After popping up in Taunton and Yeovil a sen.se Sational addition to the high street has arrived in Frome.

As before, the new outlet in Bath Street, supported by Somerset County Council, is run by young people with stock created by pupils from special schools across Somerset.

The sen.se Sational shop was a big success in Taunton and Yeovil and was a finalist in the Somerset Education Business Awards 2019.

The aim of the project lead by Special Educational Needs.Somerset Expertise (sen.se), with the support of charity Young Somerset, is to support students leaving education to find vital work experience.

Sen.se is a partnership between special schools and specialist provision within Somerset.

Products include ornaments, jams and upcycled furniture, to beautiful limited edition paintings, cards, sweets and plants, silk scarves, lavender products, candles, bird feeders, printed aprons, bags and mugs.

Frome Town Council had helped the team find the premises and agents Cooper and Tanner negotiated with the landlord Anthony Pang to provide the space for free.
Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), is a condition which affects seven per cent of the population, that’s two children in every class of 30. In contrast, Autistic Spectrum Disorder affects only one per cent of the population but the public is much more aware of this condition compared to DLD.

It’s is usually diagnosed in childhood but is a life-long condition, and affects a person’s understanding of instructions, questions, conversations or stories, and their talking e.g. they may have a limited vocabulary, have difficulty finding the word they want to use, have difficulty using grammar correctly or sequencing their thoughts into a logical, easy to follow order. These difficulties can impact how the person interacts with others and how they express their feelings. In addition, they are at risk of difficulties with reading and writing.

Speech and Language Therapists can diagnosis DLD and offer support to the child, their family and other professionals, such as school staff. The Speech and Language Therapists within Somerset’s Integrated Therapy Service (ITS) for Children and Young People have the expertise to diagnose DLD and crucial role to play in its management.

Friday 18 October is International DLD awareness day and the Service is proud to be playing a part highlighting the condition to the public.

*The ITS advice line runs 9-12 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday on 0300 333002. Visit the website here.