

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first issue of **SENDFriend**, for this new academic year 2022—2023. SENDFriend is our termly newsletter reporting on updates in relation to SEND at Daubeney. This issue includes highlights of our inspiring offer of Art Therapy and news of **events** for you to look forward to and diarise. As always, if you would like to contribute to any of our future issues and / or come across some interesting information relating to SEND, then please get in touch with Mr Dharma, Miss Prisca, Mr Troy or send an email to SENDadmin@daubeney.hackney.sch.uk. Alternately, Mr Dharma is always on the main school gate, if you like to say hello and have a quick chat about anything related to SEND and Inclusion.



authority can provide: https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/home.page

Hackney Local Offer

Also, see below he link to our federation SEND Policy:

https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/policies/special-educational-needs-disability-send

#### What is Art Therapy?

Art therapy is a form of psychotherapy that uses art-making as its primary mode of expression and communication. The artwork, created in the presence of the art therapist can provide a focus for discussion, helping the client (in this case the child) reflect and make sense of behaviours and emotions that may feel confusing and hard to put into words. The focus of art therapy is on how the art-making process and art materials are used to express feelings rather than creating a piece of art.



## Why Art Therapy in Education?

Evidence shows that around three children in every classroom experiences emotional and behavioural difficulties, for these children learning can be very challenging. Art therapy, as an intervention, can help support these children to express themselves, understand their experiences and learn to modify difficult behaviours. It can help build self-esteem, improve relationships and engagement with the school environment as well as helping improve concentration, academic achievement and encourage attendance.



## Who are Art Therapists?

Art therapists have a postgraduate qualification in art therapy. As art therapy is a state regulated profession, art therapists must be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in order to practice legally. Art therapists work in accordance with the British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT) code of conduct and principles of practice. They are required to be in clinical supervision and maintain their continuing professional development.

### Who does the Art Therapist work with?

The Art Therapist generally works with families and children who have difficulties that are affecting their development, learning, and emotional wellbeing and which cannot be fully addressed in the classroom setting. For example, art therapy may benefit children who are: withdrawn or anxious; have a poor self-esteem and/or self-awareness; have experienced family difficulties or bereavement; have suffered abuse, bullying or trauma

It is not possible for all children to have art therapy, so the therapist liaises with the SEND Team at Daubeney to determine which children would benefit most from art therapy.

# **Child Protection and Confidentiality**

The art therapy sessions are confidential, and the art therapist adheres to the school's safeguarding policy and procedures. Safeguarding concerns would take precedence over confidentiality, and are always handled sensitively in line with our policy.

#### **About Desiree**

Our fabulous art therapist—Desiree is a qualified Art Therapist and is a member of the British Association of Art Therapist (BAAT).

Desiree has worked at a number of primary school over the last 16 years; the past 2 years in the SEND & Inclusion team at Daubeney, working closely with vulnerable children. Desiree has had experience of working with children, adults and older adults with a range of difficulties and diagnoses such as dementia, ADHD, ASC, anxiety, attachment difficulties, behaviour difficulties, low self-esteem and domestic violence.

If you have any questions or enquires about art therapy, then please contact Mr Dharma via the school office.

