



# Blossom Federation

Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston



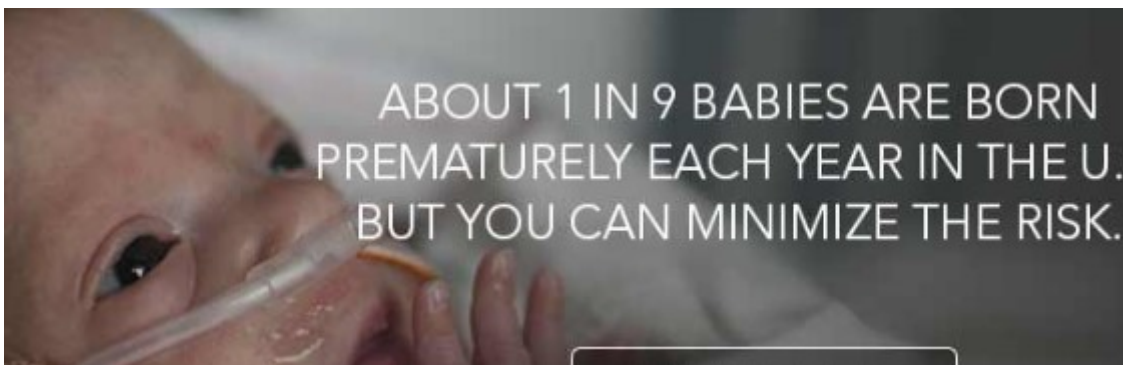
# SEND Friend

Issue 5 Spring 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring Term issue of **SEND Friend**, 2022—2023. SEND Friend is our termly newsletter reporting on updates in relation to SEND at Daubeney. This issue includes highlights of our journey towards becoming a Prem Aware school by addressing the very important challenges related to preterm birth and educational outcomes. If this is an area of interest and or concern for you or someone you may know, please get in touch with Mr Dharma, Miss Prisca, Mr Troy and / or send an email to SENDadin@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 pre-term birth, SEND and / or Inclusion. May we also take this opportunity to whole-heartedly thank Sarah Twite, a Daubeney parent, for all her invaluable support, advice and training around preterm birth.

Do you or anyone you know have experience of pre-term birth?



Contact a member of the SEND team or the school office.

Remember to check out the Hackney Local Offer information for general support for SEND and information on what the local authority can provide:

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/home.page>



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

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

The World Health Organisation categorises pre-term birth as:

- Extremely preterm (less than 28 weeks' gestation)
- Very preterm (28 to 32 weeks' gestation)
- Moderate to late preterm (32 to 36 weeks' gestation)



As might be expected, those born more preterm require the greatest level of support, have a greater risk of co-morbidities and spend longer periods of time in hospital before coming home.

Every year 60,000 babies in the UK are born premature (prior to 37 weeks' gestation) and make up 46% of babies requiring admission to specialist Neonatal Intensive Care Units . This is around 7% of births.

We know that the journey is different for every child and every family and while a child born preterm has an increased risk of displaying Special Educational Needs (SEN), not all children born preterm will have Special Educational Needs.

In early 2020, as part of a SEN support survey, 426 families, across the UK, were asked about their experiences of SEN support for their children born preterm. Some of the key findings reported that:

- More than 90% of parents think there should be more awareness and understanding of the educational needs of children born preterm
- Less than half of parents (43%) felt that school staff understood their child's learning needs, with 29% of parents unsure
- 28% of parents said that school staff did not understand their child's learning needs
- Just over a third of parents felt their child's educational needs were being met in school

“We feel this has never been taken into account. Although our son had a developmental check in hospital which was correct alongside his actual due date, no further assessments have taken place. Training is needed for school staff so they are fully knowledgeable and have an understanding of the impact that being born prematurely can have. This knowledge will ensure that children have the necessary support and interventions needed to bridge gaps in learning and development.”

*Parent responding to our SEN support survey*

We need your support along our journey to being recognised as a Prem Aware school. Together we can work to:

- To improve awareness and understanding of the lasting effects preterm birth can have on education and learning
- Reassure parents that schools are aware of and compassionate to the potential needs of children born preterm
- To enable teachers to have the skills and knowledge to best support children in their class who were born preterm
- To support early identification and timely support, improving the long-term outcomes for children



Join us for our next **SEND Parent Forum** dedicated to **Preterm Birth**

Your experiences—your stories—the forum's support

**Wednesday 28th June - Daubeney KS1 Hall**

9am—10am **or** 5pm—6pm

