

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



Westcroft
Stanhope
Bishop Auckland
Co Durham
DL13 2NU

Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parent/Carer

22nd May 2026

Re: Use of Fidget toys in school

I am writing to ask if you can please ensure that your child does not bring fidget toys or the latest craze – Nee Doh's into school unless this is stipulated as a need in their SEND School Support Plan.

We do not dispute that these resources can be helpful and in fact recommend them to parents where children present with anxiety/ADHD or other significant needs but at the moment a huge number of children (who do not have an identified need) are bringing them into school.

Children are now swapping them, taking them, spoiling them, becoming competitive over them and it is taking a significant amount of teaching time to resolve conflict over these toys. Teachers across the school are reporting to me that their teaching is being impacted and learning time for children is being affected.

If you are unsure as to whether your child has a SEND School Support Plan (SSP) or whether fidget toys are detailed in their plan then please contact the school office and this can be confirmed for you.

If you feel that your child's needs are significant and that they impact on their ability to access learning without a fidget toy and need to be added to our SEND Register please discuss this with your child's teacher.

Thank you for your help and understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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