



Parkside Community Primary School

SEND Policy

Head teacher: Charles Soyka
Chair of Governors: Emily Saunderson

Last reviewed: June 2023

Date of next review: June 2024

Signed:

Date: June 2023

SEND

(Special Educational Needs & Disabilities)

INTRODUCTION

The Governing Body and teaching staff will ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs and/or disabilities. Where the school has determined that a child has SEND, those needs will be made known to all who are likely to teach them. All staff and governors in the school are aware of the importance of identifying and providing for children who have SEND. All staff will ensure children with SEND are included in school activities as far as is reasonably practical.

As a school we believe that all pupils have an equal right to an education that will enable them to achieve to their full potential. We seek to provide a targeted special educational provision for pupils, alongside a differentiated curriculum. This may require reasonable adjustments to be made to their provision and should incorporate their specific area(s) of need as identified in the Code of Practice (September 2014).

- **Communication and Interaction** - this includes children with speech and language delay, impairments or disorders, specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia and dyspraxia, hearing impairment, and those who demonstrate features within the autistic spectrum
- **Cognition and Learning** - this includes children who demonstrate features of moderate, severe or profound learning difficulties or specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia or dyspraxia
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health** - this includes children who may be withdrawn or isolated, disruptive or disturbing, hyperactive or lack concentration
- **Sensory and/or Physical Needs** - this includes children with sensory, multi- sensory and physical difficulties

What are special educational needs?

A child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability, which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A learning difficulty or disability is a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age. Special educational provision means educational provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for others of the same age in a mainstream setting. Where a child has SEND but does not have an EHCP their special educational need should be monitored in their class provision map or their individual SEND support plan.

Disability

Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010- that is 'a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. This definition provides a relatively low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. This definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN. Where a disabled child or young person requires special educational provision they will also be covered by the SEN definition.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The school aims to:

- create an inclusive learning environment with a broad and balanced curriculum, in which all pupils can thrive
- identify pupils' needs as early as possible to assist pupils to reach their full potential
- consider individual needs and learning styles of each pupil
- use a variety of teaching strategies including differentiated learning styles, to facilitate meaningful and effective learning for all pupils
- develop a feeling of self-esteem and confidence to communicate within all pupils
- provide for pupil's individual needs by supporting them in various ways including whole class, small groups and individual teaching
- closely monitor those with SEND via assessment and reviews to ensure they are making progress
- celebrate and record all achievements of all pupils
- provide access to and progression within the curriculum, through reasonable adjustments where necessary for example the use of auxiliary aids and services
- assist all staff in providing a high level of expertise to meet pupils' needs through continued professional development
- ensure support for pupils with medical conditions and full inclusion in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals
- develop productive partnerships with parents and other outside agencies to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of pupils with SEND
- enable pupils and their parents to participate in decision making
- have high expectations and aspirations for all pupils
- evaluate provision on a regular basis to ensure its efficacy

IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND PROVISION

The governing body, the head teacher, the SENCO, class teachers and all other members of staff are responsible for identifying and providing for children with special educational needs. **"Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class, even where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff"** (Code of Practice 2014).

The Code of Practice outlines a **Graduated Response** to pupils' needs: Where a pupil is identified as having SEND, schools should take action to remove barriers to learning and put effective special educational provision in place. This SEND support should take the form of a four-part cycle through which earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupil's needs and of what supports the pupil in making good progress and securing good outcomes. This graduated approach involves a four-part cycle: **Assess, plan, do, review**.

Assess

The school uses the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) and Individual Assessment of Early Learning and Development (IAELD) to track progress in the nursery and reception classes. We make contact with health visitors and seek information from other health services and parents to discuss pupils' needs. As pupils progress through the school they are assessed via a combination of:

- teachers' assessment, curriculum levelling and experience of the pupil
- pupil progress attainment and behaviour
- development in comparison to their peers

- view and experiences of parents
- child's own views
- advice from external agencies where relevant

An Inclusion register is kept of pupils with SEND and where a teacher expresses a concern regarding a particular pupil the class teacher and SENCO will take early action to assess and address the difficulties. Assessments are updated each term and monitored closely by the Head, SENCO and Senior Leadership Team.

Plan

SEND advice is given for those pupils who are not making expected progress or whose development is causing concern. A list of actions is drawn up to ensure early support. This may include seeking advice from external agencies such as Speech and Language Services, Specialist Advisory Services, Behaviour Outreach Support or Hertfordshire Specific Learning Difficulties Specialist Teacher Outreach Service. This informs the class Provision Map. A SEND Support Plan may be drawn up for pupils with complex SEND needs to include targets for the pupil to work towards. All teachers and support staff working with pupils will be made aware of their needs, the expected outcomes, support provided and teaching strategies or approaches that are required.

Do

The class teacher is responsible for working with the pupil on a daily basis including when the pupil is receiving small group or one to one interventions away from the main class. They will work closely with the SENCO and other external agencies to plan and evaluate the impact of support and interventions and to further assess the pupils' strengths and weaknesses.

