand her hearing and vision needs and is beginning to be able to explain these to others. She has been learning how to navigate the world both in school and in the community and is learning touch-typing and some sign language to boost her communication as her senses change. Freya still has a difficult journey ahead - she will be having cochlear implant surgery soon and her vision is uncertain - but she faces all of her challenges with cheerful resilience and is a pleasure to work with.



I have nominated Luna because she has been a little super star! She was fitted with hearing aids in September 2024 and took to them straight away without any fuss. She is still having various tests to find out the cause and full extent of her hearing loss and has had operations to try and alleviate her hearing and congestion issues. She is trying really hard with her communication and her speech has improved since she started wearing her aids so well. In school she has started using a radio aid to help her to listen to her teacher as she is in quite a noisy class, but she is always happy and cheerful no matter how difficult things get for her. She always works hard, never makes a fuss and always welcomes her Teacher of the Deaf with a smile and a hug!

The Margy Lloyd Achievement Award 2025

Max has had an fantastic year, demonstrating a maturity in both his academic and sporting activities. He is a diligent, caring, thoughtful and considerate individual who tries his best in all he does. He has a real passion for all sports, particularly football.

Max's dedication has led him to compete this year in trials for the England FA Para-Football Regional Emerging Talent Centre, specifically for the English deaf squad, and he has successfully been accepted into the program. Congratulations, Max!



Heath loves football! He plays for a Sunday league club but this year has also begun training with the Deaf England squad. This has required a commitment of time and involves quite a bit of travelling, but he has thrown himself into it and is enjoying it.



I am very lucky to know Matilda and am amazed at her maturity, resilience and kindness to others. Matilda has had an initial operation on her right ear under Birmingham Hospital, in order to widen her ear canal and improve access to spoken language. It is not yet known how successful this has been but she has faced this with such a positive attitude and so much determination. If this first outcome is successful, she has been offered a repeat operation on her left side. Matilda has been part of the decision making process throughout and even though the first operation has been tough, she is certain she wants to persevere stating, 'even if just helps a little'.

Matilda was also delighted when a class buddy was offered a temporary hearing aid for glue ear but equally as pleased for her when she had the operation for grommets and no longer required a headband.

Matilda has taken it all in her stride. She is an absolute star and I am so proud of her.



The Kimberley Jones Award 2025



Tammy has been through a period of change and uncertainty, and has shown great patience and resilience. She has kept a cheerful and positive outlook in the face of adversity, and has continue to mature and develop as a person.



It has been a pleasure to support Alfie over the years. Alfie has at times found school very challenging, but he has shown amazing resilience over the years and has always tried his best at school. He is known for being a polite and respectful young man. I would add that one of Alfie's best attributes is that he is kind. It has been lovely to see Alfie engage with activities outside of school over the last few years, such as being part of his local football team. He had a very successful work experience in Yr10 working on property maintenance, which is what he is going on to study at college. Alfie is a talented artist and also very practical. He designed and made a fishing trolley for his design technology project, which was fantastic. Over the last few years Alfie has matured into a sensible, caring young man. I wish him every success in the future and am very proud of what he has achieved at school.

The SDCS Further Education Achievement Award 2025



Bea is finishing her two-year A-level courses at college this year, in product design, graphic design and history. She is a sociable, outgoing student with a great sense of humour and everyone who knows her comments on her friendly personality and engaging nature.

Bea has a right-sided hearing loss and wears a bone anchored hearing aid (BAHA) on this side. She also makes good use of a radio aid system in college to help her access learning sessions, something she has adapted to really well.

As part of her design course, she drew on her own experience, researching and designing a prototype for a device to prevent feedback while wearing a hat with a BAHA. This was a major undertaking, including collecting feedback from a number of national and international groups. She recently came to speak to the HI team, presenting her design at one of our meetings and taking questions very confidently afterwards. She is a natural presenter!

She is an excellent role model for other deaf students - hard-working, enthusiastic and determined - and she can be very proud of her achievements so far. Bea is leaving college this summer and hopes to continue her studies at university level, pursuing studies in architecture. We are all looking forward to the first Beatrice Building!

Bea has been a complete pleasure to work with. She thoroughly deserves this award and will no doubt continue to be just as successful in her future adventures.

Well done Bea!



Our awards celebration event was held at Jackfield Tile Museum.

