

St Matthias CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 31st
January 2025



News from this week:

Last year the school council and children wanted better school dinners. We were previously catered by an outsourced company that provided mass produced, processed meals that did not offer healthy or wholesome options for our children.

Listening to children's voices we moved towards a model called 'chefs in schools' where a restaurant chef supports the creation of freshly cooked, home cooked, locally sourced meals. This is made up of sauces, pasta bases, curry etc. it is nutritious and full of flavour but obviously a change for our children.

Many children don't like food in sauce, foods touching or new flavours. We are slowly encouraging them to 'have a go' and try a tiny bit. They particularly enjoy the sausages and the chicken curry!

Please encourage them to try. Also to give their feedback to the pupil parliament food committee who will be involved in designing the menu for next term. Already on the list- pizza!

Children please think about the foods you miss and we'll work with our new chef in schools to hear your voices! In the meantime try a little bit- you will find that you like it. It's delicious!

Reminder:

Gates open at 8:30 (close at 8:45am)

Your child must have attendance of >97%

Any holidays in term time will result in a fine from Hackney.

If you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to us.

Important dates:

Monday 3rd February

Year 6 Trip to The Guildhall.
(AM only)



Tuesday 4th February

Year 2 Visit Hackney Central
(AM only)



Year 4 Library Visit (PM only)



Wednesday 5th February

Free Year 2&3 After School
Club (3:30-5)



Thursday 6th February

Year 4 Residential Meeting in
the hall (3:45-4:15)

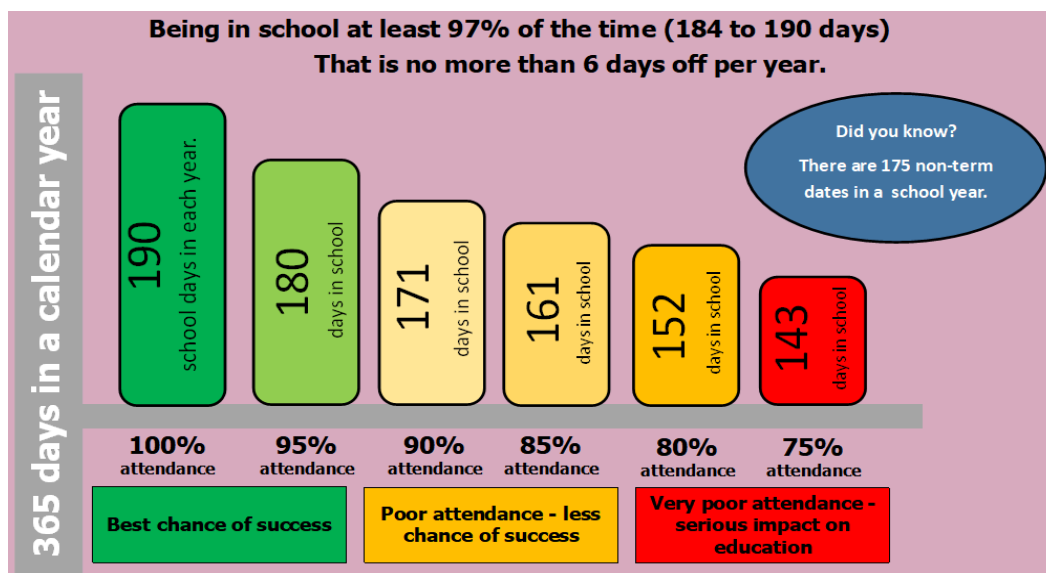


Monday 10th February

Year 2 Trip to The Tate
Modern



Wednesday 12th January



Early Years Trip to Hackney City Farm



Free Year 5 After School Club
(3:30-5)



Monday 17th February
Hackney Run 2025
Registration opens!
(Miss Frohock will send details on how to enter)



Monday 17th - Friday 21st February
Half Term Holidays



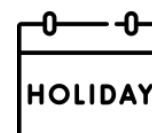
Monday 24th February
Start of Spring 2
All children back at school



Wednesday 12th - Friday 14th March
Year 4 Residential to YHA Truleigh Hill



Monday 7th - Monday 21st April
Easter Holidays



Tuesday 22nd April
Start of Summer 1
All children back at school



Monday 12th May-



EYFS had such a great time at the farm!
They saw ducks, sheep, donkeys and even got to pet the goats!



