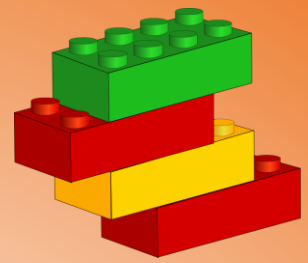


# Play Therapy at Marish



Play Therapy helps children explore their feelings, express themselves and make sense of their life's experiences. Playing is how children understand and make sense of their world; play is a child's natural form of communication

The play therapist and child meet on the same day, at the same time and in same place once a week. Using a variety of art materials, a sand tray, small world figures, sensory materials, puppets, games and play equipment.

The qualified play therapist invites the child to play out what they cannot put into words. Sessions are non-directive, allowing the child to choose the activities and leads the therapy process at the child's pace.

The success of the intervention lies in the relationship between the child and the play therapist. The therapist's role is not to judge or interpret but, create a safe and trusting environment so that the child feels safe, supported and understood.



**OFSTED SAID:**

**'The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good'.**

**OFSTED Inspection Report: Willow Primary School  
21-22 June 2016.**

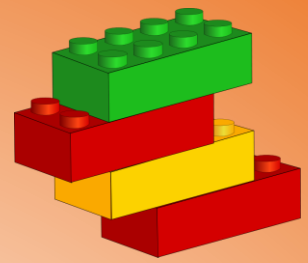
## **Talk Time at Marish Primary School**

Talk Time provides pupils from Year 3 to 6 a safe and confidential space to talk through issues that are concerning them. Pupils self-refer through the class 'Worry Box' by completing a request to talk slip. This allows them to make an appointment with one of the worry box team, made up of play therapists and member of the schools' Inclusion team.

Pupils are encouraged to bring a trusted friend with them for support if it makes it easier:

Pupils' well-being is followed up by the team often through an informal chat. If the presenting issue is complex and the pupil wants the opportunity to explore it in greater detail, then a short block of regular, weekly sessions are offered and parental consent is sought.

# **Other Interventions at Marish Primary School**



## **Bereavement Counselling:**

**We have in house staff and an outside bereavement counsellor who can work with children in school who have suffered bereavement or loss.**

## **Group Interventions:**

**Across the Marish Academy Trust, a number of different group interventions are held, including:**

**Lego Group – children take on 3 different roles; Builder, Supplier and Engineer. The intervention helps children with their communication, leadership and concentration skills. They learn to read, give and follow instructions, to work as a team, develop fine motor skills and develop friendships.**

**Board Games Groups – children develop a number of skills while, playing board games in small groups, facilitated by a member of the school staff. The intervention helps children develop their attention and listening skills, team building skills, developing friendships, learning to win and lose, following instructions, controlling emotions and the importance of playing fair.**

**Self-Esteem, Friendship and Feelings Groups – these bespoke groups are led by trained members of staff focusing on specific issues raised by class teachers and parents. These groups often revolve around difficulties with friendships, self-esteem and understanding, expressing and controlling feelings and use techniques such as team building, games, discussions, art, music and movement.**