



Reaching for the Stars!

18/10/2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sensory Aids/Fidget Toys

At Davyhulme Primary School, we are committed to helping all our pupils and addressing their needs in the most supportive way that we can. Our main priority is to provide the most appropriate learning environment for all children.

We have recently noted an increasing number of children bringing 'fidget toys' or 'chew toys' into school from home. These are not always appropriate for use in the learning environment in school, and they can become a distraction and at times, impact on health and safety. At Davyhulme Primary School, we do allow some sensory aids to be used for children in class if this has been agreed and discussed with our Special Needs Co-ordinator, Miss Burns. This is usually after a sensory need has been identified, following a diagnosis. In such cases, school will provide an appropriate sensory object for pupils to use as and when it is needed. Our experienced teaching staff also use their professional judgement and expertise and will contact parents/carers directly if they feel the use of a sensory aid would be appropriate for your child if they are struggling to concentrate or self-regulate.

As I am sure you can appreciate, the use of sensory aids in the classroom has to be carefully managed to ensure that these aids are being used appropriately and are beneficial. Sometimes, they can do more harm than good. We respectfully ask that parents and carers trust our teaching staff's professional judgement on this issue, and do not send any fidget toys into school, unless this has already been agreed by Miss. Burns. School has a supply of these objects which are specifically for use in classrooms for children who need them. If we have any concerns about your child's ability to focus and concentrate or self-regulation skills, we will contact you to discuss this and make any necessary adaptations.

Thank you for your support on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

K. Brookes

Ms. K. Brookes
Headteacher