



# SPECIALIST UNIT | COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION



## School

SET Causton Junior

## Specialist Unit

Communication & Interaction (Goldcrests)

## Number of places

18

## Address

Maidstone Road,  
Felixstowe  
IP11 9ED

## Email

caustonadmin@maidstoneandcauston.org

## Phone

01394 283374

## Head of School

Lucy Thompson



## SENDCo

Pippa Coleman

## Assistant to the SENDCo

Katy Cook

## Class Teacher

Fiona Hunt

## Key Contact

Lucy Thompson

## Description of Unit

**The communication and interaction unit caters for children who experience difficulty with communicating, this may range from speech disorders to children with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder and caters for high functioning children as well as those that need support with verbal communication. This is staffed by 1 teacher, 1 HLTA and 4 teaching assistants. The unit is very child centred with an in depth review of the child's capabilities undertaken followed by a structured learning program based on Now and Next. Where possible the children are educated together and share many social times together but individual support on a 1-1 basis is available as well for particular tasks. The unit is visited by a therapy dog bi weekly and where possible the children will have the opportunity to join in with mainstream activities, ie enrichment and swimming. The staff have all have a wealth of experience with children with additional needs and partake in regular training from experts in and out of school. We use THRIVE to help with emotional resilience and literacy. We use zones of regulation to help the children to understand their changing emotions and how to regulate them.**

## Overview

Children arrive from 9.00-9.15am in the morning and go straight to the specialist unit where breakfast is offered. Learning starts at 9.15 and the class follow a structured timetable. Children have individual activity packs with the learning they need to complete in the day and they have some autonomy over the order. All of the children and the adults eat together at 12.10pm in the unit and children are then encouraged to spend time outside during lunch play in an area attached to the classroom with access to the main playground if they would like supported by adults from the specialist unit. Children have access to the unit should they need it during this break. Learning resumes in the afternoon and the children leave site at 2.45pm. Adults share the learning with parents using SEESAW and we assess using SEND Inspire for those that are not ready for the national curriculum.

Children wear the same uniform as the mainstream school but we cater to individual children with high sensitivities to fabric and clothes. On a Wednesday afternoon the children take part in Enrichment activities alongside all pupils in school. All of the children have access to forest schools in the week. We organise trips and activities for the unit but still encourage children to join in mainstream trips with support where appropriate, ie, swimming.

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