



Welcome To Forest Moor School



We are an SEMH Special School

SEMH needs are defined in the code of practice as:

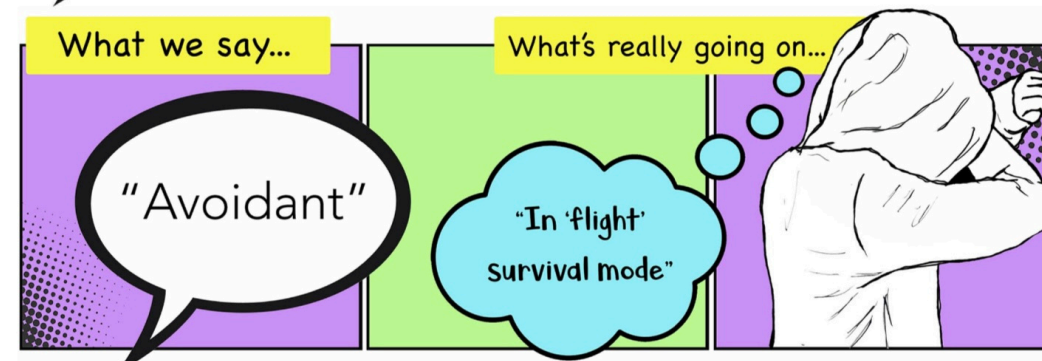
"Children and young people who may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behavior. These behaviors may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance misuse, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained. Other children and young people may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder."

(Department for Education & Department for Health, (2015))



What does this mean?

- We have to be different to mainstream education.
- Learning is about EHCP, SEMH & Academic.
- Play & relational based learning is essential.
- Change & new-faces can cause crisis behaviours.
- We have to stretch our young people's Window of Tolerance to help them progress.
- We use personalised logical consequences.
- We use Unconditional Positive Regard.
- We pick the right moments to challenge unwanted behaviours to maximise learning opportunities.
- We may use physical intervention to keep pupils safe.
- We use restorative practice to support incidents.
- We have clear systems to support different types of bullying or other undesired behaviour.
- We foster a nurturing & caring environment to help every young person.
- We provide flexible consistency rather than a zero tolerance approach.



What can this look like?

SEMH crisis can be upsetting or shocking to untrained staff. Crisis can look like:

- Verbal abuse
- Physical abuse
- Self-harm
- Introvert/withdrawn
- Hyperactive
- Anxious



What do we do about it?

- Challenge behaviours at the right time.
- Have clear rules, routines & boundaries.
- Use Restorative Practice.
- Use Trauma Informed Practice.
- Understand need.
- Foster strong & nurturing attachments.
- Use the whole school site environment & beyond.
- Never give up on our students.



What can you do to help?

- Engage with our young people - say hello, say who you are, ask how they are, join in what they are doing.
- Follow staff's verbal and non-verbal direction.
- Understand that you are entering our young people's safe space .
- Speak to staff if you are unsure or have questions/concerns.



All Behaviour Communicates - It is our responsibility to try to understand & support it

