



## The White Horse Federation SLCN / Autism Advisory Teacher Involvement

### What is a Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and Autism (ASC) Advisory Teacher?

The SLCN and Autism Advisory Teacher is a service within the Inclusion Team of The White Horse Federation that supports schools to enable them to more effectively meet the needs of children affected by social communication and interaction difficulties including autism.

They provide support to adults working with children in school by providing practical advice and strategies in addition to support that has already been provided within provision already offered by school. This could be through supporting the graduated responses review plan or supporting annual reviews for children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP).

By supporting schools, our aim is that children and young people with SLCN and ASC make good progress, achieve well and enjoy school, family and community life. This also allows the school to have further understanding of the child's needs and how they can thrive within their school environment. This can also involve supporting strategies to meet sensory needs and modifying the curriculum to support the young person's needs.

The SLCN and Autism Advisory Teacher will observe the child or young person within their school environment to observe the behaviours and concerns that the child may be facing. They may interact with the pupil to gain a further insight into their needs.

### What could their involvement look like?

- Following discussions with parents and school, a referral to our service will be made with parental consent.
- The ASC Advisory Teacher will then contact the school to arrange a consultation, usually with the school SENCo, to understand more about the current situation, context and needs of your child and what school would like from the involvement.
- They will also meet teaching and support staff working with your child to gain their views. They may also interact with your child to find out their views and thoughts.
- Observations of your child in school will be completed to provide a holistic view of their needs. We will observe how the pupil interacts with their peers and adults as well as the current provision, environment and support already in place for the pupil.
- Once the ASD Advisory Teacher has completed these steps, a written record of involvement will be provided to school which will outline.
  - Any observations
  - Information shared with us by school
  - A number of suggested strategies to support the pupil.
- After the record is provided, a review will take place with the school to discuss how the strategies suggested are supporting your child and if further strategies are required. If your child is making progress the SLCN and Advisory Teacher will close the referral.
- If further support is required, we may refer back to the school or signpost the school to other agencies, such as the Local Authority.

If you have any further questions, then please contact your school SENCO.