



Covingham Park Primary School Special Educational Needs Policy

At Covingham Park Primary School, our vision is to provide every child with an outstanding education which equips them with the necessary skills to meet future changes and challenges throughout their life.

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Author: Lucy Smith (SENCo and Senior Leader)

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Definitions of special educational needs (SEN) taken from section 20 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

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 them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- a) have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- b) have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools.

Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

In September 2014 the new SEN Code of Practice became statutory. More details about the reforms and the SEN Code of Practice can be found on the Department for Education's website:

www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/sen

One significant change arising from the reforms is that Statements of Special Educational Needs, for those children with the most complex needs, have now been replaced with a new Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

The SEND Local Offer is a resource which is designed to support children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families. It describes the services and provision that are available both to those families in Swindon that have an Education, Health and Care Plan and those who do not have a plan, but still experience some form of special educational need. The SEND Local Offer includes information about public services across education, health and social care, as well as those provided by the private, voluntary and community sectors. The SEND Local Offer signposts to our School Offer, which can also be accessed via our website.

Mission statement

Caring for Pupils, Promoting Success.

At Covingham Park Primary School we are proud to provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every member of our community is valued and respected. Our broad, balanced, creative curriculum provides opportunities for everyone to achieve and succeed. We celebrate our achievements, gifts and cultural diversity, irrespective of individual differences within the protected categories of the Equality Act of 2010. Together we take pride in making a positive contribution to our school and the wider community.

Key Principles

This SEN policy details how this school will do its best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs and those needs are made known to all who are likely to teach them.

***Every teacher is a teacher of every child or young person,
including those with Special Educational Needs.***

The school will use its best endeavours to ensure that teachers in the school are able to identify and provide for those pupils who have special educational needs to allow them to join in the activities of the school together with pupils who do not have special educational needs, so far as is reasonably practical and compatible with the child receiving the special educational provision and the efficient education of the pupils with whom they are educated. The school will have regard to the **Special**

Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice (2014) when carrying out its duties toward all pupils with special educational needs

Aims and objectives

Aims

We aim to provide every child with access to a broad and balanced education. This includes the National Curriculum in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

Objectives

Staff members will seek to:

- **Identify the needs of pupils with SEN as early as possible.** This is most effectively done by gathering information from parents, education, health and care services and early years settings prior to the child's entry into the school.
- **Monitor the progress of all pupils** in order to aid the identification of pupils with SEN. Continuous monitoring of those pupils with SEN by their teachers will help to ensure that they are able to reach their full potential.
- **Make appropriate provision to overcome all barriers to learning and ensure pupils with SEN have full access to the National Curriculum.** This will be co-ordinated by the SENCo and Headteacher and will be carefully monitored and regularly reviewed in order to ensure that individual targets are being met and all pupils' needs are catered for.
- **Work with parents** to gain a better understanding of their child, and involve them in all stages of their child's education. This includes supporting them in terms of understanding SEN procedures and practices and providing regular feedback on their child's progress.
- **Work with and in support of outside agencies** when the pupils' needs cannot be met by the school alone.
- **Create a school environment where pupils can contribute to their own learning.** This means encouraging relationships with adults in school where pupils feel safe to voice their opinions of their own needs, and carefully monitoring the progress of all pupils at regular intervals. Pupil participation is encouraged through school by wider opportunities such as school council, residential visits, school performances and sports teams.

Responsibility for the coordination of SEN provision

The person responsible for overseeing the provision for children with SEN is Mrs Caroline Polley and Mrs Joanna Crabbe (Co-Headteachers)

The person co-ordinating the day to day provision of education for pupils with SEN is Mrs Lucy Smith (SENCO)

Arrangements for coordinating SEN provision

The SENCO will hold details of all SEN records for individual pupils.

All staff can access:

- The Covingham Park Primary School SEN Policy;
- A copy of the full SEN Register.
- Guidance on identification of SEN in the Code of Practice
- Information on individual pupils' special educational needs, including Core Standards documentation, reports from external professionals, targets set and copies of year group provision maps.
- Practical advice, teaching strategies, and information about types of special educational needs and disabilities
- Information available through Swindon's SEND Local Offer

In this way, every staff member will have complete and up-to-date information about all pupils with special needs and their requirements which will enable them to provide for the

individual needs of all pupils.

This policy is made accessible to all staff and parents in order to aid the effective coordination of the school's SEN provision.

Admission arrangements

Please refer to the information contained in our school prospectus.

The admission arrangements for all pupils are in accordance with national legislation, including the Equality Act 2010. This includes children with any level of SEN; those with Education, Health and Care Plans and those without.

Specialist SEN provision

We are committed to whole school inclusion. In our school we support children with a range of special educational needs. We will seek specialist SEN provision and training from SEN services where necessary. In exceptional cases this may involve working with families, specialist services and the SEN Assessment Team to find more appropriate specialist provision.

Facilities for pupils with SEN

The school complies with all relevant accessibility requirements, please see the school accessibility plan for more details.

Identification of pupils needs

Identification

See definition of Special Educational Needs at start of policy.

