

Sensory Inclusion Service

Hearing Impairment newsletter

Issue

26

Winter 2018

Sensory Inclusion Service, Floor 7A, Darby House, Lawn central, Telford. TF3 4JA

Who's Who?

My name is Lucy Yorke and I joined the SDCS in 2017 after hearing that they were recruiting for new members.

My son Joseph was born in July 2015 and diagnosed with hearing loss later that year. Since then we have been attending family group on and off when we can.

I was keen to join the committee after finding out about the work they do with children in the county and the help they can provide and I like the idea of giving some time towards something that has helped Joseph and will help others. I am looking forward to offering more help in the future to the charity. Having lived in Shropshire all of my life it's nice to be able to support a local charity.

I am also a new recruit to the One Vision charity which supports children and families with sight loss.



Audiology update

Just a reminder for parents of CI wearers that have faulty devices or require replacement parts i.e. mic covers (should be replaced every 3 months), dry bricks (replace every 2 months per brick).

For **Nottingham program** Cochlear users only, call cochlear care on: 01932 263630

AB & Medel users call the centre direct on: 01159485549 or 01159485538

For **Birmingham program** All users call the centre direct on 0121 204 3830 or email to mhip.clinicalsupport@nhs.net (there is no option of cochlear care for Birmingham).

Sponsored Toddle

Seven families who regularly attend Family Group took part in a sponsored toddle around Telford Town Park to raise money for Shropshire Deaf Children's Society. The rain kept away long enough for everyone to complete the walk and the morning was finished off with some fun time in the park. The event raised over £300 for the charity. Well done to all involved.



Joint statement from Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils regarding the review of the Sensory Inclusion Service (SIS) undertaken by SEND4Change

During the summer of 2018, Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire carried out a review of the Sensory Inclusion Service (SIS) that provides provision across both local areas for children and young people with hearing and visual impairment. The review was facilitated by SEND4Change, an external company with experience in SEN arrangements and a particular interest and knowledge of sensory services.

The review involved a detailed analysis of the service offer, its affordability, the views of service users and its effectiveness. Whilst recognising that the service is held in high regard, the review has suggested recommendations for a programme of change surrounding areas in need of improvement. Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils have welcomed the insight provided and will, in the coming months, consider next steps to take, including implementation of any key recommendations.

Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils are committed to working with all stakeholders, including children, young people and parents/carers in developing a future change management programme to deliver a service model that demonstrates:

- Children and young people's needs continue to be identified appropriately
- Children and young people's needs are met now and in the foreseeable future
- Interventions are carried out efficiently, effectively and by the right staff
- The service supports children and young people to prepare for their life as an adult
- The service has sufficient resources, is sustainable and represents value for money
- The service can build capacity in educational settings and the family home

Our immediate priorities are to:

- Improve the range of online resources and information available to children, young people families and education settings
- Build the capacity of our education settings to meet the needs of children and young people with sensory impairment by developing a traded offer of service delivery
- Deliver efficiencies through low risk change activities that have been identified by the service itself.

Where any changes are proposed in the future we will ensure to communicate our intentions with parents and families.

For further information, you can download the full [SEND4Change report](#) available on the SEND local offers of both Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire at

[Sensory Inclusion Service \(SIS\) – Telford and Wrekin Council](#)

[Sensory Inclusion Service \(SIS\) Review | Shropshire Council](#)

Please note that the report constitutes the findings of work completed by SEND4Change. Careful consideration will be given regarding the implementation of recommendations that have been made.

Should you require further information please contact either Simon Wellman (Simon.Wellman@telford.gov.uk) or Julia Dean (Julia.Dean@shropshire.gov.uk), SEND leads for Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils.



Shropshire Deaf Children's Society

SDCS Family Fun Night

It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the recent SDCS Fun Night. The main attraction this year was the 'Animal Man', who provided a very entertaining and informative show. It was fantastic to see the excitement and wonder on the faces of children (and adults!) as they had the opportunity to handle creatures as varied as giant beetles, spiders, snakes, lizards and chinchillas. As always, we finished with the annual awards ceremony, which celebrates the achievements of the children over the past year. Thank you to the Teachers of the Deaf for nominating the award winners, as well as for the ongoing support which contributes to the success of our children and young people. Finally, a big thank you to all of the committee members for their hard work in organising the venue, food and entertainment.

