

## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Information Report

[Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School]



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# SEND Information Report

Dear parents and carers,

The aim of this Information Report is to explain how we implement our SEND policy. In other words, we want to show you how SEND support works in our school.

As educational professionals, we are all working towards the ultimate goal of growing independent young people as they prepare for adulthood.

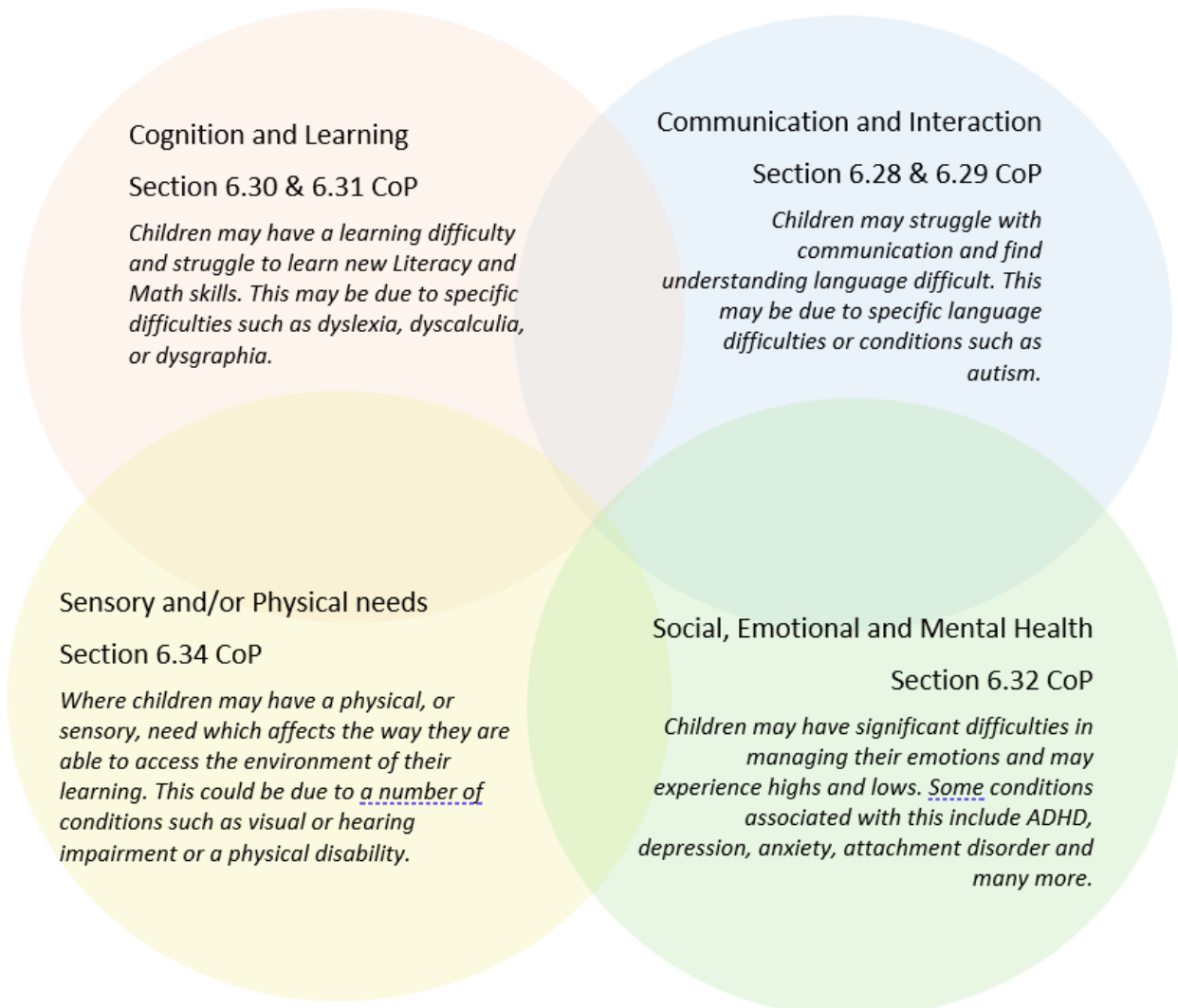
If you want to know more about our arrangements for SEND, read our SEND policy alongside this Information Report.

