



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

POLICY ON IDENTIFYING AND PROVIDING FOR PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All our pupils have the right to an education which is appropriate to them as individuals. As far as possible therefore, it is our aim to minimise the difficulties that pupils will experience. We aim to achieve this by adopting three principles that are essential to developing a more inclusive curriculum.

Three principles for inclusion

- *Setting suitable learning challenges* - We aim to give every pupil the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible
- *Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs* - We take into account the different backgrounds, experiences, interests and strengths which influence the way in which pupils learn when we plan our approaches to teaching and learning
- *Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils* - We recognise that a minority of pupils will have particular learning and assessment requirements that will create barriers to learning if we do not address them through special arrangements.

In making provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities our policy objectives are:

- To ensure that our duties, as set out in the Equality Act 2010, are fully met to enable pupils with special educational needs and disabilities to join in the normal activities of the school along with pupils who do not have special educational needs;
- To ensure the school has an Accessibility Plan in line with statutory guidelines.
- To ensure that all pupils gain access to a broad and balanced curriculum and have an equal opportunity to receive an education that is appropriate to their needs;
- To identify the needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) as early as possible;
- To use our resources as efficiently and equitably as possible when assessing and meeting the special educational needs of our pupils;

- To provide a graduated approach in order to match educational provision to pupils' needs;
- To develop a partnership with parents/carers in order that their knowledge, views and experience can assist us in assessing and providing for their children;
- To take into account the ascertainable wishes of the children and young people concerned and, involve them in decision making in order to provide more effectively for them;
- To make reasonable adjustments to enable children and young people with disabilities to access the whole school curriculum including school trips and out of school hours activities and learning.
- To ensure effective collaboration with Local Authority (LA) services, health services and social care in order to ensure effective action on behalf of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities;
- To ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities towards children and young people with special educational needs and are able to exercise them;
- To carry out the above promptly and with sensitivity in order to avoid embarrassment or further disadvantage to the children and young people we are seeking to help.
- To ensure that in accordance with our Child Protection Policy, frequent lateness and non-attendance is closely monitored for all pupils, including those with SEND to ensure that they have every opportunity to make expected progress.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In attempting to achieve the above objectives, the Governors, the Head Teacher and the staff will take all reasonable steps within the limit of the resources available to fulfill the requirements outlined in this policy document.

Governors will fulfill their statutory duties towards pupils with special educational needs as prescribed in sections 66 to 69 of the Children and Families Act 2014. In order to do this they will develop and monitor the school's SEN policy and Accessibility Plan and ensure provision is an integral part of the school development plan. All governors, with the SEN governor or committee of governors taking the lead, will be knowledgeable about the school's SEN provision, including how funding, equipment and personnel are deployed. The governors will monitor the quality of SEN provision and ensure all staff are appropriately trained and qualified.

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the day to day management of SEN provision and the Accessibility Plan. She will work closely with the school's SEN coordinator (SENCo) and will keep the governing body fully informed about the working of this policy, taking account of the requirements listed by OFSTED in the Handbook for the Inspection of Schools. She will encourage all members of staff to participate in training to help them to meet the objectives of this policy including that the SENCo achieves the statutory requirements for the performance of her duties.

The Special Educational Needs Co-coordinator (SENCo)

NAME: Mrs L. Tynan

The SENCo has to be a qualified teacher and meet the statutory standards for practice including those necessary to ensure full accreditation. The SENCo will be responsible for: the day to day operation of this policy; coordinating provision for pupils with SEN by working closely with staff, parents/carers and other agencies; providing professional guidance to colleagues with the aim of securing high quality teaching; monitoring the quality of teaching and standards of pupils' achievement, and by setting targets for improvement; collaborating with curriculum coordinators to ensure learning for all children is given equal priority; ensuring that proper records are kept; contributing to the in-service training of staff; using available resources to maximum effect. The SENCo works directly with members of support staff who work specifically with pupils who have special needs.

All staff should be fully aware of the contents of this policy and, in particular, of the procedures described below. Appropriate in-service training will be made available.

