

SEND Policy



Named personnel with designated responsibility:

Academic year	Head teacher	Deputy Head teacher	Assistant Head teachers	School Business Manager	Chair of Governors
2023/2024	Mrs R Hocking	Mr R Warren	Mrs S Leaver & Mrs K McCall	Mrs E Elliot	Mrs L Gray

Policy review dates:

Review Date	Changes made	By whom	Date Shared
September 2020		S Leaver	
September 2021	Yes	S Leaver	12.10.2021
October 2022	Yes	S Leaver	
September 2023	No	S Leaver	

INTRODUCTION

At Swalwell School we provide an additionally resourced mainstream school (ARMS) setting for children with physical disabilities and Autism. We offer 10 places for physical disabilities and 8 places for Autism, with these spaces being offered from Nursery to Year 6.

We wish to comply with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years, the Statutory Guidance for Organisations Who Work with and Support Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and with sections 29, 34, 35, 66, 67, 68, 69 and 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

Swalwell Primary School have a duty to provide appropriate SEND provision for children and young people in order to meet their needs. It is also our duty to 'make reasonable adjustments for disabled children and young people, to support medical conditions and to inform parents and young people if SEN provision is made for them.' We must ensure that under no circumstance will we directly or indirectly discriminate against, harass or victimise disabled children or young people.

We believe it is our responsibility to publish all details of the SEND provision that we have available in the Information Report and to work with the local authority in compiling and reviewing the Local Offer.

We believe that... 'Children have special educational needs if they have a learning difficulty, which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.'

DEFINITION

Children have a learning difficulty if they:

- have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age: or
- have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within the area of the local education authority
- are under compulsory school age and fall within the definitions above or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them

Special educational provision is 'additional to, or otherwise different from, the educational provision made generally for children of their age in schools maintained by the local authority, other than special schools, in the area.' (Education Act 1996)

PRINCIPLES AND SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

When organising additional support, it is very important that we provide children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) a broad and balanced curriculum with regular access to all subjects and areas of learning. We believe that children with SEND should not be routinely segregated from their class teachers and peers but included as much as possible within their class.

We believe we provide high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised and that meets the needs of children and young people.

We will ensure that teachers and teaching assistants are prepared for dealing with the challenges and complex difficulties posed by children with SEND by providing structured training on a variety of SEND issues. We believe teachers are responsible for children's learning and that teaching assistants will be used effectively to provide the necessary support for children with SEND within the classroom and during social times.

We are aware that depending upon their age and understanding we must discuss with pupils with SEND any decision that might affect them.

It is our intent to provide every child with the best education possible. Our objective in setting out the school's SEND policy is to make everyone aware that we want all pupils to benefit as fully as possible from the education provided within the school.

We cater for pupils who experience difficulties in: -

- communication and interaction
- cognition and learning
- social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- sensory and/or physical needs

The school has full provision for pupils who are physically disabled and those with a diagnosis of Autism.

We strongly endorse both the Equality Act 2010 and the School Admissions Code of Practice by ensuring that all applications to this school from parents of children who have SEND will be considered and treated fairly and in line with current guidance.

We have a duty to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism and any form of exploitation. We are aware that there are extremists groups within our country who wish to radicalise vulnerable children and to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. There are also groups and individuals who may exploit children in a number of ways. Periodic risk assessments are undertaken to assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism or exploitation. School personnel must be aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, and alert to changes in pupil's behaviour. Any concerns will be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

We are aware that under the 'Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015' we have the duty to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This duty is known as the Prevent duty and we believe it is essential that school personnel are able to identify those who may be vulnerable to radicalisation or being influenced by extremist views, and then to know what to do when they are identified.

We provide a safe environment where we promote pupils' welfare. Within this environment we work hard to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation, exploitation and extremism by promoting fundamental British values and for everyone to understand the risks associated with terrorism. We want pupils to develop their knowledge and skills in order to challenge extremist views.

We wish to work closely with the School Council and to hear their views and opinions as we acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that children should be encouraged to form and to express their views.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. We believe it is essential that this policy clearly identifies and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the procedures and arrangements that is connected with this policy.