You can find our SEND policy on our website: [Policies](#)

**Note:** If there are any terms we've used in this information report that you're unsure of, you can look them up in the Glossary at the end of the report.

## 1. What types of SEND does the school provide for?

Our school provides for pupils with the following needs (as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice 2015):



Often you will find that children's needs overlap and are rarely confined to one area of need, which is why it is important to gain a wholistic overview of your child.

More information about the Areas of Need can be found in the Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years ([link below](#)).

[SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

## 2. Which staff will support my child, and what are their key responsibilities?



At Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School all staff are considered responsible for supporting the needs of pupils with SEND. Our staff are committed to regular, high-quality training to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to better meet a wide range of pupil needs.

Below outlines key staff who will be supporting your child. *Please note that this list is not exhaustive.*

Our SEND team comprises of:

Daniel Lucey – Headteacher/SENCo

Hannah Simpson – Class teacher/assistant SENCo/Mental Health in Schools Team lead

Sophie Steel – Teaching assistant/Senior Mental Health Lead/ELSA (Pending Training)

### **Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, or SENCO**

The named SENCO is Daniel Lucey.

They have 2 years' experience in this role and they are also the headteacher. They are a qualified teacher.

They are working towards achieving the National Professional Qualification (NPQ) for Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs)

### **Class/subject teachers**

All of our teachers receive in-house SEN training, and are supported by the SENCO to meet the needs of pupils who have SEN.

In-house CPD:

Autism Awareness Training

How to make reasonable adjustments

Quality First Teaching Strategies

Designing learning environments to increase accessibility

## Teaching assistants (TAs)

We have a team of 5 TAs who are trained to deliver SEN provision.

We have 5 teaching assistants who are trained to deliver interventions such as: Phonics interventions, NELI language programme, Makaton, Pre-teach strategies, Early Talk Boost, Sensory Circuits, Braille intervention, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Number, Vocabulary intervention

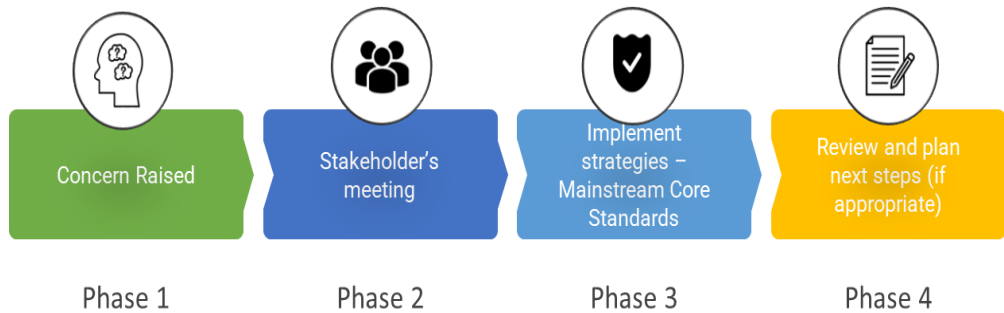
In the last academic year, TAs have been trained in Braille intervention, vocabulary interventions & sensory circuits

## External agencies

Sometimes we need extra help to offer our pupils the support that they need. Whenever necessary we will work with external support services to meet the needs of our pupils with SEND and to support their families. These may include:

- Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
- Attendance officers
- Educational psychologists
- GPs or paediatricians
- Occupational therapists
- Therapeutic practitioners
- Safeguarding services
- School nurses
- Early Years SENCOs
- Specialist Teacher Service
- Speech and language therapists

## 3. What should I do if I think my child has SEND?



<p><b>Phase 1</b></p>	<p>If you think your child might have SEND, raise your concern with the school so that the SENCO is aware.</p> <p>To raise a concern make contact with the SENDCO to arrange an initial meeting on – 01900 601233 or request a meeting via email at: <a href="mailto:admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk">admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Phase 2</b></p>	<p>We will meet with you to discuss your concerns and try to get a better understanding of what your child's strengths and difficulties are. Together we will decide what outcomes to seek for your child and agree on next steps. We will make a note of what's been discussed and add this to your child's record.</p>
<p><b>Phase 3</b></p>	<p>We will implement the agreed strategies and monitor these over an agreed period of time. These are likely to be universal strategies. This will initiate the 'Graduated Approach' where support will be continually reviewed. See next page for more details.</p>
<p><b>Phase 4</b></p>	<p>If we decide that your child needs SEND support, we will formally notify you and your child will be added to the school's SEND register. They will receive additional support and this will be reviewed using the assess, plan, do, review model.</p>