[Ian Barrett](#)

Chair SDCS

Family Night Awards presentation

The Kimberley Jones Award

This award has been set up in memory of Kimberley, a student of the Sensory Inclusion Service who passed away in 2009. The annual award is presented to a secondary aged pupil who shows progress dealing with their hearing impairment and/or facing new challenges

Carina Profirean

Carina has been awarded this award in recognition of the determined effort she has made to learn English and take a full part in school life, overcoming numerous challenges on the way.

Carina arrived in England two years ago, speaking no English, to begin her secondary school life. She faced learning a new language and a new culture with a deteriorating hearing loss, and had no speakers of her first language at school. Despite this, she embraced English, applying a strong work ethic to learning her language and completing her school work. There have clearly been challenges along the way and there continue to be, but Carina has maintained a positive attitude and a smile throughout. She has also attended both SDCS and NDCS events, including a residential week at Dukes Barn. Some of her challenges are ongoing, but well done Carina for showing such resilience and determination.



Tobey Rippard

Tobey has been given this award for the amazing resilience and determination he has shown in dealing with his hearing loss over the last two years. Tobey has had a progressive hearing loss since the age of 5. When he entered secondary school in September 2016, his hearing suddenly deteriorated to profound levels during the Autumn term. Tobey was referred to the Cochlear Implant programme in Birmingham but for a child with a phobia of medical procedures, the prospect of having two eardrum repairs and two cochlear implants was an enormous and terrifying hurdle to overcome. However, he and his family, with the support of the Birmingham CI programme, persevered through what was an extremely difficult process and just before Christmas last year, Tobey had his first implant.

Since then his teachers have remarked on how he is a 'different child'. He is doing well at school, engages in lessons and is developing more and more self-confidence. Well done, Tobey, you should be extremely proud of what you have achieved!



Andrew Broughton Award

This award is in memory of Andrew Broughton (Head of Service for SIS) who sadly passed away in 2010. It is presented to a child with learning needs in addition to hearing impairment. The Service is very fortunate in having Andrew's daughter, Ruth, working as a Teacher of the Deaf within SIS and continuing the wonderful work undertaken by her father.

Henry Dagnall

Henry has a great attitude. He always works hard in our sessions in school, and keeps his teacher of the deaf well informed about the latest video games and films.

Henry is also becoming more and more independent in caring for his audiological equipment, including his FM system, which was introduced in January. Henry has been working on keeping his ear moulds clean, and he will soon be learning to re-tube them himself.



Margy Lloyd award

Margy Lloyd was a Teacher of the Deaf who sadly passed away a few years ago. The award was set up in memory of her and the excellent work she carried out on behalf of the service.

The Margy Lloyd award has been awarded to a primary age deaf child or young person who has overcome a difficulty or faced a new challenge.

Ephena Bingham

Effie worked so hard in Year 1 and has settled into Year 2 life very well. She continues to give of her best in all areas of school life. She always tries hard to listen carefully and can recount stories with plenty of detail. She coped enormously well when reduced to 1 processor at times last year. Effie has a very positive attitude in relation to her hearing loss and towards her school work. Effie's Teacher of the Deaf, Rachel King, has no doubt she will be an excellent role model to others in years to come.



Maggie Banford

Maggie was nominated for this award as she is such a special young lady who was an important member of her primary school and much loved by the children and adults at school. Maggie loved being an active speaker at primary school trying hard to contribute to conversations. She really enjoyed being part of a class and joining in. She always demonstrated a willingness to have a go. Furthermore Maggie has always worked so hard during her sessions with her Teacher of the Deaf, has given of her best and has been extremely co-operative both during the checking of her hearing aids and with any activities completed. It was quite emotional for all involved when Maggie left St Georges, Clun. However, her new secondary school, Southall, were very excited to have her joining them. Maggie started at her new school in September. I wish her all the very best in settling into her new secondary school and on this new and exciting journey.



Tammy Richardson

Tammy was nominated for this award in recognition of the amazing resilience and positive attitude she has shown in overcoming the challenges associated with her hearing loss, as well as other medical needs.

Tammy has a severe hearing loss, but as a result of other medical challenges, she has had repeated ear infections. She, therefore, frequently relies on one hearing aid and sometimes has to remove both! Over the last year she has also developed an allergic reaction to her ear moulds, which has been a challenge in itself. Despite this, she has remained cheerful and has shown a tremendous enthusiasm for all her learning and her friendships. Through her curiosity and positive attitude, she enjoys school life to the full. Well done Tammy!