AIMS

We aim:

- To have due regard to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice.
- To identify pupils with special educational needs and disabilities as early as possible and meet their needs.
- To have in place systems whereby teachers are aware of such pupils.
- To provide all our pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum that is differentiated to the needs and ability of the individual.
- To have high ambitions and expectations for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- To be sympathetic to each pupil's needs by providing a strong partnership between children, parents, governors, local authority and outside agencies.
- To ensure all pupils make effective progress and realise their full potential.
- To ensure all pupils take a full and active part in school life.
- To protect children from the risk of radicalisation, exploitation and extremism.
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation connected to this policy.
- To work with other schools and the local authority to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governing Body

The Governing Body has:

- appointed a member of staff to be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator;
- responsibility for ensuring the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator will hold a 'National Award in Special Educational Needs Co-ordination';
- responsibility for ensuring the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is allocated time to undertake the demanding role of SENCo;
- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and visitors to the school are aware of and comply with this policy;
- to ensure that provision of special educational needs is of a high standard;
- responsibility for ensuring pupils with SEND have access to all activities;
- responsibility for ensuring pupils with SEND have access to all school facilities;
- due regard to comply with the SEN Code of Practice when undertaking its responsibilities;

- responsibility for having in place an admissions policy;
- responsibility for admitting any child whose EHCP names the school;
- responsibility for publishing a SEN information report;
- responsibility for having in place an accessibility plan outlining what improvements need to be made to the school facilities so that disabled pupils, and those with other SEND, can access the curriculum;
- responsibility for regularly reviewing funding for resources;
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation;
- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents;
- the responsibility of involving the School Council in the development, approval, implementation and review of this policy;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and the SENCo and to report back to the Governing Body;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy

The Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- ensure that the daily management of SEND provision is effective;
- work closely with the SENCo, the link governor and the teaching and support staff;
- keep the Governing Body informed of all matters relating to its responsibilities for the provision of SEND;
- ensure that all relevant school personnel receive the appropriate information regarding the special needs provision for pupils with SEND;
- inform parents when SEND provision has been made for their child;
- be responsible for supervising the statutory assessment, statementing and annual review process for pupils with SEND (these meetings may be held remotely via Teams);
- ensure all pupil records are sent to and received by schools that pupils with SEND transfer to;
- monitor the quality of teaching for pupils with SEND;
- monitor the progress made by pupils with SEND;
- agree with the Local Authority the school's arrangements for assessing and identifying pupils as having SEND as part of the Local Offer;
- publish SEN information report on the school's website updating stakeholders of how the school's offer is administered;
- provide leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;

Monitor the effectiveness of this policy by checking to see if:

- pupils with SEND are making sufficient progress appropriate to their ability
- school personnel have high expectations of pupils with SEND

- appropriate provision is in place
- differentiation is put into place
- the pupil tracking system is effective
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy

The Local Authority

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to develop and publish a Local Offer which gives 'information about provision they expect to be available across education, health and social care for children and young people in their area who have SEN or are disabled, including those who do not have Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans. In setting out what they 'expect to be available', LA's should include provision which they believe will actually be available.'

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator

The SENCo will:

- have the 'National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination' qualification or relevant experience;
- ensure the detailed implementation of support for children with SEND;
- ensure the implementation of this policy;
- ensure all school personnel understand their responsibilities to children with SEND;
- work with the Headteacher to oversee the day to day provision for pupils with SEND within the school including those with education, health and care (EHC) plans;
- ask the LA, if necessary, to conduct an education, health and care needs assessment for a child with the parents' permission;
- identify the barriers to learning and what special educational needs provision that a pupil requires;
- provide advice and teaching strategies to teachers and support staff;
- inform parents of their child's special educational needs;
- provide awareness training for parents;
- arrange meetings for parents with the school nurse, external support teachers or the educational psychologist;
- organise in-house and external support for a pupil with SEND;
- monitor this support;
- keep parents up to date with the special educational needs provision for their child;
- ensure pupils with SEND have full access to the curriculum;
- ensure pupils with SEND are included in all school activities and events;
- ensure pupils with SEND take part in extra-curricular activities;
- arrange for key workers to be allocated to pupils with SEND so that pupils can talk about any difficulties or concerns that they may have;
- lead the development of SEND throughout the school;
- arrange in-service training for school personnel and governors;
- help select, train, organise and manage a team of teaching assistants (TAs);
- support staff to prepare and keep up to date Individual Provision Plans (IPPs) and Personal Curriculum Provision (PCP) plans;
- undertake classroom observations;