## 4. What happens if the school identifies a need?

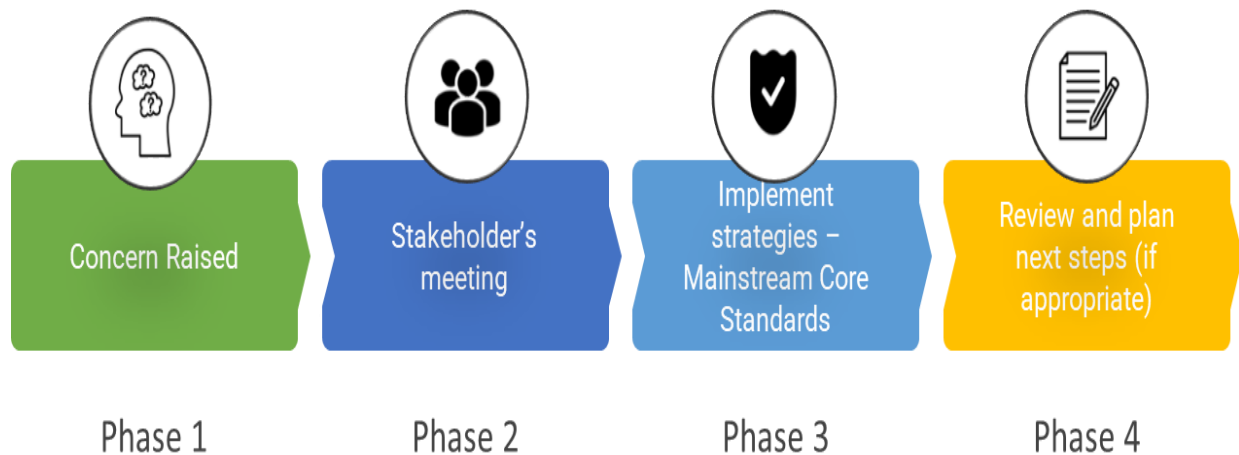
Pupil's current skills and attainment are assessed on entry to school. This may build on information from previous settings and key stages where appropriate. School will also consider evidence that a pupil may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010. If this is the case school will need to consider what reasonable adjustments may need to be made.

Class teachers, supported by the senior leadership team, will make regular assessments of all pupils' progress and identify those whose progress:

- 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

Progress can also include areas other than academic attainment – for instance where a pupil needs to make additional progress with wider development or social needs in order to make a successful transition to the next stage or adult life.

The same, 'Graduated Approach' is followed if a concern is raised by the school.



All our class teachers are responsible for the monitoring of all pupils who have been identified as having SEND. They also review those who are not making the expected level of progress in their schoolwork or socially. This might include: reading, writing, and maths, social and emotional development.



# SEND Information Report

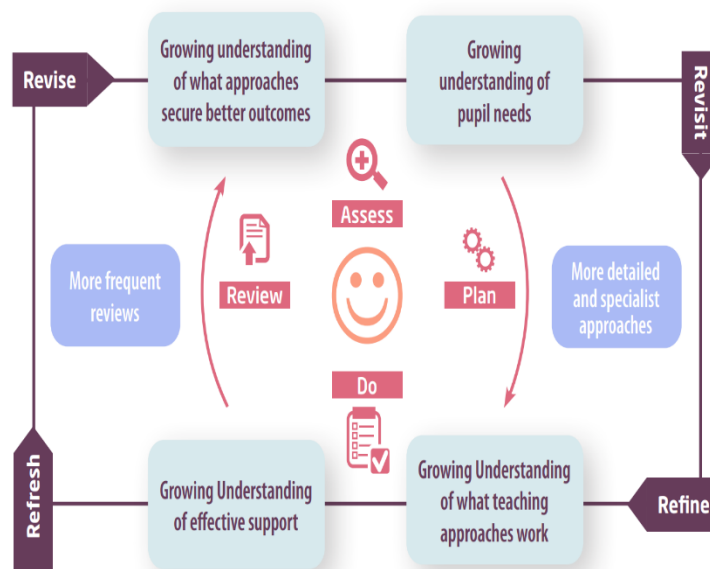
If the teacher notices that a pupil is having difficulties, they try to find out if the pupil has any gaps in their learning. If they can find a gap, the school will provide appropriate support. Pupils who don't have SEND usually make progress quickly once the gap in their learning has been filled.