Year 4s had a special after school wheelchair basketball club on Wednesday.
They had a blast! 🌟

Wednesday 5th February Year 2 & Year 3

Wednesday 12th February Year 5

FREE 3:30-5pm



Thank you to Sports Inspired and Amir the coach for providing our children with this opportunity! 🎉🥳

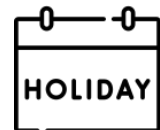
Thursday 15th May
Year 6 SATs Assessment
Week



Saturday 17th May
Hackney Run 2025!!



Monday 26th - Friday 30th
May
Half Term Holidays



Monday 2nd June
Start of Summer 2
All children back at school



Monday 3rd - Friday 7th
June
Year 4 Multiplication Check
Assessment



Monday 9th - Friday 13th
June
Year 1 Phonics Screen Check



Monday 14th - Wednesday
16th July
Year 6 Ufton Court
Residential



Friday 18th July - tbc
Summer Holidays



Reading Records



| Reading Record | |
|--|--|
| Date, book and the page you read to | Comments Give a score out of 10 to show how much you enjoyed it |
| 18.11.24 The Boy at the Back of the Class | I really how the story trying to convey the |
| 19.11.24 Boy at the Back of the Class | I'm really proud of Josie as she is a strong character |
| 20.11.24 | I really enjoyed |

We are so proud of how much reading our pupils are doing! Please remember to write in their reading records or encourage them to do it after they read. For younger children, you might want to write what they have enjoyed or whether it is the appropriate level. For older children, they might want to write what they liked or disliked and why.

Please also continue to share any photos of your child reading for a school display - we love seeing them!

Book Recommendation of the Week!

Lachlan in Y5 recommends 'The Last Kids on Earth' because it is very adventurous!



Label
It



As it gets colder, we are all wearing more layers to keep warm. Our teachers work hard to remind the children to put all of their coats/jumpers on their pegs and their scarves/gloves in coat pockets/bags. Children sometimes leave these in other places and when all items are **labelled with their name**, it is easier to find them.

Please label your child's school uniform with a name label or use a permanent marker pen.



Have a look at the St Matthias website and see what each class is learning about this half term!

[EYFS Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 1 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 2 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 3 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 4 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 5 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)
[Year 6 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)



PE next week - please ensure pupils are in the appropriate PE kit.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------|---------|-----------|------------------|--------|
| | | Year 6 | Year 5 | Year 4 |
| | | Year 3 | Year 1 Year 2 | EYFS |

Hot chocolate Friday!

Pupils enjoyed hot chocolate this week. They have consistently displayed exemplary behaviour and learning.



| EYFS | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Shae | Huzaiifa | Buruk | Enzo | Asminn | Winley | Yagmur |

News from our classes: What has been the most memorable learning this week?

