

More Information

School-based SENCO:

For more information about this intervention or to speak to someone about your child's needs, please contact the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (**SENCO**).

School Website:

The school also has a **SEN Information Report** on its website. This report will have information for parents and carers about how the school supports children and young people with SEND.

Birmingham's Local Offer for children with SEND

The **Local Offer** will help you to find more information about provision that is available for children and young people with SEND in Birmingham and how to access different types of services and support. Please visit the Local Offer website:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/localoffer

Special educational needs or disabilities; Birmingham's Local Offer

Help and advice for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) or disabilities	Support for babies and pre-school children with Special Educational Needs
What to do if you're unhappy with a SEND statement, assessment or plan	Education, Health and Care plans for children and young people
Assessment of Needs	What is the Local Offer?

Information for Parents and Carers Interventions: Word Wasp



Why have I been given this leaflet?

Sometimes pupils may need extra help with their learning. This information has been produced for parents and carers of pupils who have additional learning needs. The leaflet has information about the extra help or intervention which has been chosen to help your child. This leaflet is about the '**Words Wasp**' intervention.

The Graduated Approach

Teachers continually assess, plan, apply and review the way they teach all pupils in their class. When a pupil has an additional learning need identified, the approach to teaching gradually becomes more personalised. Children needing extra help may then receive a 'targeted' intervention over time or it may be decided that a more 'specialist' approach is needed.

Word Wasp

What is an intervention?

- These are additional teaching sessions which run alongside usual classroom teaching.
- The SENCO or specialist teacher will have assessed your child's individual needs and may decide that they need to teach in a different way. This is sometimes called 'targeted' or 'specialist' provision depending on the teaching method used.
- The school will be very clear about why they are doing this, how long it will run for and will agree the expected outcomes.

What is Word Wasp?

- Word Wasp is a highly structured, phonic programme which supports the development of both reading and spelling.
- It is usually delivered on a daily basis and involves the pupil working in a one to one context with a coach, who could be a teacher, teaching assistant, parent or older pupil.
- The pupil and coach work through the Word Wasp Manual in which each teaching session is prescribed. The pupil also records their spellings in an exercise book.
- Sessions last between 15 and 30 minutes.
- Tests are administered at the start, during and at the end of the intervention in order to track the pupil's progress and monitor the effectiveness of the intervention.

How is it different from my child's usual teaching?

- **WASP** stands for **W**ord **A**rticulation, **S**pelling and **P**ronunciation - it uses a multi-sensory teaching strategy (looking, listening, saying and writing)
- It supports pupils who are struggling to develop their phonological skills i.e. their ability to sound out and build words.
- It is delivered through a systematic, small steps approach, working at a pace which suits the individual pupil.
- It provides lots of repetition, so that the pupil can practise and embed the skills being learnt.

How can I help?

- Your child will benefit from reading and spelling with you at home.
- Create a relaxed environment where you can both enjoy reading and spelling together.
- Find ways of making spelling practice fun - the school should be able to provide you with some ideas.
- Give lots of praise.
- School will let you know when the intervention will start, how long it's planned to run and will keep you updated on progress during this time.