If the pupil is still finding it difficult to make the expected progress, the teacher will talk to the SENCO, and will contact you to discuss the possibility that your child has SEND, and the school will follow the graduated approach (see previous page).

## 5. How will the school measure my child's progress?

We will follow the 'graduated approach' to meeting your child's SEND needs.

The graduated approach is a 4-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.



<b>Assess</b>	If your child is not making the expected level of progress, we will make an assessment to find out what strengths and difficulties your child has. We will ask for you and your child's input, as well as getting help from external professionals where necessary.
<b>Plan</b>	In discussion with you and your child, we will decide what outcomes we are hoping to achieve. We will make a plan of the support we will offer your child to help them meet those outcomes. We will make a record of this and share it with you and all relevant school staff.
<b>Do</b>	We will put our plan into practice. The class teacher, with the support of the SENCO, will be responsible for working with your child on a daily basis, and making sure the support we put in place is having the impact we intended.
<b>Review</b>	We will assess how well the support we put in place helped the pupil to meet the outcomes we set. We will use our improved understanding of your child's needs to improve the support we offer; this may mean the Plan, Assess, Do, Review cycle continues.

## 6. How will I be involved in decisions made about my child's education?

We will provide termly/reports on your child's progress. This will be via parent – teacher meetings in terms 1 & 2 and an annual report in term 3.

A member of staff who knows your child well will meet you 3 times a year to:

- Set clear outcomes for your child's progress
- Review progress towards those outcomes
- Discuss the support we will put in place to help your child make that progress
- Identify what we will do, what we will ask you to do, and what we will ask your child to do

The SENCO may also attend these meetings to provide extra support.

We know that you're the expert when it comes to your child's needs and aspirations. So, we want to make sure you have a full understanding of how we're trying to meet your child's needs, so that you can provide insight into what you think would work best for your child.

We also want to hear from you as much as possible so that we can build a better picture of how the SEND support we are providing is impacting your child outside of school.

If your child's needs or aspirations change at any time, please let us know right away so we can keep our provision as relevant as possible.

If you have concerns that arise between these meetings, please contact Daniel Lucey or Hannah Simpson. If you wish to make contact with your child's class teacher or a member of the SEND team the follow options are available to you:

- Contact school on 01900 601233
- Email and request a meeting – [admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk)
- Speak to your child's class teacher on drop-off or collection

## 7. How will my child be involved in decisions made about their education?

The level of involvement will depend on your child's age and individual needs. We recognise that no two pupils are the same, so we will decide on a case-by-case basis, with your input.

We may seek your child's views by asking them to:

- Attend meetings to discuss their progress and outcomes
- Prepare a presentation, written statement, video, drawing, etc.
- Discuss their views with a member of staff who can act as a representative during the meeting
- Complete a survey







## 8. How will the school adapt its teaching for my child?

Your child's teacher is responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the pupils in their class.

High-quality teaching is our first step in responding to your child's needs. We will make sure that your child has access to a broad and balanced curriculum in every year they are at our school.

We will adapt our approaches to how we teach to suit the way the pupil works best. There is no 'one size fits all' approach to adapting the curriculum, we work on a case-by case basis to make sure the adaptations we make are meaningful to your child.

