Hellingly School SEND Newsletter

Term 2

This terms Newsletter is all about **slow processing skills**.

What are the difficulties for children with slow processing skills?

- A slower pace of taking in information and responding to it.
- Slow processing speed can exist on it's own but can often co-occurs with ADHD or Dyslexia

Children with slow processing speed may have had trouble with …

- Tests and homework completion
- Working memory
- Keeping up with conversations
- Picking up on social cues
- Multi step instructions
- Daily routines and transitions
- Making decisions
- Anxiety

Short Term Memory

Taking in given information. Especially a number of directions in one go. Simply too much to remember. Some children benefit from auditory instructions, some from visual, some from kinaesthetic - in this case, repeating a learnt series of instructions that remain unchanged.

Long term memory

The ability to store and equally important retrieve learned information. Some children with long term memory difficulties may not file information making it hard to find quickly.

Working Memory

Working memory is a term used to describe the ability to hold in mind and mentally manipulate information over short periods of time. A good example of an activity that uses working memory is mental arithmetic. For this you have to hold the numbers in mind whilst retrieving information for the process and then hold further information in mind to continue.

What can we do in class?

- Using timers and clocks to show time passing and how long a task takes.
- Start routines earlier to avoid rushing which can lead to anxiety
- Repeat instructions but do not change the language
- Show examples of completed work

- Provide task planner with visuals to support instructions
- Visual timetable
- Now and next support
- Make adjustments to timed tests and tasks to allow children to still show you what they know

Games to help with Memory difficulties

- Dobble
- Pairs
- Top Trumps
- Connect Four