

The Den at IVJS

Aims:

1. To provide a safe and relaxed environment for all members of our school community to receive the support they need.
2. To provide a community service to help ensure the local community is more resilient
3. To help develop a strong sense of community
4. To improve children's attainment and aspirations by engaging their parents more in school, by making it easier and more attractive for them to visit school through co-location of other Services

During the last few years we have noticed a large increase in families needing extra support. This need grew even more after the pandemic and our school has been providing an increased level of support for a large number of families.

A key aim was to make sure that families felt comfortable coming into school and for them to be able to ask us for help if they needed to. We have ensured that our rooms are furnished so that there is a relaxed atmosphere.



Having a sofa in the room instantly makes children, and adults, feel more relaxed.

We have also been able to purchase resources to help us provide interventions such as Lego therapy and zones of regulation.

By providing interventions on emotional resilience it means that our pupils feel happier and are ready to learn.

We also have a key board in our chill out room as this helps key pupils to relax.



As part of this project we have employed some outside agencies to work with some of pupils. These agencies also use our rooms to meet with parents.



We have employed a Speech and Language therapist for a day a week. She works with a number of our pupils on a 1:1 basis and in small groups. As part of her work she also supports our LSAs in their intervention work.



A play therapist works 2 days a week with us. This allows us to provide a high-quality emotional support for pupils quickly as the CAMHS waiting time is at least 18 months. Our aim is to ensure all our pupils are able to learn to be resilient.