- ensure differentiated teaching methods are being used;
- track the progress of children with SEND;
- maintain records of all children with SEND;
- use provision maps to give an overview of programmes and interventions that have been used with different groups of pupils and to monitor the levels of intervention;
- keep up to date with new developments and resources;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- liaise with parents;
- organise annual reviews;
- meet with outside agencies;
- work with feeder or transition schools before a child moves into another setting to plan and prepare for transition;
- provide information for the SEND Information Report;
- review and monitor;
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of SEND.

The Nominated Governor

The Nominated Governor will:

- work closely with the Headteacher and the SENCo;
- ensure this policy and other linked policies are up to date;
- ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of this policy;
- attend training related to this policy;
- report to the Governing Body every term;
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy.

The Class Teacher

Class teachers must:

- be responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils they teach;
- have high expectations of pupils with SEND;
- be aware of the school's policy for the identification and assessment of pupils with SEND and the provision it makes for them;
- work closely with the SENCo;
- be well informed of the special needs, medical conditions and the Education, Health and Care needs of the pupils that they teach;
- implement any advice and teaching strategies given by the SENCo;
- provide high quality teaching for all pupils;
- write and deliver the individual provision plans (IPP's) for each SEND pupil;
- include pupils with SEND in all class activities;
- ensure their planning includes differentiation;
- set challenging targets;
- track and monitor the progress of all pupils;
- inform the SENCo of any identified barriers to learning and lack of progress of pupils;

- liaise with parents of pupils with SEND to update them of the progress of their children;
- suggest ways that parents can support their children at home;
- undertake appropriate training on induction;
- identify any additional training needs they require.

Teaching Assistants

Teaching assistants will:

- work closely with the SENCo and class teachers;
- provide support for individual or groups of pupils with SEND;
- provide in- class and out of class catch up literacy and numeracy support for pupils;
- assist in the preparation of lessons;
- monitor pupils progress;
- provide feedback to teachers and the SENCo;
- attend appropriate training;
- suggest training needs.

External Support

External support:

- will work closely with the SENCo, class teachers and TAs;
- work with SEND pupils to meet the objectives of their EHCP's;
- advise planning for teachers and TAs;
- undertake continuous pupil assessment as needed;
- keep up to date pupil records;
- develop or suggest support materials;
- provide in-house training on specific topics;
- meet regularly with the SENCo, teaching staff and parents.

External support may come from:-

- Educational Psychologists (EP)
- Child and Young People's Services (CYPS)
- High Incidence Needs Team (HINT)
- Low Incidence Needs Team (LINT)
- Speech and Language Therapists (SALT)
- Occupational Therapists (OT)
- Physiotherapists

Parents

We encourage parents to:

- work closely with the school in order to develop a partnership that will support special educational needs pupils.
- be aware of their child's targets and their progress towards them;
- take part in the review of IPPs and EHCP's;
- attend and take part in annual reviews, either remotely or in person;
- consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment;
- be aware of the LA's Information, Advice and Support Service.

Pupils

We encourage pupils with special educational needs to understand their rights and to take part in:

- assessing their needs;
- setting learning targets;
- the annual review

APPROACH

We feel it is vital that pupils with special educational needs are identified at an early stage. Every teacher in this school is responsible for identifying pupils with special educational needs.

We will inform parents at the earliest opportunity of the school's concerns and to work in partnership with them to establish the support the child needs.

We will adopt a graduated approach coordinated by the SENCo and using the following four stages of action: **Assess, Plan, Do and Review.**

Parents will be kept well informed of and involved in all four stages.

Assess

- Working with the SENCo and the child's parents an analysis of the child's needs will be undertaken by the class teacher when trying to identify what SEND support is required.
- Support is put into place and is reviewed regularly to ensure that the support is matched to need.
- More specialist assessment will take place if there is no improvement in the child's progress.
- This will be organised by the SENCo with the agreement of the parents.

