Neurodiversity Celebration Week toolkit

13th – 19th March is Neurodiversity Celebration Week, and is an ideal opportunity for pupils and staff to learn more about, and celebrate, neurodiversity.

The term neurodiversity refers to the differences between how people think, process information, behave and communicate. Types of neurodivergence include ADHD, autism, dyslexia, dyspraxia, and Tourette's syndrome.

Some neurodiverse pupils may need additional support, while others may not. Every classroom is neurodiverse - because every pupil will have a different way of thinking, feeling, and learning. This should be encouraged and supported.

Celebrating Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a great opportunity to raise awareness of neurodiversity amongst pupils and staff, and encourage a more inclusive school or college environment.

In this toolkit, we're sharing resources for pupils and staff, to increase understanding of neurodiversity throughout the school community.

MENTALLY HEALTHY SCHOOLS **Anna Freud** National Centre for Children and Families

> Sign up to the Mentally Healthy Schools newsletter for more resources

Resources

For pupils

<u>Neurodiversity Celebration Week primary presentation</u> – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

A presentation for an assembly or lesson introducing the topic of neurodiversity, and looking at different types of neurodivergence.

<u>Learning About Neurodiversity at School (LEANS)</u> - University of Edinburgh

A free programme to introduce pupils aged 8 to 11 to the concept of neurodiversity, and how it impacts our experiences at school.

What is neurodiversity?: video for children – Differing Minds

Two illustrated videos which introduce neurodiversity to primary-aged children, using simple imagery to describe the differences in our brains.

For staff

<u>Neurodiversity: information for education staff</u> – Mentally Healthy Schools

Information for education staff, introducing the concept of neurodiversity, its links with mental health, and sharing advice on how to support neurodivergent children and young people.

<u>Teaching for neurodiversity: a guide to specific learning difficulties</u> – Multiple organisations

This detailed guidance, funded by DfE, looks at the different types of neurodiversity and how they may present in the classroom, with additional information about referral routes for children and young people.

<u>A quick guide to neurodiversity for educators</u> – Twinkl

This short video introduces some of the key terminology around neurodiversity, and why learning about neurodiversity is so important for educators.

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