

## **TRANSCRIPT: Planning for the whole school – Working with a multi-disciplinary team**

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The therapies which we currently employ in school are speech and language therapists who work alongside the teacher in the classroom on a daily basis. We also have an occupational therapist who, although her time is very brief in school, works wonders with some of the children and delivers bespoke packages to ensure that pupils are sitting correctly so that they've got access to their work, or they're standing correctly in their standing frames. Programmes are also written to ensure that the pupils are fed correctly and that they have the correct cutlery and plates to enable them to feed themselves, if at all possible, and that too is done by the occupational therapist.

She works very closely with the physiotherapist. The physiotherapists are here on a daily basis and, again, they work individually with students delivering the programmes but also advising the teachers and support staff how they can deliver those programmes.

We also employ an aromatherapist who comes in and works individually with students and that has proved incredibly worthwhile for some of our more complex pupils, and we've trained several members of staff in rebound therapy, which is a movement based therapy on the trampoline and the pupils absolutely love that!

Music therapy is also delivered by one of our own members of staff and we employ a specialist music teacher two days a week who also delivers individual programmes to some students.

At the start of each year, each pupil is given a photo diary sheet for parents for all the professionals that are going to be involved with that pupil throughout the year, so everybody's got an idea of who's working with whom.

Due to the number of therapists that we work alongside and additional professionals, it's really important that all planning for our pupils involves those people and we have many opportunities to have multi-professional joint planning meetings so all staff, teachers, therapists, support staff work together to deliver those targets which everybody has had joint ownership initially to create.