



Mrs. Alison Tulloch

Mrs. Anna Arnold Mrs. Debbie Harvey Mr. Mark Raven



### Contact Us

Mrs Tulloch (SENCo), Mr Raven and Mrs Harvey can all be contacted on the school phone number:

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or by email

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### The role of the SENCo:

If you are worried about your child's attainment, progress or other aspects of their learning and have concerns that there may be an underlying cause, please contact the SEN-Co for further advice. The role is to develop effective ways of overcoming barriers to learning and sustaining effective teaching through the analysis and assessment of children's needs. This is done through:

- Overseeing the day to day working of the school's Special Educational Needs (SEN) policy
- Liaising with and advising Teaching Staff
- Managing Learning Support Assistants
- Co-ordinating provision for pupils with SEN
- Liaising with parents/ guardians of pupils with SEN
- Liaising with external agencies



Swanmead Community School  
Ditton Street  
Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0BL



# The HUB

### OFSTED Report, July 2014

*"The HUB, a unit where specialist staff work with pupils who are experiencing difficulties with managing behaviour, is a strength of the school."*

### What is the HUB?

The HUB was created to be an area in the school where children could work with a pupil support assistant to address any social, emotional and mental health issues they are having.

HUB itself stands for 'Helping Understand Behaviour,' and this reflects the ethos behind the work done with children.

The HUB is always open during school time. Mr Raven, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Tulloch, the School's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), are based in the HUB and Mrs Arnold also works part-time there.



## What work takes place in the HUB?

The majority of work is done with individual children. This can be as straight-forward as providing time to chat with a child in order to help them to understand a situation, such as a bereavement, or helping a child to work through a specific programme of support based on the emotional behaviour the child has shown in school, e.g. anger management. The HUB has been given a sum of money to support mental health work for any child who needs it. External support can be purchased and the work is done in school so HUB staff can build on it. We hope to raise more money for this work to continue in the future.

The HUB is equipped with a wide selection of board games, card games and activities that are used to address specific social issues. For example, a child who finds it hard to make friends can be partnered with another child to play a game in the HUB during break or lunchtime. This would be supervised by a pupil support assistant. A child who finds the playground a difficult place can bring a friend or two to the HUB to play games. The pupil support assistants get to know the children and help them to adjust to the playground and school life.

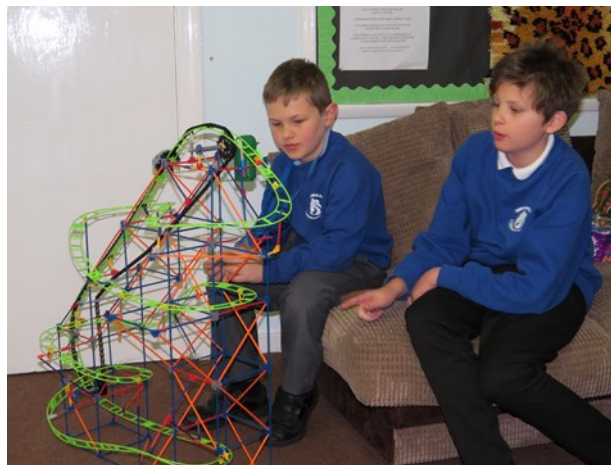
The pupil support assistants also have specific roles within the HUB. Mrs Harvey works with children who are deemed to be vulnerable; children who are absent due to long-term illness; children who are returning to school after a period of long-term illness; children in care and those who have difficulties with attendance. Mrs Harvey manages the medical plans for pupils who require support in this area. Mrs Harvey is first aid at work-qualified. Mrs Harvey oversees the lunchtime supervisors at the

school and so is able to quickly address issues that arise during that time of day.

Mr Raven works with individual children who are deemed to have mental health, social or emotional difficulties. This often involves the child following an individual programme of support, but can also see a child being given the opportunity to work in a small group on projects based in and out of school. Previous projects have included model-making, bicycle maintenance, participation in sports such as football, golf and basketball. Current projects include cooking, Lego, K'Nex, latch hook and computer games.

Support programmes such as emotional literacy, draw and talk, anger management and retracking are all used by Mr Raven. A lot of assessment work is done in the HUB in conjunction with the child's tutor or a particular class teacher or support worker. This enables an appropriate programme of support to be put in place. It also provides data that can be measured so progress can be monitored

Mrs Arnold works with specific children doing activities that will raise their self-esteem and confidence, as well as improving their social skills.



## Parental involvement

The HUB is divided into two distinct areas. There is an office where paperwork is done. There is an adjoining room that is designed to hold meetings with children, parents/guardians and members of external agencies, e.g. the school nurse, educational psychologist and Parent and Family Support Adviser (PFSA) to name a few.

Parents/guardians of children who are supported by the HUB are invited to regular meetings with the pupil support assistants. Parents/guardians are welcome to contact the HUB staff at any time to meet and discuss relevant issues. The HUB is designed so that staff are available for children and parents to approach. If we are unavailable it will be because we are already dealing with another family, but we will contact you as soon as we are able to.

### Quote from a Parent: March 2014

*"The HUB is wonderful, an amazing resource and brilliantly staffed. All staff are approachable and willing to phone or email us to discuss things – this is great."*

### Quote from a parent: September 2016

*"Swanmead is so lucky because they have the HUB!"  
This statement was made following work done to support the family.*