



Getting to know us – a guide for parents and carers

Rainbow Fish Class is a Special Resource Base (SRB) for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and is funded for 10 places for children aged 4 to 7.

Teaching is delivered by specially trained teachers (currently a job share) and two teaching assistants. There is also a shared specialist teacher who works with all of the five of the SRBs in the county to provide support and outreach to schools.

The SRB's teachers share their skills and knowledge throughout the mainstream school, offering informal consultation to colleagues and also supporting training to other schools alongside the Outreach Teacher.



How does my child access a place in an SRB?

Places are allocated by the Local Authority's SRB Admissions Panel. Referrals are made by the child's home school in consultation with the speech therapist and parents. All pre-school children need to be registered at a mainstream school, known as the "Home School", before an application can be made. Placements are usually for up to 4 terms.

How does my child travel to the SRB?

If your child is offered a place then you will be contacted by letter. The Local Authority will organise transport if you live over a certain distance from our SRB. You will be notified of the arrangements directly by the transport section

of the Local Authority. Sometimes parents prefer to make their own arrangements and transport their child themselves.

What will my child learn?

The curriculum in the SRB is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum with speech and language therapy integrated into all aspects of learning. Your child's speech and language skills will be developed and enhanced within a supportive learning environment provided by the SRB staff; Mrs Rebecca Cooper (Lead SRB teacher), Mrs Hele (teacher) and Christine, Gill and Tracey (teaching assistants). Mrs Woods, our shared specialist teacher, may also work with the children.



Teaching topics are chosen each term to stimulate the children's interest and support their learning through the EYFS and KS1 curriculum. Work is tailored to each child's age, stage, strengths and weaknesses to ensure personalised learning for all. All children have a link class which they join for PE lessons and also school trips. We are very much part of the school community and take part in special events such as Multi-Cultural Week, Investigation Week and other local visits. We also have representatives on the School Council, helping to make decisions about events in school and charity fundraising.

Your child will also have a programme of specific speech and language therapy delivered by a speech therapist two days each week. Lucy Burton and Louise Hulks make up our Speech Therapy Team. Speech targets will also be followed up with sessions from a trained teaching assistant (ELKLAN trained) as directed by the Speech therapists.

What facilities does the SRB have?

Rainbow Fish Class is located within the main building of the school and has its own outdoor learning area and separate room for speech therapy sessions. We also make full use of the school's indoor and outdoor facilities, including the playground and field during playtimes.

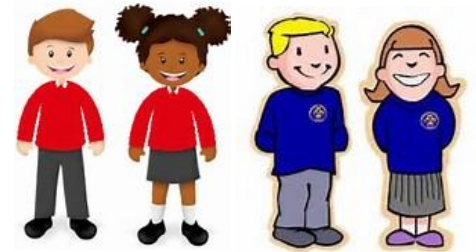


How do I order meals?

All children in the school receive free fruit or vegetables, eaten together at snack time. They also have access to drinking water throughout the day and are encouraged to drink regularly. Milk can be ordered for snack time via the [Cool Milk website](#). At lunchtime Rainbow Fish Class joins the rest of the school in our hall to eat a meal prepared by our kitchen staff. Meals choices are made daily as part of our registration time.

Will my child need a different school uniform?

We invite the children in the SRB to wear their home school uniform when attending Rainbow Fish Class, although they can wear our school uniform if they wish.



How do we keep in touch with each other?

Your child will have a contact book (“Pink book”) in which we will write any messages for you. This book is checked daily on arrival at school.

Telephone communication is also welcome via our school office number.

If you are ever concerned, please give us a call so that we can support you as best we can.

We provide a summary of the day’s activities in the classroom in a Learning Folder. This is also used as a place to provide curriculum information and E-Safety advice to help you to support your child at home. Each term there will be a more formal meeting to discuss progress and an informal social meeting – see below.

We regularly seek your views and appreciate feedback. During placement and when your child leaves us, we will provide you with a feedback form which we use to support our further development as an SRB.



What is the contact with the Home School?

Children in the SRB attend their home school on Fridays. This is the school in which they are registered. We will assess and track your child's progress in the SRB and report half termly to home schools to inform their assessments.

Once a term, the Lead teacher will visit your child in their home school and spend some time in the classroom. This may also include sharing strategies used in the SRB with staff to support learning across both settings.

The SRB or home school will carry out any National testing such as the Phonic Screening Test in Year 1. Results will be shared between the settings and the home school will report the results to you.



Who do I contact if my child is unwell?

If your child is unwell, please ring our school to tell us. Similarly, if a person other than yourself or the taxi escort is collecting your child we need, for purposes of safeguarding, to be notified by you, even if this person is another family member. You can let us know by a note in the contact book, a word from you in the morning or a phone call. We share all attendance data with the home school on a Friday.



Does the school have clubs my child can attend?

Suffield Park Infant School offers a range of after school clubs which change on a half termly or termly basis. A letter will be sent out advising you of these and places are allocated according to the maximum number for the activity.

Please note that the Local Authority does not organise a different time for the taxi to collect your child if they are staying for a club, so you will need to make alternative arrangements to collect them. Reading Club and Choir run during lunchtime and children from Rainbow Fish Class can request to join.

What about social events?

We appreciate the importance of keeping you involved in your child's schooling and we hope that our social events will help you to feel part of our Rainbow Fish Class community. There will be an opportunity each term for you to meet other parents informally during our Art and Craft morning, where you are invited to get involved in creating alongside your child. If your child's home school arranges a trip and you would like your child to attend, please let us know when it is happening so that we can be aware of dates they may be absent.



How will progress be reviewed?

A progress meeting is held each term to discuss and review your child's progress with their speech and language targets and academic learning. It is a chance for parents, teaching staff (SRB and home school) and the Speech Therapist to share information and plan next steps.

In the classroom, the children are encouraged to talk about their own learning using child friendly visual responses to activities they have tried. This includes placing their named lolly pop stick in a pot to show how they felt about an activity, marking our recorded work using green and pink pens for success and taking photos of models they are proud of.

What if my child is not making progress?

If the placement does not appear to be the right one for your child then other options will be considered in full consultation with you, the home school and other professionals.

When will my child return to his/her Home School?

Due to the nature of the difficulties experienced by children in the SRB, it is not easy to predict when a child will be ready to return to a mainstream setting. Some children may need an extension to the four term placement or be ready to return before this. There is on-going assessment by staff and you are kept fully informed. When your child is considered ready to return, a programme of

transition is put into place in consultation with you and the home school. This transition period often includes an increase in the days your child attends their home school. A final meeting, in the last half term before transition, ensures that everyone knows what your child has achieved. At this point, any ongoing support needed in the home school can be planned.

How are the SRB teachers involved with the wider school provision?

SRB teachers attend the weekly whole school staff meetings, training sessions and contribute to achieving the objectives set out in the school development plan. SRB lessons are observed in line with the whole school monitoring policy and where appropriate, planning is completed with our school colleagues. We also support school clubs including a lunchtime reading club and during parts of the year a school choir club.

How can I give a compliment or make a complaint about the SRB?

We really hope that you and your child will find their time in the SRB a happy and positive one. We are always pleased to receive a message or comment from you as your child's speech develops. However, we are also here to listen if you have a problem or concern. Alternatively, you can ask to speak to Mrs Nichola Stewart, the head teacher of our school.



How can I arrange to visit Rainbow Fish Class?

If you would like to visit, this can be arranged by contacting our school office by phone or email.

Rebecca Cooper, Lead SRB Teacher, will contact you to arrange a time for a tour of our classroom, the school and offer a chance to ask any questions you may have.

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