The Responsible Person

NAME: Mrs L. Tynan

The school has informed the LA that, when the LA conclude that a pupil at the school requires an Education, Health and Care Plan, they should inform Mrs Tynan who will ensure that whoever teaches the pupil knows about his/her special educational needs or disabilities.

ADMISSIONS

The school aims to meet the needs of any pupil whom the parent wishes to register at the school as long as a place is available and the admission criteria are fulfilled. This includes pupils with disabilities who we anticipate might attend. The currently agreed admissions policy of the Governors makes no distinction with regard to pupils who have SEN. No pupil can be refused admission solely on the grounds that s/he has SEN except where the pupil is the subject of an Education, Health and Care Plan under the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Local Authority has indicated that the provision required is incompatible with that available at our school.

Where a pupil due for admission is known to have special educational needs, the SENCo will gather appropriate information from any school the pupil has been attending and from other agencies known to have been involved. The donating school is responsible for providing this information.

SPECIAL FACILITIES

All areas and classrooms have been designed to be fully accessible for wheelchairs. Special facilities include a disabled toilet and ramps.

RESOURCES

When the governing body approves the school's budget, consideration will be given to the resources allocated to meeting special educational needs. The annual report to parents

will include this information. The Head Teacher will manage the allocated funds and will ensure that the best use is made of these resources through provision mapping. It is now a mandatory requirement that schools fund up to the first £6,000 of any SEN support required by a young person.

STAGES OF INTERVENTION AND PROVISION

Access to the school's broad and balanced curriculum is achieved for pupils by adaptation of learning by teachers through Quality First Teaching (Wave One). Pupils falling just below national expectations will usually benefit from Wave Two catch-up programmes. When a pupil is consistently and significantly falling behind normal expectations, Wave Three interventions will be implemented (SEN Support).

SEN Support

This follows an ASSESS, PLAN, DO, REVIEW model of graduated intervention.

1. An important feature of SEN Support is the collection of all known information about the pupil and that those in regular daily contact with the pupil should attempt to deal with the concerns raised. When a teacher, member of the pastoral team or SENCo identifies a pupil with special educational needs they will provide interventions ADDITIONAL TO or DIFFERENT FROM those provided as part of the school's usual differentiated/adapted curriculum offer. Consideration will be given when setting homework that it is also adapted according to the pupil's speed and level of working.
2. The triggers for intervention will be concerns about the individual pupil who, despite receiving adapted learning opportunities;
 - makes little or no progress
 - shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy and numeracy skills that result in significantly poor attainment in line with Borough Guidance
 - has persistent emotional difficulties which continue despite management techniques generally used in the school
 - has significant sensory or physical problems that impact on their ability to learn
 - has communication and/or relationship difficulties which continue despite differentiated/adaptive approaches to the curriculum
3. The parents/carers of the pupil will be informed as soon as concerns emerge and will be consulted with by appropriate staff, and the views of the pupil sought.
4. All information about the pupil from within the school, together with any additional information from the parents will be considered.
5. The SENCo will undertake further assessment of the pupil as appropriate and may use outside specialists to enhance the provision being made.
6. The SENCo will facilitate the collection of all available information about the pupil. Information will be collected from:

