



THE THRIVE APPROACH

Thrive Licensed Practitioner

Hi Everyone,

In the last Newsletter, Adriana Dickinson (Assistant Principal) introduced you all to the Thrive Approach, a developmental approach designed to meet the social and emotional developmental needs of all children and young people. This program is UK based and currently supports over 300,000 children in the United Kingdom.

Fundamental to the implementation of the Thrive Approach is the role of a Thrive Licensed Practitioner. I am extremely excited to tell you that I have been appointed to the role of the Licensed Practitioner.

I have spent the last 3 months training, which consisted of face-to-face teaching, online training and e-mentoring sessions. The training was facilitated by Viv Trask-Hall (Thrive's Head of Innovation in Education and Principal Trainer, UK based) and Elessa Impey (New Zealand based Thrive Trainer) who both travelled to Australia to conduct the face to face teaching.

The role of the Thrive Licensed Practitioner is to:-

- Work in a direct way with colleagues and parents, to identify the social emotional developmental needs of all of the children at Heany Park Primary School.
- Observe children's behaviour and determine what that behaviour communicates about the child's emotional and social development.
- Screen children's current emotional and social skills and know how that relates to their readiness and ability to engage with learning.
- Build a relationship with the child and be conscious of how to use that relationship to enhance their wellbeing.
- Be able to select differentiated strategies to address specific interrupted development.
- Work on a one-to-one basis or with small groups of children regularly.

When I am working with the children I will be using the arts, creativity and play based activities to develop healthy connections between the right and left hemispheres of the brain and to support language and cognitive development. These activities will also target identified children's development interruptions to strengthen the child's stress regulation system, which will give them the ability to cope with challenging situations throughout life. Before I commence working with individual children parental permission will be sought.

Adriana Dickinson and myself will continue to inform you about the Thrive Approach and its implementation, via the Newsletter.

I look forward to working with the children and families on our journey with the Thrive Approach at Heany Park.

Sue Houghten
Thrive Licensed Practitioner

