

Case Study 3 – Danni (name changed)

Danni is a Year 4 pupil who was previously a Looked After Child (LAC). She lives with extended family members.

She has a significant speech disorder and their speech is very difficult to understand, she also has a severe learning difficulty and challenging behaviour.

Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT)

Previously Danni has accessed additional SaLT in addition to that provided by the NHS therapist - she attends a weekly half hour group session with 2 other pupils. This has helped Danni to develop strategies to help produce some sounds correctly and use other methods of communication enabling more people to understand her.

Her speaking baseline level was P5.4 in September 2012 and currently it is P6.9. Her listening level was P5.2 in September 2012 and is currently P6.9.

Her speech will be an ongoing issue for the rest of their life so input from SaLT will be a very valuable resource. It makes a big difference for her to access all parts of the curriculum and develop socially and emotionally, so additional SaLT will continue to be a high priority for Danni while they are at school.

Pastoral Support

Danni has challenging behaviours where she will be non compliant, swear and be aggressive including biting, hitting, kicking and pinching mainly towards other adults but also towards other pupils.

We use the school's Pastoral Support Centre (PSC). When Danni is showing these behaviours she is directed to PSC and given time to calm down and then also rethink what happened and how things could be different if this happened again.

Data from sleuth shows that in September 14 Danni had nine negative incidents, but during March 15 she had three negative incidents so there has been a reduction in the number of negative incidents.

Danni has also accessed mentoring sessions with Cathy from PSC where they have used a play therapy approach and Cathy has worked on building in Danni's understanding of her emotions through play.

Next year I would like to do more work on Danni's emotional literacy. This year the school has started to use the Thrive approach and has two licensed Thrive practitioners. I feel that the Thrive

approach would really help her develop emotionally and with her behaviour. We could use Pupil Premium to fund resources for activities suggested by Thrive and can report their emotional progress using Thrive online.

Music Therapy

I have noticed this year that Danni loves music and the Music teacher also reported that she is good at singing, however she lacks confidence to do this on stage or in front of people. I felt that if Danni did some music sessions 1:1 she could build on her confidence and it could be a way of her expressing herself. As she gets older she could then go onto learn an instrument and continue to develop her singing voice.

Her music levels in September 2013 were assessed at P5.1 in Music and were more recently assessed in March 15 and she achieved P6.4.