

## **Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)**

### **Supporting the Education of Students**

At Riverside School we have a multidisciplinary team of NHS health professionals who work for the local Primary Care Trust. These health care professionals support the education staff within school and they include physiotherapists, occupational therapist, speech and language therapist and school nurse. Therapists provide functional assessments, support and advice for teachers when writing schemes of work in relation to access to all areas of the curriculum plus specialist areas such as the dark room.

We also have regular specialist support from consultant paediatricians, a dietician, an ophthalmologist, educational psychologist and dental hygienist.

### **Engagement with Assessment and Target Setting of Key Skills**

Our MDT colleagues play an important part in contributing to the development and delivery of the broader school curriculum. MDT colleagues meet with and advise education staff, and work with class teams to improve the learning of students at the school. MDT colleagues help in setting and evaluating what Riverside School calls 'Key Skills'.

The Key Skills areas assessed and reported on (although not for every student as this is dependent on need) are as follows:

- Communication Skills
- Independence Skills
- Motor Skills
- Social Skills
- Cognitive Skills
- Attention and Listening Skills

Riverside School has an established schedule of MDT Class Meetings to ensure that teachers and MDT colleagues have the chance to meet, to discuss student needs and to support the termly Key Skills target setting and evaluating cycle. The Key Skills Report records a termly set of targets and an assessment of how well they have been achieved by the student. Class Team and therapists discuss assess individual student progress towards target each target and record assessments on the Key Skills Report.

The assessment of Key Skills is being developed and moved onto SOLAR (our online assessment and recording tool) from the current 'paper' based system by the start of the summer term 2016). This system new will enable Key Skills Targets to be set and evaluated by MDT colleagues and Teachers working closely together.

The move onto SOLAR, for this very important part of the school's work, is taking place and is being developed by an in house team of MDT colleagues, Teachers, Senior Leaders and

other professionals working with our SOLAR partners to ensure that we have the best system available for our students.