



SEND Information Report

Welcome to our SEN Information Report which is part of the Leicester Local Offer for learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. All governing bodies of maintained schools and maintained nursery schools and the proprietors of academy schools have a legal duty to publish information on their website about the implementation of the governing body policy for pupils with SEND.

At Whitehall Primary School we are committed working together with all members of our school community. This Local Offer has been produced by the Local Authority in collaboration with Leicester City schools.

If you have any queries, please contact the SENCo or the Assistant SENCo at the school office.

What kinds of SEND do we provide for?

There are four broad categories of SEND:

- **Communication and interaction** (such as autistic spectrum and language disorders)
- **Cognition and learning** (such as dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia, moderate learning difficulties and global development delay)
- **Social, emotional and mental health** (such as ADHD, ADD, attachment disorders, emotional difficulties, mental health difficulties)
- **Physical and sensory** (such as hearing or vision impairment)

How will we identify and assess the needs of pupils with SEND?

Children with SEND are identified by one of three assessment routes all of which are part of the overall approach to monitoring progress of all pupils:

1. The progress of every child is monitored at termly pupil progress meetings. Where children are identified as not making progress in spite of Quality First Teaching they are discussed with the SENCo and a plan of action is shared with parents.
2. Class teachers are continually aware of children's learning. If they observe that a child, as recommended by the 2014 Code of Practice, is making less than expected progress, given their age and individual circumstances, they will seek to identify a cause. This can be characterised by progress which:
 - Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
 - Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
 - Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
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3. Parents sometimes ask us to look more closely at their child's learning. We take all parental requests seriously and strive to investigate them all. Frequently, the concern can be addressed by Quality First Teaching or some parental support. Otherwise, a graduated response is implemented by school. This may result in the child being placed on the SEND register at SEN Support.

The SENCo or other trained staff may need to undertake a range of standardised tests with children. These assessments can be used to add to and inform teachers' own understanding and assessments of a child.

Although the school can identify special educational needs, and make provision to meet those needs, we do not offer diagnoses. Parents are advised to contact their GP if they think their child may have an underlying medical condition or disability.

How do we involve families with their child's additional education needs?

We aim to have positive and informative relationships with all of our parents. If a child is experiencing difficulties, parents will be informed either at termly Progress Evenings or at an SEN meeting with the SENCo.

A formal written end of year report will be sent at the end of the summer term. Other informal meetings may be scheduled at other times throughout the year and parents are welcome to seek advice and support about their child at any pre-arranged time.

What arrangements are in place for consulting pupils with SEND and involving them in their learning?

We encourage all pupils to be actively involved in their learning, and staff are committed to working in partnership with the child and their family to set appropriate goals. We seek to ascertain the child's strengths, difficulties, preferred learning styles and aspirations. In addition to this, their progress and attainment is carefully tracked and next steps are agreed and shared regularly with parents at formal and informal meeting times.

What are our arrangements for assessing and reviewing pupil's progress towards outcomes?

Once a child has been identified as needing SEN Support, some of the following paperwork may need to be completed. This means that the child has outcomes that are in addition to their class targets:

- Intervention group targets
- Schools internal monitoring paperwork
- Element 3 funding
- Pastoral Support Plan (PSP)
- Positive Handling Plan (PHP)
- Personal Education Plan (PEP)
- Single Point of Contact (SPOC) referral for medical needs
- School Contract
- Proposal for Education, Health and Care Plan

Referral to an outside agency listed below:

- Speech and Language Therapist (SALT)
- Educational Psychology Service (EPS)
- Complex Learning, Communication and Interaction Team (CLCI)
- Vision and hearing support service
- Family Support/ Common Assessment Framework
- Primary Social, Emotional and Mental Health Service
- School Nurse

Moving to an EHC Plan (Education, Health and Care Plan)

Following consultation between families, school and relevant outside agencies, we may consider applying for and Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments if:

- The child has not made expected progress despite the school having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet their SEN
- The child has a disability which is lifelong and which means that they will always need support to learn effectively
- The child's achievements are so far below their peers that we think it likely that they may at some point benefit from special school provision.

Having a diagnosis (e.g., of ASD, ADHD or dyslexia) does not mean that a child needs an EHC Plan.

If the application for an EHC Plan is successful, a member of the Local Authority will call an Integrated Assessment Meeting (IAM) for parents, the child and the school, together with any health or social care professionals who are involved with the family. The meeting will record the child's strengths, their dreams and aspirations as well as the barriers they face. Following the meeting, the LA will produce the EHC Plan which will record the decisions made at the meeting. The Plan will be reviewed at least annually and school will invite families and all agencies involved with the child. This is called an Annual Review meeting and the outcomes are recorded on an Annual Review return and sent to the Local Authority.

What are our arrangements for supporting pupils moving between phases of education?