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>EYFS:</p> <p>We have had such a busy week packed with such brilliant learning. We visited the farm on Wednesday and really enjoyed our time looking at the different animals. This week we celebrated Chinese new year! We made paper lanterns, dragons, tasted noodles and dumplings and wrote our wishes on a wishing tree. In RE we have been focusing on the story of Jesus feeding 5000 and we made bread alongside the story. In Maths we have been looking at the number 5 and how it's made with the 5 and a bit structure.</p> | <p>Year 1:</p> <p>This week started off with a fantastic trip to the library where we borrowed some fantastic books and enjoyed a storytime. The visit really inspired the children's love of reading and we have enjoyed a variety of different books at storytime this week and throughout the day - and the children have loved reviewing the books they borrowed! In maths we have been identifying 3D shapes and we experimented to see which could roll. In music we listened to and compared different pieces of music about water and storms, and expressed it through movement and dance. Well done Year 1!</p> | <p>Year 2:</p> <p>We have had a great week of learning in year 2. We have been working hard on our multiplication skills in Maths. We learnt about the different parts of a multiplication equation and practiced counting in 2's. We have taken time this week to finish writing our stories about discovering a bog baby, we also had to re-read and edit our stories which gave us a chance to make them even better by adding additional, aspirational language! We learnt about the Jewish holiday of Sukkot in RE and have had lots of fun in computing programming robots!</p> | |
| <p>Year 3:</p> <p>Year 3 have had an amazing week filled with brilliant learning! In Humanities year 3 were focused on who the important people were in the Shang Dynasty, specifically, looking at Lady Fu Hao. Ask your child why Lady Fu Hao is important. In writing we have begun to look at the key features of an information leaflet to help the children generate ideas for their very own information leaflet. In maths we have continued to look at mental strategies that can aid us to complete 3 digit subtraction questions. Well done year 3!</p> | <p>Year 4:</p> <p>Year 4 have had a fantastic week filled with lots of experiences! We had the great opportunity of having a wheelchair basketball session with Amir! We used our collaboration skills to work together to win for our teams and even beat the teachers! We also had a visit from Apollo Music where we listened to their beautiful string instruments and got to ask them any questions we had about the instruments. In RE we continued to study Hinduism and put ourselves into the shoes of a Hindu priest and learnt what their daily life entails. In writing we started to look at our information report, we need to help the ancient myth team to write a guide on how to defeat a mythical creature!</p> | <p>Year 5:</p> <p>Year 5 have had a very productive week filled with amazing learning. In RE year 5 looked more into Hinduism, looking at the values and beliefs of Hindu's, they focused on Ahimsa and participated in a debate. Within writing they continued to look at their Novel The Hounds of the Baskerville, picking their favourite cliffhanger scene to base their writing outcome on. Within Maths they have been working extremely hard on multiplication and regrouping, showing great understanding and resilience in completing practical learning and challenges. Within PSHE they continued to focus on their dreams and goals for the future, however this week they looked at children from other countries and whether they would have the same or different goals as themselves and why! To round up our week, year 5 played a really fun game of wheelchair basketball and sang beautifully on their trip to St Paul's Cathedral. Well done year 5!</p> | |
| <p>Year 6: This week, we attended a Junior Citizenship Workshop where we learnt about staying safe in London. We explored many aspects of daily life such as; travelling, mindfulness and other day-to-day routines. Later in the week, we published our fantastic discovery narratives based on Charles Darwin's expedition. Feel free to read one of our examples on writing in the school office.</p> | | | |
| <p>School value in focus this week: Kindness</p> | | | |

Each week the class teacher nominates a pupil in their class who has shown the school value that was in focus.



The pupils who have shown excellent **kindness** are:

| EYFS | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Pearl | Meela | Seline | Berekia | Amaya | Luna | Jeremy |

Services and support in Education

Hackney SENDIAGS (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice, Guidance and Support)

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=VjthH04BZoM>

If you are looking for information, advice and support (IAS) about your child (or yourself if you are a young person under 25 with additional needs and or a disability) you can contact Hackney free impartial service SENDIAGS.

Telephone 020 7275 6036 (Advice Line)

E-mail sendiags@hackney.gov.uk

Web www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/sendiags

Global Mediation

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=grSaLOCfzVo>

Global Mediation is the statutory, free, independent disagreement and resolution and mediation service for Hackney's Parents and Carers. This service helps support parent-carers and children and young people being assessed for or who have an Education Health and Care Plan.

Phone 0800 064 44 88 or 0208 441 1355

Email sen@globalmediation.co.uk

Website www.globalmediation.co.uk

Hackney's Educational Psychology Parents Advice Sessions

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=xAjcg1YWf18&localofferchannel=0>

Bookable FREE advice sessions during term time.

This is an opportunity for parents and carers to have a discussion about concerns that they may have about their children or young person. If you would like support and advice, this service offers an opportunity for you to talk about your child/children with an educational psychologist for up to 30 minutes on our phone line.