These adaptations may include: Adapting our approaches, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

-  > Adapting our resources and staffing
-  > Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
-  > Teaching assistants or support staff will support pupils appropriately depending on their presentation of need
-  > Scaffolding lesson materials

> Please consult our SEND Offer for further information:

<https://www.derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk/statutory-information/send/index.html>

### We may also provide the following interventions (subject to needs & staffing capacity):

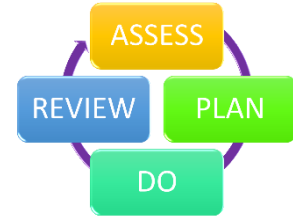
- Phonics interventions
- NELI Language Programme
- Makaton
- Pre-teach strategies
- Early Talk Boost
- Sensory Circuits
- Braille intervention
- 1<sup>st</sup> Class Number

- Vocabulary intervention
- Nurture Groups

## 9. How will the school evaluate whether the support in place is helping my child?

We will evaluate the effectiveness of provision for your child by:

- Reviewing their progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions after a minimum of 8 weeks
- Using pupil questionnaires
- Monitoring by the SENCO
- Using provision maps to measure progress
- Holding an annual review (if they have an education, health and care (EHC) plan)



## 10. How will the school ensure my child has appropriate resources?

It may be that your child's needs mean we need to provide additional resources such as:

- Additional resources to support their learning
- Adaptations to in class support
- Further training for our staff
- External specialist expertise

Where appropriate, we will consult with external agencies to get recommendations on what will best help your child access their learning and use our best endeavours to ensure these are supplied.

## 11. How will the school make sure my child is included in activities alongside pupils who don't have SEND?



The expectation is that all schools providing an inclusive provision for all pupils. It may be necessary for some pupils to receive interventions in addition to a broad and balanced curriculum.

All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our pupils, including our before and after-school clubs.

All pupils are encouraged to go on our school trips, including our residential trips. Risk assessments may need to be carried out and procedures put into place to enable all pupils to participate.

All pupils are encouraged to take part in sports day, school plays, special workshops etc.

Breakfast and wraparound provision is accessible to all pupils

No pupil is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEN or disability and we will make whatever reasonable adjustments are needed to make sure that they can be included.

## 12. How does the school make sure the admissions process is fair for pupils with SEN or a disability?



➤ Please consult the admissions section of our website for a full explanation of our admissions policy.

This can be found here: <https://www.derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk/statutory-information/new-starters/index.html>

## 13. How does the school support pupils with disabilities?



We strive to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect. Pupils should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity. In Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School, we have a commitment to equal opportunities for all members of the school community and our Accessibility Plan outlines our intention to remove barriers for disabled pupils and to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the different areas of the national curriculum.
- Increase access to extra-curricular activities and the wider school curriculum.
- Improve the physical environment of schools/settings to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided; and



- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

See Accessibility Plan for more information: <https://www.derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk/statutory-information/send/index.html>

You are disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

## **14. How will the school support my child's mental health and emotional and social development?**

We provide support for pupils to progress in their emotional and social development in the following ways:

- We provide extra pastoral support for listening to the views of pupils with SEND by providing pupils with daily check ins, trusted adults and proactively use our PSHE curriculum to encourage pupils to discuss their feelings and emotions
- We provide drawing and talking therapy and eco therapy
- We run a nurture club for pupils who need extra support with social or emotional development
- We have a 'zero tolerance' approach to bullying. To achieve this we aim to:
  - Promote positive behaviour, self-discipline and respect for others
  - Promote a positive anti-bullying ethos
  - Train staff to be aware of bullying in its different forms
  - Be proactive, responsive and preventive in dealing with bullying issues
  - Teach pupils the nature and consequences of racism, teasing, bullying and aggressive behaviours through PSHE, Collective Worship, Circle Time & School Council discussions
  - Teach pupils how to respond to bullying and how to ask for help or report bullying
  - Act promptly and firmly to eradicate bullying

## 15. What support is in place for looked-after and previously looked-after children with SEND?



Daniel Lucey, our SENCO, will work with all teachers so they understand how a looked-after or previously looked-after pupil's circumstances and their SEND might interact, and what the implications are for teaching and learning.

Pupils who are looked-after or previously looked-after will be supported much in the same way as any other child who has SEND. However, looked-after pupils will also have a personal education plan (PEP). We will make sure that the PEP and any SEND support plans or EHC plans are consistent and complement one another.

## 16. What support will be available for my child as they transition between classes or settings or in preparing for adulthood?

