



Supporting and improving the emotional and social development of children with SEND

- All children receive Quality First Teaching to support their emotional and social development. We follow the PSHE Association programme of study in class to ensure access, engagement and progress for all – this is also supported by 1decision resources
- Birkwood have now transitioned over to the Motional Programme, which is a social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) programme used to help staff understand and support children's emotional development, wellbeing and behaviour. This has now replaced the Thrive programme used in previous years.
- We have provision at lunchtime to support children who require a higher level of emotional and social development; this provides a safe place for them to be at lunchtimes and provides a variety of experiences.
- We run Socially Speaking, 101 ways to teach children social skills, and Time to Talk groups to support children who find social communication difficult.
- School also employs a Behaviour Support Learning Mentor (who is also the school's Mental Health Lead), who will work closely with children who display both low and higher level social, emotional and/or mental health difficulties. The main aim of this role is to support the child's emotional well-being so they feel safe, happy and are able to learn to their full potential within the classroom setting. In more complex situations, school may feel they need to refer a child for more complex and/or individual support, which is through the Branching Minds Pathway, which may lead to external support from services such as Compass Be and/or Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).