



The Rainbow Rooms

Supporting Children with ASD and SLI

The Rainbow Rooms

The Rainbow Rooms opened in 2011 for 7 pupils with **ASD** or **SLI**. **The Rainbow Rooms** is where pupils can return to from mainstream lessons if it becomes too much, and where they can access specialist groups and staff. Our specialist rooms include 3 classrooms, a chill out room, and an office.

The specialist **ASD** and **SLI** teacher, Mr Hitchen, supports staff and pupils to include pupils with **ASD** and **SLI** and deliver specialist lessons. Two specialist teaching assistants, Mrs Sharif and Miss Griffin, support children in the classroom, in sessions designed to meet their individual needs and throughout the school day.

What is **ASD** and **SLI**?

ASD stands for **Autistic Spectrum Disorder**. This includes Aspergers Syndrome and Autism.

People with **ASD** have difficulty with:

- Communicating
- Making friends
- Dealing with change

SLI stands for **Specific Language Impairment**. People with **SLI** can have difficulty with:

- Understanding what language means
- Using language to express themselves

This difficulty in language can affect all areas of life, such as friendships.

People with **ASD** or **SLI** can be good at lots of things, such as working in a logical way, knowing lots of information, being creative, solving problems and being honest.

The Rainbow Rooms aims are...

- 1) To give all pupils an excellent education, that helps them learn at their level.
- 2) To include pupils with **ASD** and **SLI** in all parts of the school community.
- 3) To raise awareness of **ASD** and **SLI** amongst pupils, parents and the community.



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How will this affect my child?

From September 2011 your child may be in lessons with pupils from **The Rainbow Rooms** for some, or all, of the day. In lessons strategies used to help pupils with **ASD** or **SLI** will help lots of other pupils too, and pupils who find making friends or using language difficult might join some specialist sessions to develop their skills along side those with **ASD** or **SLI**.

Our aim is for pupils to accept everyone, whatever their ethnicity, religion, gender or disability and we will continue to work hard to develop this ethos. Pupils are taught about **ASD** and **SLI** to help them to understand the pupils in **The Rainbow Rooms**.

Interesting Facts

- People with **ASD** or **SLI** might speak more than one language but will present difficulties in all languages.
- People with **ASD** or **SLI** can live normal lives, but some may need extra support.
- There is no cure for **ASD** or **SLI** but there are strategies that can help overcome the difficulties.
- People with **ASD** or **SLI** look like anyone else, so they are often called hidden disabilities.

Further Information

More information on **ASD** can be found at: <http://www.autism.org.uk/>

More information on **SLI** can be found at: <http://www.ican.org.uk/>

If you want to discuss any questions or concerns about **The Rainbow Rooms** or **ASD** and **SLI**, or just want to look around **The Rainbow Rooms**, make an appointment to see Miss Cranmer.