### Between classes

To help pupils with SEND be prepared for a new school year we:



- Ask both the current teacher and the next year's teacher to attend final meeting of the year when the pupil's SEND is discussed
- Schedule whole class transition lessons with the incoming teacher towards the end of the summer term

### Between schools

When your child is moving on from our school, we will ask you and your child what information you want us to share with the new setting.

### Between phases (for primary schools)

The SENCO of the secondary school will come into our school for a meeting with our SENCO. They will discuss the needs of all the pupils who are receiving SEND support.

Pupils will be prepared for the transition by:

- Practising with a secondary school timetable
- Learning how to get organised independently
- Plugging any gaps in knowledge
- Enhanced secondary school transition



## 17. What support is available for me and my family?

If you have questions about SEND, or are struggling to cope, please get in touch to let us know. We want to support you, your child and your family.

To see what support is available to you locally, have a look at Cumberland County Councils local offer. Which publishes information about the local offer on their website:

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

Our local special educational needs and disabilities information advice and support services (SENDIASS) organisations are:

<https://sendiass.cumberland.gov.uk/cumberland-send-information-advice-and-support-service-send-iass>

## 18. What should I do if I have a complaint about my child's SEND support?

Complaints about SEND provision in our school should be made to the SENCO in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

If you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 246 and 247 of the [SEND Code of Practice](#).

If you feel that our school discriminated against your child because of their SEND, you have the right to make a discrimination claim to the first-tier SEND tribunal. To find out how to make such a claim, you should visit: <https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-school/disability-discrimination>

You can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

- Admission
- Exclusion
- Provision of education and associated services
- Making reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services

Before going to a SEND tribunal, you can go through processes called disagreement resolution or mediation, where you try to resolve your disagreement before it reaches the tribunal.

Our school complaints procedures can be found here:

<https://www.derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk/statutory-information/policies/index.html>

## 19. Supporting documents

- *Equality Scheme*
- *Child protection and safeguarding policy*
- *Behaviour Policy*
- *Accessibility Plan*
- *Attendance policy*
- *SEND policy*
- *SEN & Disabilities Code Of Practice 2015*



## 20. Glossary

- **Access arrangements** – special arrangements to allow pupils with SEND to access assessments or exams
- **Annual review** – an annual meeting to review the provision in a pupil’s EHC plan
- **Area of need** – the 4 areas of need describe different types of needs a pupil with SEND can have. The 4 areas are communication and interaction; cognition and learning; physical and/or sensory; and social, emotional and mental health needs.
- **CAMHS** – child and adolescent mental health services
- **Differentiation** – when teachers adapt how they teach in response to a pupil’s needs
- **EHC needs assessment** – the needs assessment is the first step on the way to securing an EHC plan. The local authority will do an assessment to decide whether a child needs an EHC plan.
- **EHC plan** – an education, health and care plan is a legally-binding document that sets out a child’s needs and the provision that will be put in place to meet their needs.
- **First-tier tribunal/SEND tribunal** – a court where you can appeal against the local authority’s decisions about EHC needs assessments or plans and against discrimination by a school or local authority due to SEND
- **Graduated approach** – an approach to providing SEND support in which the school provides support in successive cycles of assessing the pupil’s needs, planning the provision, implementing the plan, and reviewing the impact of the action on the pupil
- **Intervention** – a short-term, targeted approach to teaching a pupil with a specific outcome in mind
- **Local offer** – information provided by the local authority which explains what services and support are on offer for pupils with SEND in the local area
- **Outcome** – target for improvement for pupils with SEND. These targets don't necessarily have to be related to academic attainment
- **Reasonable adjustments** – changes that the school must make to remove or reduce any disadvantages caused by a child’s disability
- **SENCO** – the special educational needs co-ordinator
- **SEN** – special educational needs

- **SEND** – special educational needs and disabilities
- **SEND Code of Practice** – the statutory guidance that schools must follow to support pupils with SEND
- **SEND information report** – a report that schools must publish on their website, that explains how the school supports pupils with SEND
- **SEND support** – special educational provision which meets the needs of pupils with SEND
- **Transition** – when a pupil moves between years, phases, schools or institutions or life stages