



Hollybrook Junior School

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Headteacher: Mrs Jane Wood

Deputy Head: Miss Clare Alderson



September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA)

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and our role in the Junior School.

At Hollybrook Junior School, we recognise that the emotional well-being of each child contributes to their success in school. As an ELSA team we aim to help each child to feel safe and secure and realise their full potential. The role of the school ELSA is to teach social and emotional skills to individuals or small groups of children.

At times children may experience situations, either at home or school, where they need some additional support as their emotional and/or social needs are acting as a barrier to their learning. This support may be required in the short term or over a longer period of time. Examples of difficulties could include: managing a bereavement; family breakup; anxiety; or social inclusion.

Although teachers and teaching assistants are always sympathetic to the children's needs, it can be quite difficult to give a child the individual attention they may need at a particular time. Therefore, they may suggest that your child needs some ELSA support through a referral system in-house; this would be discussed with you prior to any ELSA involvement.

Our aim is to create a safe and happy environment for your child to develop and grow both physically and emotionally which allows your child to cope with a variety of different emotions and needs that they may experience either at home or at school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher or our SENCo/inclusion leader – Miss Ali Varçoe-Baylis.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nikki Jenkins
School ELSA

Mrs Gina Cornford
School ELSA

