



WEST ALVINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



West Alvington Church of England Academy

Family Support Newsletter

Friday 21st January 2022

Dear Parents,

Hello, my name is Natasha Ive and I am very happy to introduce myself as the Family Support Worker and Designated Safeguarding Lead across the 3 Schools in the South Hams Hub. I will be based at West Alvington Primary School.

I am very excited to meet you all and can't wait to get to know you. Please feel free to come and say Hi and I am of course very happy to answer any questions you may have.

My email address is nive@lapsw.org you can also call me at West Alvington on 01548 312290.

Mrs Ive

Attendance

The Family Support Team are working hard to support children and families to achieve the very best outcomes in their attendance and attainment. We have very high expectations regarding attendance and punctuality which we believe our children and families deserve. We monitor the punctuality of children arriving at school daily and will discuss any concerns or support needs at the time of the lateness. We offer immediate advice and guidance regarding amending morning routines via our 'Tip sheet which' has been designed for our families.

We will engage with families, including home visits to encourage children to attend school where appropriate and to use family attendance contracts which are completed with the child and parents, as an additional measure to the legal framework, to promote partnership working with families.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS/SERVICE FAMILIES – Some children are entitled to free school meals due to all kinds of personal circumstances. To see if you are eligible you can contact 'My Devon' on 0345 155 1019 for an immediate assessment or contact the office for advice or a form. Free school meal entitlement and Service Families attract additional funding which is beneficial to your child's education, so please let the office know if you are entitled.



**Children &
Family Health
Devon**

Children and Family Health

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/camhs/support/anxiety/>



Kooth

Kooth is a free, anonymous and safe online mental wellbeing community for young people aged 11-25 years within the local area. Kooth online counselling and mental health service is available every day. Young people can log on to access self-help materials, goal setting and one to-one chat sessions with a qualified counsellor 365 days a year. Find out more here:

<https://www.kooth.com/>



PARENTAL MINDS C.I.C.

Exploring Pathways ; Mental Healthcare

Parental Minds Parental Minds are currently working with CAMHS, enabling families to have a genuine chance to get involved and influence their new Crisis Pathway. Have you supported your child through a mental health crisis? Your experience can help influence a new CAMHS Crisis Pathway by feeding back to Parental Minds here: <https://forms.office.com/r/mNQY1aSqby>



Learn Devon

New Year, New You? Learn Devon has a wide range of courses, from free Maths and English GCSE to arts and crafts or how to use Office 365. Some courses are online and some in person. Check out their website to find out more: www.learndevon.co.uk



Turn2us

A national charity that helps people in financial hardship to gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

Autism Resources and Useful Contacts:

Children and Family Health Devon information website about service provision. This includes a range of helpful toolkits and information for Speech & Language development, Occupational Therapy and ASC. <https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/> The Autism Spectrum Assessment Service have a range of useful resources on the Children and Family Health Devon website, including 'One Minute Guides' and 'Bitesize Videos', these include: One Minute Guides Go to the website and click on the link to view the relevant guide: Anxiety Behaviour Communication Sensory differences Masking PDA Siblings Social Stories Neurodiversity Bitesize Videos Via the website click the relevant link to watch the video: Recognising ASD – A Guide for Professionals Supporting your Child through COVID-19 Anxiety in Autism Behaviour in Autism Sensory Processing Communication Differences in Autism The PDA Profile of Autism My Child has Received a Diagnosis To access all CFHD service information go to: <https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/autistic-spectrum-disorder/resources/> Pinpoint - A searchable database of activities, services and support groups in Devon. Search by keyword and/or area www.pinpointdevon.co.uk

Useful Emergency Contact Numbers: NHS Helpline: 111 Use 999 if a medical emergency. Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, if you are concerned about your own safety or that of a child or young person: 0345 155 1071 National Domestic Abuse Helpline (Devon): 0808 2000 247 (24 hours) Use 999 if you are in immediate danger. YoungMinds Crisis Messenger, for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are a young person experiencing a mental health crisis. If you need urgent help text YM to 85258 Samaritans (24 hours): 116 123 Citizens Advice Bureau National Helpline: 03444