Further Education Achievement Award



Elena McBride

Elena has been awarded one of the awards for young people studying beyond GCSE either at school or in college.

She has been an outstanding pupil both in her work ethic and her academic achievements. Elena is profoundly deaf from birth but has seen this as a challenge to be overcome rather than a barrier. She approaches everything she does with high expectations and an attitude that everything is possible. It has not always been easy for her given further drops in her hearing levels as a young child but her 'can do' attitude has resulted in grades which would have been exceptional for a pupil not facing the barrier of profound deafness.

Her prowess on the sports field has seen her play high level netball alongside hearing peers both in club and school teams. She has trained as a peer mentor for HI students and attended National Citizenship training. She is frequently to be seen supporting at SDCS events where she remains an inspiration for all young people with hearing loss and their families.

We wish her well for her A levels in 2019 and for her life ahead and look forward to her coming back to visit us and tell us all about her life in the years ahead!

Vlogging about deafness

I'm Oscar Tomlinson-Crowshaw age 10 nearly 11. I am severely deaf and have bilateral Cochlear implants processors.

I love gaming and vlogging. I want to help other children understand my experiences so it can maybe help them.

I write scripts for videos, keeping them funny but also informative.

To get the information I use what I know and check the internet for more detail or to check if what I know is accurate.

Next, I make the script this can take several days to craft.

Then I make a draft of the video and edit it, over a couple of days I make several drafts changing small elements each time.

Finally the video is done, I put a lot of work into my channel and hope people enjoy it.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=c3WTeT0yIMU>



Alexander's World Scout Jamboree Adventure

Following a rigorous selection process, Alexander Barrett has been chosen as one of 30 Scouts from Shropshire who will join the 4,000 strong UK contingent going to the World Scout Jamboree next July. The Jamboree is being held in West Virginia, USA and will involve over 40,000 young people from 160 countries around the globe. The first challenge for each participant is to help raise the money for their trip (£3,700) and Alex is busy undertaking bag packs, litter picks, bucket collections, paper rounds, gardening, cake sales and any other fund-raising activity he can think of!



The two-week camp in West Virginia will involve sporting, outdoor, social and educational activities and Alex will have the chance to learn new skills and take on new challenges. He will get to know people from a wide variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds and learn about their lives. As well as the camp, Alex will visit New York and Washington and stay for a few days with a family in Canada. As you can imagine, Alex is very excited about the trip and will be keen to share his experiences after the event – post-Jamboree report to follow next summer.



Teaching assistant vacancy

Lakelands School in Ellesmere is seeking to recruit a TA (ideally with

Level 2 BSL) to work with a profoundly deaf student there. If anyone is interested and feels they have the right skills for this post please contact Theresa Robinson at SIS. We would be interested in talking to anyone who might not have Level 2 BSL but feels they have other skills to offer.

Condover Hall

On Saturday 14th July a group of fifteen secondary aged students went to Condover Hall for an action packed day. The students participated in activities including high ropes, zip wire and canoeing. It was great to see how the group came together, helping each other to succeed in some very challenging activities, as well as making sure Sarah Court (Teacher of the Deaf) got a good soaking on the lake! A great day was had by all.



Achievements

Alfie Pinchin

Alfie received a Special Achievement Award at the end of the summer term. The award was in celebration of how well the hard work and effort Alfie has shown this year. Alfie's parents were thrilled. Well done Alfie!



Elena McBride

Elena is currently studying Economics, Geography and Maths A levels at Haberdashers Adams' and has just gone into the upper sixth. Last term she was awarded a prize for Academic Achievement and Progress, which was amazing, as she had changed one of her subjects after the first half term! After school Elena is hoping to go to Exeter University to study Business Management with Marketing.



William Evans

William, age 16 has been playing volleyball for England Cadets under 17's and was selected to join the squad to play in the Northern European Championship, playing against multiple Scandinavian Countries and has now been offered a twelve month contract to play for the England Junior Volleyball team.

William started his volleyball career playing for his local team, Tettenhall Tigers, a team that he now captains. He went on to become West Midlands U16s beach champion with his partner, Tyler, having never played before.

William also plays for the West Midlands in inter regional competition and in May his hard work was rewarded with a gold medal. Alongside this, William has been selected to play for Black Country Volleyball Club in the national adult league.

William has achieved this success whilst studying for his GCSE's and now his A-levels, which his Dad says he is doing very well in too. William's Dad said he doesn't take after him and is immensely proud of his achievements.



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



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www.telfordsend.org.uk

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