

Dave's Place Newsletter Sep 2022

Dave's Place (Bungalow) opened April 2022 to help children in Bankwood Primary with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties which make it harder for them to learn in a mainstream class. It currently has a class teacher (Mrs Craig) and a Teaching Assistant (Mrs Wolfe) who support small groups of children. Dave's Place has mixed age children to whom we give support with their learning and social skills. We focus on emotional literacy, language development and communication. We want the children to be in an accepting and warm environment that helps the pupils develop positive relationships with both teachers and their friends.



- Dave's Place has 5 rooms:
1. **Winter Gardens room** where children can sit together to play board games, jigsaws, reading and building, etc.
 2. **Millennium Gallery room** which allows children to work on the Literacy and Mathematics skills with an aim to develop personal specific targets to support learning when they are back in the main school.
 3. **The Crucible room** is a sensory room which allows children to regulate their emotions.
 4. **English Institution of Sport (EIS)** room is a place where children develop their gross motor skills and do Yoga to help them to regulate their emotions and improve gross motor skills.
 5. **Kelham Island room** is the kitchen where children experience first-hand preparing and cooking food, having conversations with others around a table and playing activities.

There is a large back garden where children can run and throw balls. It gives the children fresh air where they can play and talk to others. There is also a 'Bug House' (built with the children's help) which encourages children to grow a love of nature.



The aim of having time in Dave's Place is that the children return to healthy levels of stress by:

- 1) Providing a consistent pattern to the day;
- 2) Having nurturing, comforting and understanding teachers;
- 3) Having expectations of behaviour clearly discussed with the children;
- 4) Providing a safe space where the pupil feels protected;