



Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

Learning, loving and living together with Christ

The Governors' have a responsibility to ensure the school has a qualified teacher as the SENDCO.

Beliefs and values

As a Catholic School we recognise the gifts and needs of each individual as a valued part of our community. Although it may be considered that all children at some point in their education have individual special needs, there are groups of pupils throughout the spectrum of ability who have further and additional individual requirements. We are committed to working for quality and equality of opportunity for all children.

We believe that every teacher is a teacher of every pupil; including those with SEND.

Principles

The principles in this policy reflect the key principles that underpin the SEN Code of Practice 2015. These state that the views, wishes and feelings of the pupil and their parents are valued and respected. The pupil and the parents will be able to participate as fully as possible in making decisions.

Aim

The Code of Practice 2015 (pages 4&5 xiii xiv) states that:

A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions

Accordingly, the special education needs policy seeks to ensure that:

1. Individual differences in pupils are recognised and needs identified.
2. Each pupil receives the best education possible and achieves their full potential.
3. Children with SEND will be offered a broad, balanced and relevant education.
4. All parents, pupils, support agencies and teachers are involved and valued as partners in the pupil's education.

Objectives

In order to achieve these purposes, the school will strive to:

1. Ensure that SEND is viewed as a whole school responsibility within the guidance provided in the SEN Code of Practice 2015
2. Meet the needs of individual pupils through Quality First Teaching, and the management and deployment of additional resources
3. Provide early identification of pupils with SEND through liaison with relevant agencies and discussions with stakeholders
4. Develop provision maps and plans to support pupils' varying needs
5. Provide interventions, where appropriate, for each pupil with SEND. This will be reviewed regularly to assess the impact on the child's progress and will include the views of all stakeholders

Identification

SEND pupils are identified using The Code of Practice 2015 (pg 84, 6.17/6.18)

6.17 Class and subject teachers, supported by the senior leadership team, should make regular assessments of progress for all pupils. These should seek to identify pupils making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances. 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
- widens the attainment gap

6.18 It can include progress in areas other than attainment – for instance where a pupil needs to make additional progress with wider development or social needs, as it is a significantly greater different, in order to make a successful transition to adult life.

Where pupils are identified as making less than expected progress, discussions with parents and pupils will take place and further diagnostic assessments are undertaken when necessary. This will establish whether a pupil has SEND in accordance with the definition noted in the Aims section of this policy.

When reviewing and managing special educational provision, the broad areas of need below may be helpful. These four broad areas give an overview of the range of needs that should be planned for. The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school needs to take, not to fit a pupil into a category.

- Communication & Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional or Mental Health
- Sensory and/or Physical

The following are not SEN but may impact on the progress of students

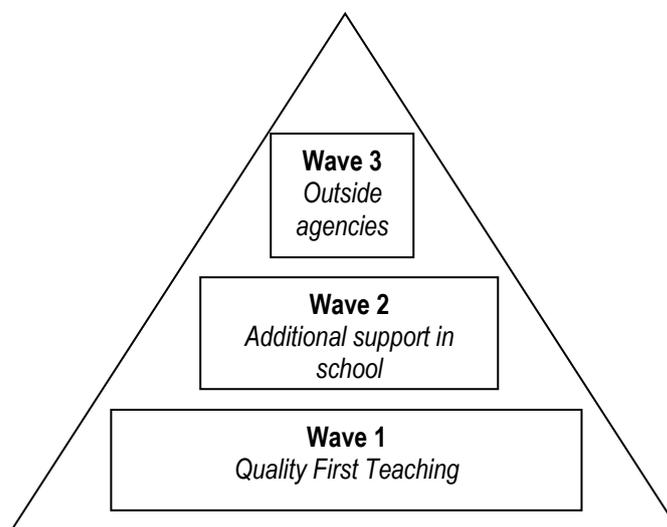
- Disability
- Attendance
- Health and welfare
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Being in receipt of pupil premium
- Being a looked after child
- Being a child of serviceman/ woman
- Being a child of a travelling community

A graduated approach to SEND

The Code of Practice 2015 (pg 89 6.44) states that:

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 is known as the graduated approach. It draws on more detailed approaches, more frequent review and more specialist expertise in successive cycles in order to match interventions to the SEND of children and young people.

The Code of Practice identifies pupils as having SEND if they do not make at least expected progress once they have had Quality First Teaching and additional support. Pupils will then be placed on the school's SEND register. As part of the 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle, outcomes and targets will be identified. Strategies, support and interventions will then be discussed with parent, pupil and teacher.



Strategies may include:

- Providing different learning materials, resources or special equipment
- Introducing group/individual support within class.
- Staff training to introduce effective strategies to support particular needs.
- Staff training to develop targeted intervention programmes.
- Consulting specialists to advise on effective provision for these students who despite support continue to have prolonged difficulties.

A pupil profile will be developed for pupils identified as needing SEND support. This will be produced in partnership with pupils, parents, teachers, outside agencies (where appropriate) and will provide an overview of their needs and support.

All pupils on the SEND register will be included on the school's Provision Map. This is an overview of additional support provided for each individual.

Class/ subject teachers will monitor pupils with SEND support as part of their ongoing day to day practice.

The effectiveness of the support and intervention and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed on a termly basis by the teacher in consultation with the pupil and parent.

For a small minority of pupils who may have very complex needs, the school or parents may consider requesting an Education Health Care Plan Assessment. (The Code of Practice 2015 Pg 92 6.63)

Roles and responsibility

SEND Governor

The Governor for SEND ensures that the Governing Body are aware of the school's SEND provision, including the deployment of funding, equipment and personnel. It is also their role to challenge the school to ensure that we are providing the very best for all pupils in our schools in the context of a loving Christ-centred educational community.

Teachers' responsibilities

It is the responsibility of all teachers to deliver Quality First Teaching allowing access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Teachers will differentiate to enable pupils of different abilities and learning style to fulfil their potential.

There are three principles that are essential to developing a more inclusive curriculum:

- Having high expectations when planning for suitable differentiated learning experiences, regardless of prior attainment
- Responding to pupils' diverse needs by addressing potential areas of difficulty and to remove barriers to pupil achievement
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

Teachers should use appropriate assessment to set targets which are deliberately ambitious. Potential areas of difficulty should be identified and addressed at the outset and lessons should be planned accordingly. In many cases, such planning will mean that pupils with SEND will be able to study the full national curriculum.

The SENDCO and other professionals will continue to support staff to develop the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to plan suitable support for pupils who encounter learning difficulties

The Role of the SENDCO

The Code of Practice 2015 (pg. 97/98 6.90) states:

The key responsibilities of the SENDCO may include:

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND policy
- co-ordinating provision for children with SEND
- liaising with the relevant Designated Teacher where a looked after pupil has SEND
- advising on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- liaising with parents of pupils with SEND
- liaising with early years providers, other schools, Educational Psychologists, Health and Social Care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies
- being a key point of contact with external agencies, including the Local Authority and its support services
- liaising with potential next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- working with the Head Teacher and School Governors to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- ensuring that the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date

Complaints Procedure

Refer to school Complaints Policy.

Parents can access impartial advice from Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIAS) <http://www.SENDworcestershire.co.uk>

01905 768153

For further concerns parents can contact SEN Services : SEN@worcestershire.gov.uk for mediation services.

Storing and managing information

Pupil records are kept in line with Worcestershire County Council's policy.

Criteria for Evaluating the Success of the SEND Policy

The success of the policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Further information regarding SEND can be obtained on www.worcestershire.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer

SENDCO – Mrs J Hicking

Date: September 2019 by Mrs J Hicking

To be reviewed: September 2020