Case Study

Delroy is a lovely six year old boy entering Year 3 with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and significant language impairment. Delroy needs interventions that are known to support children with a diagnosis of ASD.

Presenting needs

Cognition and Learning
- Delroy has some difficulties with concentration and attention.
- Delroy can find it difficult to transfer his attention from extraneous noises to the teacher.
- Delroy cannot complete all tasks independently particularly in large groups.
- Delroy finds it difficult to generalise his understanding to multiple classroom topics and contexts.
- Delroy's language impairment is affecting his reading and writing.
- Delroy has short term memory difficulty as well as the probable working memory difficulties. They both are probably linked to his difficulties in understanding.

Communication and Interaction
- Delroy finds it difficult to understand and learn new vocabulary,
- In both written and spoken activities, Delroy finds it difficult to use age appropriate grammatical structures, past tense and correct word order.
- Delroy's difficulties with verbal reasoning and understanding social nuances impact on his ability to access and engage in social interaction with other children and adults e.g. observing appropriate space.

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- Delroy responds negatively to feelings of challenge.
- Delroy will become upset about class work at least one to three times a day. He finds too much work stressful.
- Delroy has difficulties cooperating and interacting appropriately with his peers.
- Delroy has little understanding of danger and will try and run away if he is not monitored carefully.

Sensory/physical
- Delroy can be very tactile.
- Delroy shows increasing sensitivity to noise.
- Delroy's handwriting is under developed.

Progress

Delroy is achieving within Level One of the former National Curriculum. He is working significantly below the levels of his peers in Literacy and Numeracy, With the appropriate level of support Delroy should continue to achieve and make steady progress.

Other factors

None