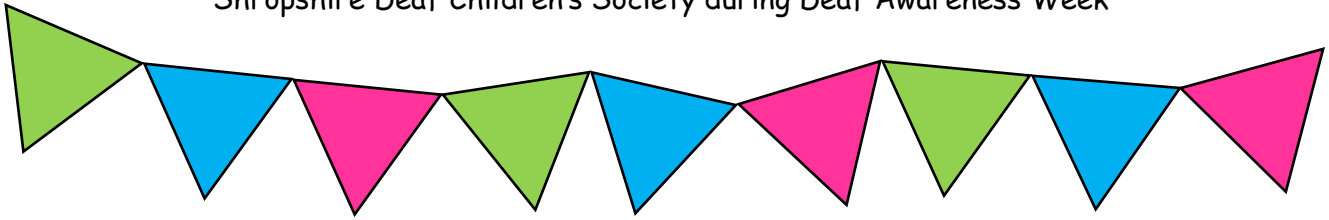




Our Fabulous Fundraisers



A huge Thank you to the following schools for supporting
Shropshire Deaf Children's Society during Deaf Awareness Week



Old Hall School

For raising a fantastic

£376.00

at their school fete

Longlands Primary School and Nursery

For raising a fantastic

£66.40

by holding a bake sale

Grange Park Primary

For raising a fantastic

£281.35

by holding a bake sale

Early World

For raising a fantastic

£254.00

by holding a bake sale and
80's dress up



Morda CE Primary School

by holding a
non- uniform day

Victor organised a Non-Uniform Day at Morda Primary School for the Shropshire
Deaf Children's Society during Deaf Awareness Week.



Fabulous Fundraisers



Let's take a look at some of our fabulous fundraisers



Rory

For raising a fantastic

£1372.00

by swimming 1000m



Madison

For raising a fantastic

£243.00

by organising various
activities, including
a bake sale



Scarlett

For raising a fantastic

£1365.00

by swimming 21 miles

A huge Thank you to all of our fundraisers and supporters. All money raised will be used to support hearing impaired children and their families throughout Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin.

If you have any fundraising ideas, we would love to hear from you, please get in touch

nichola.clark@telford.gov.uk

Glitz & Glamour Evening

At The Wroxeter Hotel

Saturday 25th October 2025

Arrival 6.30pm

Tickets £50

To include 3 course dinner

Carriages at 12.30

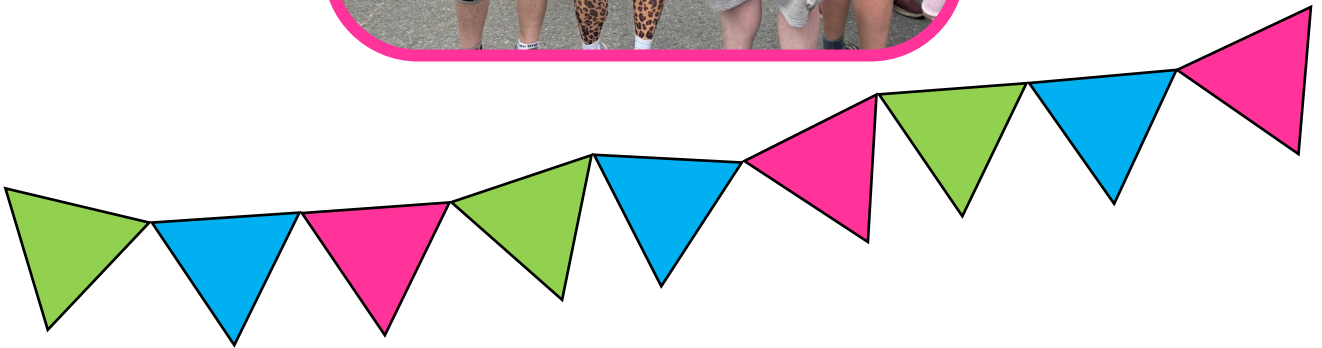
Tickets available from
chair@sdcs.org.uk

<https://www.sdcs.org.uk/> you can also find us on



Bridgnorth Walk

A huge thank you to Sophie, Shaun & Jordan who took part in The Bridgnorth Walk and raised an impressive £1000.00 for the charity.



Shropshire Mud Run

A huge thank you to Casey & Jason who took part in The Shropshire Mud Run and raised an incredible £565.00 for the charity.



Amber also raised a fantastic £254.55 by taking part in the Shropshire Mud Run.

Shrewsbury 10k



Mark
£566.25



Amy
£160.00



Robert
£312.50



Hazel
£335.00



A huge thank to to our runners, sponsors and also to Simon from Ultimate Fitness who donated the places for both the Shropshire Mud Run and Shrewsbury 10k.



Rachel
£766.25
also ran a personal best
50:58 Well done!



Sensory Inclusion Service Hearing Impaired Family group

Family Group meets every Thursday morning during term time for 2 hours. It is an opportunity for families of pre-school, hearing impaired children to support each other and to meet with professionals from Sensory Inclusion Service.