Wednesday afternoons 1pm to 3pm term time only. Book by phone or online.

Phone 020 8820 7519 or 020 8820 7000 (Extension 4)

Email eps.admin@hackney.gov.uk

(IPSEA) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice

IPSEA is the leading charity in the field of SEND Law in England. They can provide information and advice to help you navigate the SEND system and secure education that your child is legally entitled to. They offer free guides, resources and template letters, run helplines, an email information service, a SEND Tribunal Support Service and training on specific aspects of the law relating to SEND. IPSEA receives lots of calls a day and asks that parents and carers contacting them read the information on preparing for your call and book a slot for your call via their website.

IPSEA advice line

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/advice-line>

IPSEA helpline

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/call-in-helpline>

IPSEA SEND Tribunal helpline

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/tribunal-helpline>

IPSEA information service

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/information-service>

SOS SEN

SOS!SEN is an independent registered charity started in 2002 by a small group who had spent much of their lives in education or related services. We help parents secure the right educational support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). They now have a team of over 70 volunteers advising parents, many of whom have been in your shoes, seeking to get the right provision for their children.

SOS SEN contact and query form.

<https://sossen.org.uk/contact-us/>

SOS SEN helpline

<https://sossen.org.uk/services/helpline/>

SOS SEN walk in advice centres

<https://sossen.org.uk/services/walk-in-advice-centres/>

Services and support for you as a Parent-Carer

City and Hackney Carers centre

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=WN0u2Zl3w48>

Information and support service for unpaid carers including; counselling, benefits advice, community projects, carers right events. Host of Hackney's Parent Carer Forum.

Telephone 020 8533 0951

Email info@hackneycarers.org.uk

Carers First

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=16i2w3eI2CM>

Providing information, advice, guidance, carers assessments, emotional support, training and activities. Offering carers opportunities to have a break from caring roles and get the help and support they need.

Telephone 0300 303 1555

Email hello@carersfirst.org.uk

Family Coach (SEND)

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=LN0eTl1JMc>

Specialist support for parents who have children with additional needs, disabilities or SEND. Three tiers of support are on offer from self-sign-up to professional referral. Regular FREE parent workshops.

Contact Names Emily or Rachel

Contact Position Family Coach Service (SEND)

Phone 0208 356 7344.

Email familycoach@hackney.gov.uk

Family Fund

Family Fund delivers grants for families on a low income who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person. To help make a decision about your grant application, they need information about your child's disability. Your child does not need to have had a formal diagnosis. If your child needs a high level of support in at least three of these areas you may be eligible to apply; Personal Care, Access to social activities, Education, Communication, Medical treatment, Supervision, their Physical Environment.

You will need to send a copy of your most recent benefit entitlement. This can be a letter or a screenshot, showing the name of your family's main carer, and current address. You can still apply if you don't receive any benefits but will need to provide some extra information about your household income, or speak to someone to confirm your family income and situation.

Website: <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/>

Helpline: 01904 550055

Email: info@familyfund.org.uk

Services and support in Health and Mental Health

Hackney Ark - Centre for children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities

https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=vp2KHdrAJ_4

Specialist multidisciplinary health teams based in the community. Information, advice and support specific to the needs of disabled children and families. Assessment and diagnostic services, therapy services, key work team and Resource Centre. Some drop in sessions are run from Hackney Ark but most services are referral services with some self-referrals accepted for some support.

CAMHS Alliance

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=BRW4hml8T80>

A partnership of organisations and teams who work together to deliver mental health and wellbeing support services that reach more children, young people, families, schools and the wider community. A range of options are available to meet a range of needs. Professional referral via a single point of access. Online access to Kooth support and resources. Self-referral accepted by First Steps.

City and Hackney NHS Talking Therapies

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=N5Djn9EX3y8>

Psychological Talking Therapies delivered by trained NHS professionals. Deal with negative thoughts and feelings and learn new coping skills. Employment advice and support for current patients. Some therapist are trained specifically in adapting therapy for people who are autistic.