- within the school, using all staff who work or have contact with the pupil
 - progress tracking information
 - parents/carers and the pupil.
7. The class teacher, working with the SENCo should agree in consultation with the parents/carers and the pupil, the adjustments, interventions and support to be put in place and the targets to be achieved. This should be recorded in an Individual Education Plan/Learning Plan (IEP/LP).
 8. The class teacher and class support staff will be responsible for working with the pupil and for planning and delivering an individualised programme.
 9. All staff will be involved in providing further help to pupils. (Note: For this reason the arrangements for recording IEP/LPs should be planned and agreed with all staff and endorsed by senior management).
 10. The IEP/LP will be reviewed on a termly basis.
 11. The pupil and parents/carers will take part in the review process and will be involved in setting further targets. Subsequent IEPs will reflect strategies to meet their needs and show a graduated response to those needs.
 12. A request for additional advice from external services may be made at this stage. It is anticipated the decision to seek further advice will be taken by the SENCo in consultation with teaching staff, parents/carers and pupil.
 13. Specialist assessment arrangements may need to be made and the Child & Community Psychology Service may be involved at this time.
 14. Progress may be such that the pupil is no longer giving cause for concern and can revert to being subject to the usual adaptive curriculum available to all pupils.
 15. If the pupil or young person:
 - continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period of time
 - continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of pupils of a similar age
 - continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and numeracy skills
 - has emotional difficulties, which substantially and regularly interfere with their learning or that of the class, despite having an individualised management programme
 - has sensory and/or physical needs, and requires additional specialist equipment, and/or regular advisory visits from an outside agency
 - has ongoing communication or relationship difficulties which impedes social development and acts as a barrier to learning
 - is receiving at least £6,000 of support and any pupil premium to which they are entitled

then a statutory assessment may be sought from the Local Authority (LA).

School Request for a Statutory Assessment

The SENCo will again take a leading role and will provide information including:

- the school's action through Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycles
- individual progress plans for the pupil
- records of regular reviews for at least a twelve month period
- an individual provision map
- the pupil's health, including a medical history where relevant
- tracking of progress
- attainments in literacy and numeracy
- educational assessments from an Advisory Specialist Support Teacher &/or Educational Psychologist
- views of the parent/carer and child
- involvement of other professionals
- involvement of the social services or education welfare services (if appropriate)
- pupil attendance details
- recent hearing and vision checks

Where there is agreement to proceed, the LA will take the lead in assessing and determining the provision that must be made to meet the pupil's special educational needs. The school's role here is to continue to support the pupil and this remains the case if the LA decides not to draw up an Education, Health and Care Plan following an assessment.

Education, Health and Care Plan

If the LA does draw up an Education, Health and Care Plan then the school's role is as follows.

1. The Head Teacher/SENCo will implement the recommendations
2. Short-term targets will be set and reviewed at least three times a year. The strategies to meet those targets will record only that which is ADDITIONAL TO or DIFFERENT FROM the differentiated curriculum.
3. Progress will be formally reviewed by holding an annual review meeting.
4. The Head Teacher/SENCo will seek;
 - written advice from parents/carers and professionals
 - ascertain the views of the pupil
 - convene the review meeting
 - prepare a review report for the LA
5. Those to be invited at least two weeks before the meeting are;
 - the pupil's parents/carers
 - relevant teacher/s and TA/s

- representative of the LA (if appropriate)
 - the pupil
 - where appropriate representatives of health and social services and other professionals closely involved.
6. The review report will be copied to parents, LA and other relevant professionals no later than 10 days after the meeting or at the end of term, whichever is the earliest.

The EHCP Annual Review in Years Five and Six

The annual review in Year Five should be held no later than the end of the Spring Term. The review should suggest amendments to the pupil's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) if required. The Plan, once amended, will be used to inform the consultation for secondary schools in the following Autumn Term. The secondary school placement for all youngsters with EHCPs will be decided by February 15th. Following this, planning for transfer to secondary school will be undertaken. Part of this process will be arranging the Year Six annual review in the Spring Term or as early as possible thereafter, to which the SENCo or their representative from the receiving secondary review will be invited. This must be a person centred review and a one page profile written to go with the pupil to secondary school.

INCLUSION

We are fully committed to the principle of inclusion and the good practice, which makes it possible. Our policy, as set out in this document, will enable pupils with SEN to be an integral part of our school community.

Regardless of the stage pupils have reached, all pupils will be given access to the full range of activities the school has to offer. This will be achieved by careful consideration of the needs of each pupil and by either modifying activities or by providing support that will help the pupil to participate in them. Pupils will only be withdrawn when:

1. They will benefit from some intensive individual work on a cross curricular skill
2. It is clearly inappropriate, or medical advice indicates that it is unsafe for the pupil to participate and some alternative has been arranged.

