

Sensory Support at Brunel School

October 2025





Sensory Integration Support at Brunel School

- ▶ At Brunel School, we recognise that many of our pupils with SEMH needs also experience sensory integration challenges that impact their ability to engage, regulate emotions, and access learning effectively. Our trauma-informed, nurturing approach ensures that sensory integration support is embedded within our whole-school provision, reflecting our core values of inclusion, compassion, safeguarding, and aspiration.
- ▶ Understanding Sensory Integration Needs Sensory integration refers to the way the brain processes and organises sensory information from the environment and the body. Difficulties in this area can lead to sensory overload or under-responsiveness, which may manifest as distress, withdrawal, or behaviours that challenge. Recognising these needs early and responding appropriately is critical to safeguarding pupil wellbeing and promoting positive learning outcomes.



Our Approach to Supporting Sensory Integration

Individualised Assessment and Planning

- ▶ Using the assess, plan, do, review cycle aligned with the SEND Code of Practice, we identify pupils' sensory integration needs through multidisciplinary assessment, including input from occupational therapists where appropriate. This ensures tailored sensory strategies and interventions are embedded in pupils' EHCPs and daily routines.

Creating Sensory-Friendly Environments

- ▶ Classrooms and shared spaces are adapted to reduce sensory overload by managing noise levels, lighting, and visual stimuli. We provide quiet zones and sensory corners equipped with calming resources, enabling pupils to self-regulate and return to learning in a calm state.



Staff Training and Awareness

- ▶ All staff receive ongoing training to understand sensory integration challenges and implement compassionate, trauma-informed strategies. This equips staff to recognise sensory triggers, adapt teaching approaches, and provide timely sensory breaks or interventions to support engagement and emotional regulation.

Integration with Therapeutic and Pastoral Support

- ▶ Sensory integration support is coordinated alongside our innovative therapeutic provision and pastoral care, ensuring a holistic approach that addresses pupils' emotional, social, and sensory needs in a unified way.

Promoting Pupil Agency and Self-Regulation

- We empower pupils by teaching them to recognise their sensory needs and use personalised sensory strategies proactively. This fosters independence, resilience, and a greater sense of control over their learning environment.