Quality First Teaching (for all pupils)

We provide inclusive 'High Quality Teaching' for all pupils differentiated to meet their individual needs. We recognise that **"additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good teaching"** (Code of Practice 2014). This includes; focused lesson plans with clear learning objectives; high expectations of all pupils; high levels of interaction; appropriate use of teacher questioning, modelling and explaining; learning through dialogue with opportunities to discuss work; regular use of encouragement, praise and rewards to engage and motivate pupils.

Group Teaching

Some pupils may require additional small group interventions, strategies or opportunities to enable children to access their learning and make progress.

Individual Provision

A few pupils will require an additional highly personalised package of provision and interventions to support them to access their learning and make progress.

Review

We carefully review and evaluate the quality of teaching for all pupils through lesson observations, book scrutiny and pupil progress meetings. The class Provision Map is updated and evaluated each term. Where there are external targets and recommendations given for a child, a Send Support Plan will be formulated. SEND support plans are reviewed and updated every term for SEND pupils receiving external advice and support. The impact and quality of the support and interventions is evaluated, along with the views of the pupil and their parents. This feeds back into the analysis of the pupil's needs. The class teacher, working with the SENCO, will revise the support considering the

pupil's progress and development, deciding on any changes to the support and outcomes, in consultation with the parent and pupil.

Where a pupil has an Education and Health Care plan, the local authority, in conjunction with the school, must review that plan as a minimum every twelve months.

MANAGING PUPILS NEEDS ON THE SEND REGISTER

Specialist Support

The school may involve specialists at any point to advise them on early identification of SEND and effective support and interventions. Where a pupil continues to make less than expected progress, despite evidence-based support and interventions that are matched to the pupil's area of need, the school will consider involving specialists, including those secured by the school itself or from outside agencies.

The pupil's parents will always be involved in any decision to involve specialists. The involvement of specialists and what was discussed or agreed will be recorded and shared with the parents and teaching staff supporting the child in the same way as other SEND support.

Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments

Where a SEND child has not made expected progress, despite the school having taken relevant action to identify, assess and meet their needs, the school or parents may consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment.

SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

The school recognises that pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. Some pupils with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010. Some may also have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision and ensures that the SEND Code of Practice (2014) is followed.

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

To maintain and develop the quality of teaching and provision to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils, all staff are encouraged to undertake training and development. All teachers and support staff undertake induction on taking up a post and this includes a meeting with the SENCO to explain the systems and structures in place around the school's SEND provision and practice, and to discuss the needs of individual pupils. Staff training needs will be discussed at this stage, and both teaching and support staff will be made aware of training opportunities that relate to working with child with SEND.

The school's SENCO regularly attends the DSPL (Developing Special Provision Locally) cluster network meetings as well as county SEND briefings, to keep up to date with local and national issues in SEND.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provision for pupils with SEND is a matter for the whole school community. The board of governors, in consultation with the Headteacher, has a legal responsibility for determining the policy and provision

for pupils with special educational needs. It maintains a general overview and has an appointed representative who takes particular interest in this aspect of the school.

Governors will ensure that:

- the necessary provision is made for any pupil with SEND
- all staff are aware of the need to identify and provide for pupils with SEND
- pupils with SEND join in school activities alongside other pupils, so far as is reasonably practical and compatible with their needs and the efficient education of other pupils
- the school profile, in the IDSR, informs parents under the heading 'How we are making sure we are meeting the learning needs of individual pupils'
- they have regard to the requirements of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice (2014)
- parents are notified if the school decides to make SEND provision for their child
- they are fully informed about SEND issues, so that they can play a major part in school self-review
- they set up appropriate staffing and funding arrangements, and oversee the school's work for SEND

The **Head Teacher** is responsible for:

- the management of all aspects of the school's work, including provision for pupils with special educational needs
- keeping the governing body informed about SEND issues
- working closely with the SENCO
- the deployment of all special educational needs personnel within the school monitoring and reporting to governors about the implementation of the schools' SEND policy and the effects of inclusion policies on the school as a whole

The **Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator** (SENCO) is responsible for:

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND policy
- co-ordinating the provision for pupils with special educational needs
- ensuring that an agreed, consistent approach is adopted
- liaising with and advising other school staff
- helping staff to identify pupils with special educational needs
- carrying out assessments and observations of pupils with specific learning problems
- supporting class teachers in devising strategies, drawing up Pupil Profiles (PPs), SEND Support Plans, setting targets appropriate to the needs of the pupils, and advising on appropriate resources and materials for use with pupils with special educational needs
- liaising closely with parents of pupils with SEND alongside class teachers, so that they are aware of the strategies that are being used and are involved as partners in the process
- liaising with outside agencies, arranging meetings and providing a link between these agencies, class teachers and parents
- maintaining the school's SEND/Inclusion register and records
- assisting in the monitoring and evaluation of progress of pupils with SEND through the use of existing school assessment information, e.g. class-based assessments/records, end of year tests, SATs, specialist checklists and assessments etc
- contributing to the in-service training of staff
- liaising with the SENCOs in receiving schools and/or other primary schools to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the other
- taking part in county SEND moderation

