



Editor's Comment

Alison Ekins



Welcome back to a new academic year... I'm sure that the summer holidays feel a long way behind us now!

This year promises to be a very interesting and eventful one, particularly as we await with eager anticipation more news about the future direction of SEN policy and practice in time for the proposed implementation in September 2014.

In this edition, we have another fantastically broad range of research and news articles, which I am sure you will enjoy reading and will help you in the development of practice in your school.

In the research article section, there is an interesting article which shares

initial findings relating to the growing numbers of children with life limiting illnesses in our classrooms today. It is great to be able to share information about this at the start of a larger scale research project, which will hopefully help to build resources and information for mainstream teachers coping with meeting the diverse needs of children with life limiting illnesses and their families. We will ensure that any further updates will also be shared as the research project develops over the coming months and years.

We also have another interesting research article which highlights the growing incidence of 'RAD' - Reactive Attachment Disorder - a must-read article with many helpful pointers which SENCos and class teachers can use to enhance their own knowledge and understanding of this complex disorder, and the impact that it may have on pupils in school.

Plus, Daniel La Salle provides us with a thought-provoking reflection on the taken-for-granted concept and terminology around intelligence, highlighting for us the problems with widespread use of the concept and its impact on pupil well-being and self-image.

Finally, we have a very interesting sponsored article which discusses the issue of tactile literacy, and the development of new resources to support visually impaired pupils in the classroom and socially. If you have a product that you wish to promote to a wider audience, do contact us and discuss with us the possibility of producing a sponsored article for Every Child Update.



every child **UPDATE**

I do hope that you enjoy this edition, and as ever, would really value any feedback that you may have. Please do contact me at any time, either with ideas for articles that you would like to be included, articles that you would like to write, or comments about published articles at alison@imaginativeminds.co.uk

Our next edition is going to be essential reading for all SENCOs and school practitioners. We have commissioned some really important articles reflecting on the practical implications for teachers and SENCOs of this year's Children and Families Bill. We will also include an article on the crucial role of the SENCO in changing times, which reflects on how the role of the SENCO has changed and gives some practical pointers about ways the SENCO can ensure that their role is as effective as possible to support the new policy changes coming in for September 2014.

Edition 30 will also include an extended section on the value of action research, with some guidelines on the type of practitioner research we would really value printing in ECU, with a hope that more of the innovative work that is being done out there in schools can be shared and enjoyed across a wider audience.

Until then, I do hope that the new academic year settles in well, both for pupils and staff alike, and I hope that this edition will provide some helpful inspiration and support in thinking about and developing practice!

**Best wishes,
Alison Ekins**

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Company registration number
02445043

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by Imaginative Minds,
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