



## Burstow Park School

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Dear parents/carers,

I am writing this letter by way of providing you with an update on a number of developments in the school that I believe would be of real benefit to your child(ren).

### **ELSA**

I am pleased to update you on our ELSA provision being offered at Burstow Park School this Autumn Term.

ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant. We currently have a number of school staff who are undertaking specific and recognised training to enable them to work with students to develop their emotional literacy. These specific staff are accessing this training and ongoing supervision from Educational Psychologists.

In the coming weeks, they will commence their work with students during regular 1:1 intervention that are designed to support students' emotional development and help them cope with life's challenges and support them to find solutions to problems they might have.

Relationships are key in helping children and young people to feel safe and nurtured. ELSA is about creating a reflective space for the child or young person.

What areas does an ELSA help with?

- Loss and bereavement
- Emotional Literacy, Self-esteem, and Social Skills
- Relationships and Friendship issues
- Managing strong feelings
- Anxiety and worries
- Bullying, conflict, and Problem solving
- Emotional Regulation
- Growth Mindset
- Social and therapeutic stories

We look forward to introducing and developing this provision this half-term and the benefits it will bring to our students.

### **ReadWriteInc:**

We have also been working with specific teachers and TAs to continue to develop our phonic programme to support the progress of all students who are pre-readers across the school.

We have several staff who are trained in delivering Read Write Inc. to encourage students' progress with their reading. Read Write Inc is an effective phonics programme that our staff use to teach children the sounds in English, the letters that represent them, and how to form the letters when writing.

The programme includes reading books written using only the letters that our students have learnt at each level (and a small number of separately taught tricky words). Since we introduced Read Write Inc Phonics for our students (January 2022), we have realised progress and success in reading, writing, and spelling for all of our pre-readers, and we will continue to encourage further progress as we work closely with your child(ren).

I trust that the above would help you to keep updated with the actions and steps we are taking to support the learning and wider development of your child(ren) and I thank you for your continued support as always!

Yours Sincerely,

*M George*

Mr. M George  
Headteacher  
Burstow Park School