Class teachers are responsible for:

- providing high quality teaching for all pupils
- assessing pupil's needs and planning appropriate adjustments, interventions and support to match the outcomes identified for the pupil (in liaison with the SENCO, parents and pupil)
- regularly reviewing the impact of these adjustments, interventions and support, including pupils with SEND in the classroom, through providing an appropriately differentiated curriculum
- retaining responsibility for the pupil, including working with them on a daily basis
- making themselves aware of the school's SEND policy and procedures for identification, monitoring and supporting pupils with SEND
- directly liaising with parents of children with SEND
- acting on advice from external agencies/EHCP and SENCO

Support Staff should:

- be fully aware of the school's SEND policy and the procedures for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with SEND
- use the school's procedure for giving feedback to teachers about pupils' progress
- work as part of a team with the SENCO and the teachers supporting pupils' individual needs and ensuring inclusion of pupils with SEND within the class.

CRITERIA FOR EXITING THE SEND REGISTER

If it is felt that children are making progress which is sustainable then they may be taken off the SEND register. If this is the case then the views of the teacher, SENCO, pupil and parents need to be considered, as well as that of any other professionals involved with the child. If it is agreed by all to take the pupil off of the SEND register, then all records will be kept until the pupil leaves the school (and passed on to the next setting). The pupil will be continued to be monitored through the schools monitoring procedures, such as pupil progress meetings. If it is felt that the pupil requires additional assistance, then the procedures set out in this policy will be followed.

SUPPORTING PUPILS AND FAMILIES

Please see the Local Authority local offer, Regulation 53, Part 4. Please see the school's SEN Information Report, Regulation 51, Part 3, section 69(3)(a) of the Act.

Parkside works closely with a variety of professional agencies to support pupils and their families. Please see our admissions policy (available at the office and on the school website) for further information on the admissions arrangements including the Special Education Needs information and Advice Support Service. Class teachers, in partnership with the SENCO, are responsible for ensuring that pupils are able to access assessments carried out within their class. If a child's needs mean that the child is unable to access standardised tests, then the SENCO will liaise with the class teacher to assess the pupil's eligibility for access arrangements. Transitions between schools and between classes are carefully managed, with information sharing beforehand to ensure that appropriate provision is available for the child immediately. Transition to secondary school will involve a meeting with the SENCO or Head of Year prior to admission, with the possibility of additional visits to the new school before the child starts so that they are familiar with the environment and key people.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SEND

The success of the school's SEND/Inclusion policy and provision is evaluated through:

- monitoring of classroom practice by the Head teacher, Deputy Head and SENCO
- analysis of pupil tracking data
- sampling of pupil and staff views
- monitoring of procedures and practice by the SEND governor
- school Self-Evaluation document
- Local Authority moderation process and OFSTED inspection arrangements
- meetings of parents and staff, both formal and informal

COMPLIANCE

Parkside Community Primary School has a named SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) and a named governor responsible for SEND. Together they ensure that the Parkside Community Primary School SEND/Inclusion policy works within the guidelines of the SEND Code of Practice (2014), the Local Education Authority and other policies currently within the school. This policy has been approved by staff and governors of Parkside Community Primary School and written with reference to the following documents:

- Schools Guide to the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice September 2014
- Early Years Guide to the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice September 2014
- The Equality Act 2010 and Schools May 2014
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools February 2014
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions September 2014
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools June 2014
- The Young Person's Guide to the Children and Families Act 2014 September 2014
- Care Matters: Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care
- National Curriculum in England September 2013
- Parkside Behaviour Management Policy
- Parkside School Development Plan 2021-2022

For more information please see the Parkside Community School SEN Information Report which can be found on the website <https://parkside.herts.sch.uk/send-information-report/>

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The school has a complaints procedure, which applies to complaints about SEND provision. In the first instance the parent/carers are encouraged to discuss this with the class teacher or SENCO and then if necessary, the Head teacher. We follow the Hertfordshire County Council Complaints Procedure, a summary of which is set out in the school brochure. A full copy is available in the school office.

GLOSSARY

SEN – Special Educational Needs

SEND – Special Educational Needs and Disability

EHC – Education, Health and Care

EHCP – Education, Health and Care Plan

SENCO – Special Educational Needs Coordinator

COP – Code of Practice

SSP – SEND Support Plan

DSPL – Developing Special Provision Locally

EYFS - Early Years Foundation Stage

EYFSP – Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

IAELD - Individual Assessment of Early Learning and Development

OFSTED – Office of Standards in Education

QCA - The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority

SAT – Scholastic Assessment Test

Senco: Mrs Karen Smith