Telephone 020 7683 4278

Email huh-tr.talkingtherapy@nhs.net

Online self-referral accepted.

Urgent Mental Health Support in East London

If you need urgent support or advice because you are feeling overwhelmed, have out-of-control thoughts, or are worried you might harm yourself or someone else, you should call an NHS crisis line immediately.

These are free, open 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and available to adults, children, and young people. You will speak to experienced staff who can help you.

East London CAMHS Crisis Service

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=q9SGbxLL5qA>

The East London CAMHS Crisis Service aims to provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time to promote safety and recovery from crisis.

We provide the following to children and young people:

- Therapeutic assessment
- Formulation of collaborative safety and coping plans
- Multi-agency liaison to support appropriate follow-up
- Telephone callbacks for children, young people, their families or professionals contacting the All Age Mental Health Crisis Line
- Crisis resolution and solution focused brief therapy for 17 ½ year olds
- How to access our service?

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, please contact the City and Hackney mental health crisis line on 0800 073 0006

You can also access our service by attending the A&E (Accident and Emergency) department at the Homerton University Hospital which is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

If you are concerned about someone you know please encourage them to call.

While it's quicker if they can call themselves you can also call on their behalf if that isn't possible.

City and Hackney's crisis services offer immediate help if you are in distress or crisis. They will also follow up with a range of support to help you find new ways to cope with difficulties and avoid a future crisis.

Crisis cafe

Walk-in Crisis Café As well as offering a welcome cup of tea or coffee, the Crisis Café is a safe, supportive place for anyone who feels they are struggling or not coping.

Opening hours are 6 pm - 9 pm on weekdays and 12 pm - 4 pm on weekends.

[Walk-in Crisis cafe](#), The Raybould Centre, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health, Homerton Row, E9 6SR

Email address elft.crisiscafe2@nhs.net

Phone 07393 762 366

Community Eating Disorders Service (CEDS) for Children and Young People (East London)

NHS team and part of CAMHS to help young people under 18 years of age who are experiencing issues with food, eating, body shape or weight concerns. East London CEDS-CYP provides specialist assessment, treatment and clinical management for individuals who are experiencing an eating disorder and their families. New referrals will be received via borough-based CAMHS teams. We accept self-referrals from young people, parents and carers.

The service recommends that you make an appointment with your GP to discuss a referral however if you would like to speak to us about referring yourself or your child please call us on 02074262556

Phone 0208 215 5270

Email elt-tr.ELCEDS-CYP@nhs.net

Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk/services/camhs-community-eating-disorder-service-east-london>

Services and support in Social Care

The following information and contact details are for key services and crisis support if you live in Hackney and need urgent support.

Please use the relevant service details provided to make contact with the relevant service.

Social Care and Safeguarding

If you are concerned a child is in immediate danger call the Police on 999

Hackney Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=_B7Bm1XBLBM

Safeguarding and social care queries about children in Hackney can be raised through Hackney's Children and Families MASH.

Email MASH@hackney.gov.uk

Phone: 0208 356 5500

Disabled Children's Social Care (DCS)

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=o5R-Ki0oP2I>

The route to an assessment via DCS is through MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) who triage referrals to the correct service. MASH officers understand asking for help if you have a disabled child or young person is often unrelated to safeguarding concerns and will triage to DCS as appropriate.

Phone: 020 8356 6789 OR 020 8356 4865

Duty Line: 0208356 6789 9 am to 5 pm

Email MASH@hackney.gov.uk

Autism Advice Session

https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=h_SAn-4h5-A

Specialist autism advice session for or on behalf of young people aged 16 and over who live or work in Hackney. Bookable time slots on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 12:30. Phone or WhatsApp options are available if preferred

To book a space phone or email kadine.james@hackney.gov.uk

Phone, SMS, or WhatsApp: 07858681387

If you feel unable to attend a face-to-face meeting we can also facilitate a text/chat-based meeting, a phone call, or a virtual meeting.

