Colourful Semantics Policy

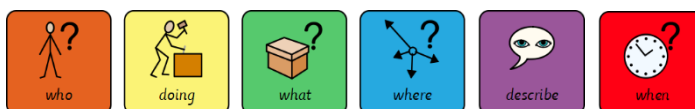## Why do we use the Colourful Semantics approach at Haughton School?

The Colourful Semantics approach was created by Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) Alison Bryan. It is a Speech and Language Therapy technique that uses colour coded words; this helps the children to learn the different elements within a sentence and how to join them together correctly. It supports children in developing their:

- Spoken sentences
- Ability to answer WH-Questions
- Use of nouns, verbs, prepositions and adjectives
- Story telling skills
- Written sentences
- Understanding of grammar

The Colourful Semantics approach teaches children different 'types' of words and associates these words with particular colours. The use of different colours helps the children to remember all the parts of a sentence that they need to use. At Haughton School we use the following colour words in line with the original Colourful Semantics program:

- Level 1 – Who? "the man" (Subject – Orange)
- Level 2 – What doing? "is eating" (Verb – Yellow)
- Level 3 – What? "the sandwich" (Object – Green)
- Level 4 – Where? "in the kitchen" (Location – Blue)
- Level 5 – Describe? "big" (Adjective – Purple)

These are the agreed symbols that we use at Haughton School:

Colourful Semantics is a useful tool to support children with:

- Mild and Moderate Learning Disabilities
- Speech, Language and Communication Needs
- Specific Language Impairment (SLI)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders
- Hearing impairment
- Cerebral Palsy
- Aphasia
- Down Syndrome

How and when do we use the Colourful Semantics approach?
- Literacy lessons
- Target time
- Within 1-1 and group therapy sessions
- Reading time

Training

- *All teachers in school receive training in Colourful Semantics, as delivered by a Speech and Language therapist as part of the SALT training packages.*
- *All staff have access to a shared area of resources for Colourful Semantics to support resource sharing across school, including an Order of Teaching Guide and Colourful Semantics Idea's for the Classroom to support staff in implementing this approach.*
- *Every year Colourful Semantic teaching ideas are shared with all staff, with 'drop in' sessions offered during the academic year by the Communication Coordinator.*