INVOLVING PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

The views of parents will be sought at all stages of assessment and provision. All communication involving decisions about a pupil will be recorded and dated. Letters to parents regarding decisions about their child will have a section to be signed and returned.

Opportunities to promote Pupil Voice are important. The views of the pupil will be ascertained and the pupil will be directly involved in the process of planning and reflecting on their learning. In planning for their learning, class teachers take account of this. For SEND pupils, direct involvement in termly review meetings (whenever possible), self-evaluation and pupil-view discussions and written records in addition to the Person-Centred approach to transition helps to capture Pupil Voice.

Staff will try to get to know the parents/carers of pupils with SEN and will encourage them to work with the school in helping their child. Parents/carers and teachers can, by working together, build up a more complete picture of a pupil and his/her needs. We intend that parents will feel able to ask about our provision and express their concerns to us. In return we will seek their help regarding work that they can do with their child at home.

Records will be kept of all who are parents and/or have parental responsibility for each pupil. When this involves adults in more than one household we will deal directly with the parent who has day to day responsibility for the pupil. We will seek to involve all parents and those who have parental responsibility in decisions about their child or young person, while appreciating sensitivities that may arise.

SENDIASS SERVICES

The LA has made arrangements to provide impartial information and advice on SEN matters to the parents/carers of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. SENDIASS (formerly, Parents in Partnership) is a service offering independent information, advice and support for parents, carers, young people and children with SEN or disabilities. They can be contacted on 01708 433885 or at www.havering.gov.uk/SENDIASS

LEAVING SCHOOL

When a pupil leaves the school, the SENCo will forward relevant information about the pupil's needs to the next placement. Where a pupil is moving to another local school this will be achieved, wherever possible, by inviting a representative to the last review meeting that is held under the staged procedures described above

WORKING WITH OUTSIDE AGENCIES

The Head Teacher, or a person nominated by the Head Teacher which could be the SENCO will oversee and liaise with Health Services, Social Care and other relevant professionals working with pupils in the school. Health Care planning will follow the protocol agreed by Health and Education. The Head Teacher, or nominated person, will ensure that staff has relevant training and there are procedures in place to support pupils.

COMPLAINTS

Our School Website contains the following passage:

For any enquiries or complaints please contact Mrs E. Carthy at office@saint-patricks.org.uk

This will allow the complaint or concern to be passed on to the most relevant member of staff or governor.

If you speak to a governor s/he will, in the first instance, refer the matter to the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher will investigate and will contact you within 5 school days. If

s/he has not resolved the matter to your satisfaction it will be referred to the governing body.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Governors ensure that SEN provision is an integral part of the school development plan and will evaluate the effectiveness and success of this policy in the light of the policy objectives detailed under the heading "Guiding Principles". In order to achieve this, Governors will monitor:

- The standards and progress made by pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- The number of pupils at SEN Support and those with Education, Health and Care Plans in each year group.
- The movement of pupils on SEN Support and Education, Health and Care Plans across the categories as recorded on the school's provision map.
- The level and pattern of help provided at each stage (i.e. average time allocated and the balance of in-class and withdrawal help) as evidenced in the provision map.
- Case examples selected from all stages of pupils with special educational needs especially those who are Children in Care.
- The views of parents expressed on stage forms and any complaints received.
- The extent to which pupils' views are reflected on IEP forms.
- Details of visits by specialist teachers, educational psychologists and other agencies.
- Staff views on in-service training opportunities and the training opportunities available.

SEN INFORMATION REPORT

The school will publish an annual report on SEN on its website containing the information required by the Special Educational Needs (Information) Regulations 2014. This will include information on where the Havering Local Offer can be found at

<https://familyserviceshub.havering.gov.uk/kb5/havering/directory/localoffer.page?localofferchannel=0>

REVIEW OF POLICY

All policies will be monitored and amended as appropriate every year but all policies will be fully reviewed and updated every three years.

Reviewed: Autumn 2024 (November)