It's a friendly, welcoming group which aims to provide a relaxed atmosphere. Refreshments are provided for adults and children.

Families receive a programme of events at the start of every term.



Guest speakers
Art and craft activities
Planned visits and parties
Stories and singing



Time

Thursdays (term time only)
9.30 to 11.30

Venue

The Stepping Stones Centre,
Brunel Road, Malinslee,

Professionals in attendance

Hazel Snape – Teacher of the Deaf

Liaises with families regarding all aspects of their child's development and audiological needs, signposts to other agencies, liaises with ENT and audiology colleagues and makes ear mould impressions.

Nichola Clark – Social Inclusion Facilitator

Organises programme for the term, books key speakers, First Aider, organises refreshments, art and craft activities, liaises with SDCS for funding for activities and trips (see SIS newsletter.)

Mark Rutter – Hearing aid technician

Checks each child's hearing aid, cochlear implant, processor and FM system.

Audiology Team are sometimes in attendance in the audiology booth. Liaison and jointed up working takes place to support families.

Sensory Inclusion Service Family Group programme Autumn 2025

SIS (HI) Family Group takes place every Tuesday during term time for hearing impaired pre-school children and their families.

Families can arrive anytime between 9.30 am – 11.30 am.



September

4th - Shapes

11th - Roald Dahl crafts

18th - Dot crafts

25th - SIS course – no group

October

2nd - Fairtrade

9th - Traditional tales

16th - Diwali crafts

23rd - Harvest crafts

30th - Half term – no group

November

6th - Bonfire crafts

13th - Children in Need - Pudsey

20th - Numbers

27th - Tree crafts

December

4th - Trip

11th - Christmas crafts

18th - 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, contact Nichola Clark on

07581 035 047 or nichola.clark@telford.gov.uk

Happy Retirement



So, after 37 years of teaching I have decided to call it a day and will be retiring at the end of this school year. For the first 17 years of my career I was a mainstream teacher but then, having taught deaf children in my class, I was given the opportunity to join the Sensory Inclusion Service. I took that opportunity and have never looked back. Over the last 20 years with SIS, I have had the pleasure of working with many different children and their families, in a whole variety of situations. The work has been varied, rewarding, interesting and at times challenging, but hugely enjoyable. I suppose it can be summed up by saying it has involved standing alongside the children as they have faced the challenges that life has thrown at them, and doing my best to support them with that. Time and time again I have seen our children meet and overcome those challenges, leaving them stronger and me full of admiration. I shall miss them greatly and it is with mixed feelings that embark on my next chapter, but it will allow me to indulge myself in my hobbies of nature conservation work, fishing and beekeeping.

All the best! Peter

I never expected, to become a Teacher of the Deaf. I started off as a PE teacher in a mainstream school when really I wanted to be a professional footballer. However, in 1985 I was invited to teach PE at The Mary Hare Grammar school in Berkshire which led to me qualifying as a Teacher of the Deaf. It suited me really, so I ran all the PE and Sports programmes there alongside teaching a variety of different subjects (History, Biology, English).

To reel back a bit, I attended Mary Hare School when there was no opportunity for mainstream education. The education we all received there was first rate and led to many of us progressing onto university and into careers before not really accessible to people with severe and profound hearing losses. Mary Hare was a pioneer in her time. In fact, I attended a residential school for deaf children when I was 5 years old -it was very tough on my family but at that time there were no mainstream options. I am full of admiration and respect for all the students now attending mainstream schools and of course also for those choosing different options! It's all about choice and there is certainly more of that for children and young people with hearing loss. Technology and changes in the current approach to deaf education have facilitated this but we can never underestimate the challenges each of these young people faces every day! Remember though - what doesn't 'kill' us often makes us stronger.

Each of us needs some kind of 'superpower' to facilitate our place in our local communities. My 'superpower' was and still is **ball skills** ! My friends and hearing peers would always ask me to play on their teams (football, cricket tennis, golf) and this opened doors to friendships and a firm place in whatever community I lived. It still works for me today. Alas I don't think I am ever going to become a professional footballer!!!!

I have been fortunate to work alongside many great colleagues throughout my working career and best of all I have met so many fabulous young people in schools that daily remind me what a privilege it has been to work in the field of deaf education. I shall miss you all but am really looking forward to travel and spending more time with my family and friends. My youngest daughter is in Australia and so I'm really looking forward to visiting later in the year!





Upcoming Events

Comer Woods

6th August 2025

Glitz and Glamour Ball

25th October 2025

Attingham

29th November 2025

Pantomime

14th December 2025



Have a wonderful summer from everyone at
Sensory Inclusion Service!

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



Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL



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

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**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 Telephone: 0345 678 9063

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