Services in Housing

Housing Options and Advice (local authority service)

If you are worried about becoming homeless, you can ask for help from the Council who will give you information or discuss your housing options with you based on your circumstances.

Finding somewhere to stay tonight.

<https://hackney.gov.uk/find-somewhere-tonight>

Apply for homeless help.

<https://hackney.gov.uk/apply-homeless-help>

Housing advice contact line: 020 8356 2929 (9 am - 6 PM)

Phone: 2020 8356 2300 (from 6 pm to 9 am)

Shelter

https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/local_services/london/hackney

Shelter is a national charity for people who have housing problems.

They can help you understand your rights and get the support you need.

[Access Shelters information online, helpline details, and web chat here.](#)

Engage Hackney

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=sagBuOSkNBY>

Engage Hackney is the commissioned service for people over 18 years old with additional needs relating to well-being, independence and accommodation. Engage Hackney provides a Floating Support service for people in specific groups with specific needs who require additional housing related support to live more independently.

Telephone 0800 953 4044

Email EngageHackney@riverside.org.uk

Website www.riverside.org.uk/engage-hackney

Other services

Here To Help (previously Hackney Money Hub)

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=ep5FILG-dXA>

A benefits maximisation advice and support team within Hackney Council. The team includes specialist disability benefits advisors. Referral including online self-referral required, Support from the councils Here to Help Team available to complete the online referral if required.

CHOICE in Hackney

https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/service.page?id=_4ynV1ecMn4

Choice is a Disabled People User-Led organisation providing specialist; Information, Guidance and Advocacy, Hate Crime Advocacy, Volunteer matching for Befriending, Shopping and or Gardening, and Training and Employment opportunities. CHOICE offer Information Guidance and Advice to disabled people on; Benefits, Housing, Health, Social Care, and other independent living services.

Phone 020 7613 3206

Text phone: 020 7613 3208

Email info@choiceinhackney.org

Website <https://choiceinhackney.org/>

Contact - The National Charity for Families with Disabled Children

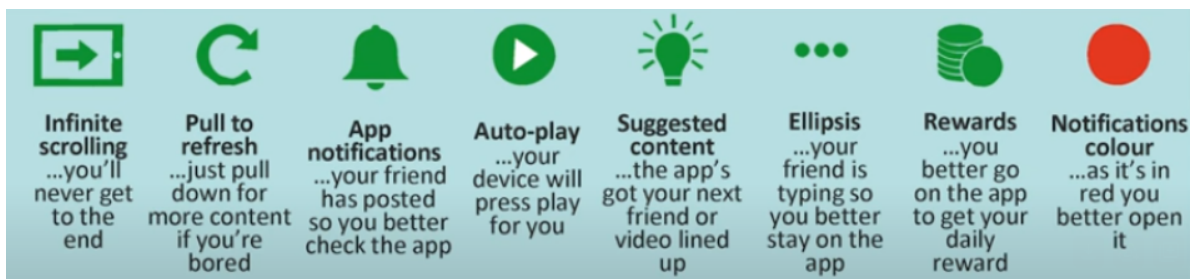
The Contact website has [advice and information](#) about concerns a family might have about raising a child with additional needs. They run [a free helpline](#) and offer a [Listening Ear support service](#). We produce [a range of email newsletters](#) and [parent guides](#) available to download or order. Contact run information sessions on a range of [topic workshops and events](#) from speech and language therapy to toilet training, welfare benefits and more.

Contact Helpline 0808 808n3555

Web <https://contact.org.uk/>

Tip for keeping pupils safe online (taken from saferinternet.org.uk)

How do apps get us to come back?



Keeping Children Safe

The safeguarding of the children at St Matthias is our number one priority. We adhere to stringent safeguarding procedures to protect the welfare of all the children who come to our school. We will endeavour to work with parents and carers as it is our duty as a school to protect our children and to keep them safe.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Blewett) or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (Miss Frohock & Mrs Cherid).