Plan

When it has been decided to provide SEND support all parties will decide/ensure:

- the expected outcomes
- what interventions and support that is required
- the expected impact on progress, development or behaviour
- on a review date
- that plans will take into account the views of the child.
- that parents will reinforce the provision by contributing to progress at home.

Do

- The SENCo and the class teacher oversee the implementation of the interventions as part of the agreed SEND support.
- The class teacher supported by the SENCo assesses the child's response to the action taken.
- The SENCo offers continuous advice on the effective implementation of support.

Review

- The effectiveness of the support and its impact on the child's progress is discussed at the review meeting which is attended by the SENCo, the class teacher and the child's parents.
- The views of the child are also taken into consideration at this meeting.
- In light of the child's progress and development, changes to the outcomes and support will be agreed by all concerned.
- A cycle of review meetings will continue with all parties attending in order to identify the best way of securing good progress.
- All parties will agree to any specialist involvement if a child continues to make less than expected progress.
- An Education, Health and Care assessment may be requested if a child continues not to make the expected progress despite the amount of support and intervention that has been given.
- If a child has an Education, Health Care Plan the LA must undertake a review annually.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

We have a duty under the Children and Families Act 2014 to support pupils with medical conditions. We are aware that individual education healthcare plans (EHCP) will state the type and level of support required to meet their medical needs. For some pupils, Individual Healthcare Plans (IHC) will be drawn up in partnership with the school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional, such as the school nurse, specialist or paediatrician, who can best advise on the pupil's specific needs. The pupil will be involved wherever appropriate. Any staff administering medicine or supporting with medical procedures will wear appropriate PPE (please see Administration of medicines policy and Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs policy).

RECORD KEEPING

Accurate and up to date records will be kept that provide:

- evidence tracking data of pupil progress
- evidence of outcomes and planned next steps
- details of additional support or different provision made under SEND support
- details of the involvement of specialists
- evidence of involvement with parents
- evidence that shows a rigorous approach to the monitoring and evaluation of any SEND support provided

RANGE OF PROVISION

The school aims to provide a variety of provision by way of:

- in-class support either individually or in small groups with specialist teachers and/or teaching assistants;
- withdrawal support either individually or in small groups with specialist teachers or teaching assistants.

EQUALITY AND PROVISION

We have the responsibility to:

- prevent discrimination;
- promote to equality of opportunity;
- promote disability equality;
- foster good relations;
- regularly review and evaluate the breadth and impact of the support that we offer or have access to;
- cooperate with the Local Authority in reviewing the provision that is available locally and in developing the Local Offer;
- work with other local authorities to investigate how different needs can be met more effectively;
- include pupils with SEND into all school activities;
- monitor the number of extra-curricular activities that they take part in.

COMPLAINTS

Parents with a complaint about the provision for children with SEND should discuss these directly with Mrs S. Leaver (SENCo) in the first instance. If the SENCo cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Complaints
- Equality information and objectives
- Administering medications policy
- Health and safety
- Safeguarding
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs
- Intimate Care
- Visitor policy
- SEND local offer
- SEND annual information report

We believe this policy relates to the following legislation:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999
- Education Act 2002
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007
- Education (Special Educational Needs Coordinators) (England) Regulations 2008
- Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) Rules 2008

- Education (Special Educational Needs Coordinators) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- School Discipline (Pupils Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Children and Families Act 2014 (Transitional and Saving Provisions)(No 2) Order 2014
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
- Special Educational Needs (Local Offer) Regulations 2014
- Special Educational Needs (Personal Budgets) Regulations 2014
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (Detained Persons) Regulations 2015
- The following documentation is also related to this policy:
- Quality Standards for Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support and Outreach Services (DCSF)
- School Admissions Code (DfE)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years. Statutory Guidance for Organisations Who Work With and Support Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (DfE) and (DoH)
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions: Statutory Guidance for Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools and Proprietors of Academies in England (DfE)
- The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (DfE)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) (DfE)
- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (DfE)
- Reasonable Adjustments for Disabled Pupils (2012) (Equality and Human Rights Commission)
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions (2014) (DfE)
- Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015