Transition into and within school

We understand how difficult it is for children and parents as they move into a new class or a new school and will do what we can, according to the individual needs of the child, to make transitions between classes – including from the nursery – as smoothly as possible. This may include, for example:

- Additional meetings for the parents and the child with the new teacher
- Additional visit to the classroom environment in order to make a transitional booklet or social story

Enhanced transition arrangements to meet individual needs.

Transition to Secondary School

The secondary school SENCo is invited to Annual Reviews and other relevant review meetings of Year 6 pupils. Additional transition arrangements may be made at these reviews e.g. extra visits, travel training etc.

What is our approach to teaching pupils with SEND and how do we evaluate the effectiveness of the provision?

We believe that all children learn best with the rest of their class. Our aim is for all children to be working independently in class with their peers. Children with SEN and disabilities are entitled to be taught by their teacher, not always by a Teaching Assistant (TA). Teachers aim to spend each day working with all children with SEN, individually or as part of a group.

When allocating additional TA support to children, our focus is on outcomes, not hours: we aim to put in sufficient support to enable the child to reach their challenging targets, but without developing a learned dependence on an adult.

The school has a range of interventions available which are listed on a provision map. When considering an intervention, we look first at the child's profile of learning in order that we can select the intervention which is best matched to the child.

Targets for children who are on the SEN register at SEN Support are deliberately challenging in the attempt to close the attainment gap between the children and their peers. Interventions are often crucial in closing these gaps, so are monitored closely by both subject teachers, those specialist Teaching Assistants who are delivering the intervention, the specialist SEN teacher and by the SENCo who monitors overall progress after the intervention.

- Interventions are planned in blocks
- At the end of each block, children's progress towards their targets is assessed and recorded
- A decision is then made as to whether to continue the intervention, to swap to a new intervention, or to allow a period of consolidation in class.

The SENCo monitors interventions to identify "what works".

What adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of pupils with SEND?

Whitehall Primary School is disability friendly. The school is split over two levels with lift access between the Year 5 & 6 classrooms. Building work at the school is currently taking place to provide seven additional classrooms across two floors with lift access. Corridors are wide and there are a number of easy access toilets on all floors. There is a medical room (complete with shower and toilet) in the Inclusion suite. Where and when appropriate, we make changes to the environment or building that are necessary for children with physical or other sensory disabilities following the guidance given by the relevant external agency that is working with the young person and family.

All of our classrooms are inclusion-friendly; we aim to teach in a way that will support children with tendencies towards dyslexia, dyspraxia, ASD etc. This is good practice to support all children but is vital for those who particularly need it. All of our children access the full National Curriculum, and we recognise achievement and expertise in all curricular areas. As part of normal class differentiation, curriculum content and ideas can be simplified and made more accessible by using visual, tactile and concrete resources.

What expertise and training do staff have, in meeting pupils' SEND and supporting their families?

All of our teachers are trained to work with children with SEN. Some are very experienced, and others less so, but all have access to advice, information, resources and training to enable them to teach all children effectively. We offer training and self-help opportunities through access to in house or LA courses, provision of books or guidance towards useful websites.

Some of our TAs have expertise and training on other areas or specific interventions. All TAs work with children with SEN and disabilities.

How do we secure additional professional expertise?

If we identify information we can't access without the aid of additional, more specialist help, the school is able to access additional expertise from the Local Authority. This includes access to Educational Psychologists and Advisory Teachers as well as health and social care professionals.

How do we ensure equal access to activities for all of our pupils?

All of our children have equal access to before school, lunchtime and after school clubs/activities which develop engagement with the wider curriculum. Where necessary, we make amendments and adaptations to meet the physical and learning needs of our children. Residential and day trips are part of our curriculum and we aim for all children to benefit from them. No child is excluded from a trip because of SEN, disability or medical needs. Where

required, Teaching assistant support is provided to ensure that students needs are met when outside of school.

What support is available for improving pupils ' emotional and social development?

If the child is felt to have long-term social, emotional or mental health needs - for example with anger management - the school offers social skills and behaviour modification programmes. These are delivered by trained TAs or teachers who develop good, trusting relationships with the children.

All children's behaviour is responded to consistently in line with our Behaviour Policy, although reasonable adjustments are made to accommodate individual needs.

The school has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, especially towards children with SEND. We will actively investigate all allegations and, if there is cause, work with both the bully and the victim to improve their social skills.

The school is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, faith, gender or capability in all aspects of school. We promote self and mutual respect and a caring and non- judgmental attitude throughout school.

What arrangements are in place for handling complaints from parents of children with SEND about the provision made at school?

The school works, wherever possible, in partnership with parents to ensure a collaborative approach to meeting pupils' needs.

All complaints are taken seriously and are heard through the school's complaints policy and procedure.