The following situations WOULD NOT be considered to constitute SEN, although they may impact on progress and/or attainment:

- Disability (the Code of Practice outlines the 'reasonable adjustment' duty for all settings and schools provided under current Disability Equality legislation – these alone do not constitute SEN)
- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- EAL
- Being in receipt of Pupil Premium grant
- Being a Looked After Child
- Being a child of a serviceman/woman

A graduated approach:

Quality First Teaching

a) Any pupils who are falling significantly outside of the range of expected academic achievement in line with predicted performance indicators and levels will be monitored.

b) Once a pupil has been identified as possibly having SEN they will be closely monitored by staff in order to gauge their level of learning, progress and possible difficulties.

c) The child's class teacher will take steps to provide differentiated learning opportunities that will aid the pupil's academic progression and enable the teacher to better understand the provision and teaching style that needs to be applied.

d) The SENCO will be consulted as needed for support and advice and may wish to observe the pupil in class.

e) Through (b) and (d) it can be determined which level of provision the child will need going forward

f) If a pupil has recently been removed from the SEN register they may also fall into this category as continued monitoring will be necessary.

g) Parents will be informed fully of every stage of their child's development and the circumstances under which they are being monitored. They are encouraged to share information and knowledge with the school.

h) The child is recorded by the school as being under observation due to concern by parent or teacher but this does not automatically place the child on the school's SEN register. Any concerns will be discussed with parents informally or during parents' evenings.

SEN Support

Where it is determined that a pupil does have SEN, parents will be advised of this and the decision will be added to the SEN register. The aim of formally identifying a pupil with SEN is to help school ensure that effective provision is put in place and so remove barriers to learning. The support provided consists of a four part process as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice (2014):

- Assess
- Plan
- Do
- Review

This is an ongoing cycle to enable the provision to be refined and revised as the understanding of the needs of the pupil grows. This cycle enables the identification of those interventions which are the most effective in supporting the pupil to achieve good progress and outcomes.

Assess

This involves clearly analysing the pupil's needs using the class teacher's assessment and experience of working with the pupil, details of previous progress and attainment, comparisons with peers and national data, as well as the views and experience of parents. The pupil's views and where relevant, advice from external support services will also be considered. Any parental concerns will be noted and compared with the school's information and assessment data on how the pupil is progressing. This analysis will require regular review to ensure that support and intervention is matched to need, that barriers to learning are clearly identified and being overcome and that the interventions being used are developing and evolving as required. Where external support staff are already involved their work will help inform the assessment of need. Where they are not involved they may be contacted, if this is felt to be appropriate, following discussion and agreement from parents.

Plan

Planning will involve consultation between the teacher, SENCO and parents to agree the adjustments, interventions and support that are required; the impact on progress, development and or behaviour that is expected and a clear date for review. Parental involvement may be sought, where appropriate, to reinforce or contribute to progress at home.

All those working with the pupil, including support staff will be informed of their individual needs, the support that is being provided, any particular teaching strategies/approaches that are being employed and the outcomes that are being sought.

Do

The class teacher remains responsible for working with the child on a day-to-day basis. They will retain responsibility even where the interventions may involve group or one-to-one teaching away from the main class teacher. They will work closely with teaching assistants and to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and links with classroom teaching. Support with further assessment of the pupil's strengths and weaknesses, problem solving and advising of the implementation of effective support will be provided by the SENCO.

Review

Reviews of a child's progress will be made regularly. The review process will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions. It will also take account of the views of the pupil and where necessary their parents. The class teacher, in conjunction with the SENCO will revise the support and outcomes based on the pupil's progress and development making any necessary amendments going forward, in consultation with parents and the pupil.

Referral for an Education, Health and Care Plans

If a child has lifelong or significant difficulties they may undergo a Statutory Assessment Process which is usually requested by the school but can be requested by a parent. This will occur where the complexity of need or a lack of clarity around the needs of the child are such that a multi-agency approach to assessing that need, to planning provision and identifying resources, is required. The decision to make a referral for an Education, Health and Care Plan will be taken at a progress review. The application for an Education, Health and Care Plans will combine information from a variety of sources including:

- Parents
- Teachers
- SENCO
- Social Care
- Health professionals

Information will be gathered relating to the current provision provided, action points that have been taken, and the preliminary outcomes of targets set. A decision will be made about whether the child is eligible for an EHC Plan by the Special Educational Needs Resource Allocation Panel (SENRAP) who are a group of people from education, health and social care. This panel is completely independent from the school and the school have no right to appeal it's decisions. Parents have the right to appeal against a decision not to initiate a statutory assessment leading to an EHC Plan.

Further information about EHC Plans can found via the SEND Local Offer:

[Swindon Local Offer - Home](#)

or by speaking to an Education, Health and Care Plan Co-ordinator on:

01793 463062 or 01793 465747

or by contacting the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS, formally Parent Partnership) on:

01793 466417

Education, Health and Care Plans [EHC Plan]

Following Statutory Assessment, an EHC Plan may be provided by Swindon Borough Council, if it is decided that the child's needs are not being met by the support that is ordinarily available. The school and the child's parents will be involved in developing and producing the plan.

Parents have the right to appeal against the content of the EHC Plan. They may also appeal against the school named in the Plan if it differs from their preferred choice.

Once the EHC Plan has been completed and agreed, it will be kept as part of the pupil's formal record and reviewed at least annually by staff, parents and the pupil. The annual review enables provision for the pupil to be evaluated and, where appropriate, for changes to be put in place, for example, reducing or increasing levels of support.

Inclusion of pupils with SEN

The Headteacher and SENCO oversee the school's policy for inclusion and are responsible for ensuring that it is implemented effectively throughout the school. The school curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure that it promotes the inclusion of all pupils. This includes learning outside the classroom. The school will seek advice, as appropriate, about individual pupils, from external support services.

Evaluating the success of provision

In order to make consistent continuous progress in relation to SEN provision the school encourages feedback from staff, parents and pupils throughout the year. This is done in the form of an annual parent and pupil questionnaire, discussion and through progress meetings with parents.

Pupil progress will be monitored on a termly basis in line with the SEN Code of Practice. SEN provision and interventions are recorded on a class provision map and on Structured Conversations, which are updated three times a year. These are updated by the class teacher and are monitored by the SENCO. These reflect information passed on by the SENCO at the beginning of an academic year and are adapted following assessments. These interventions are monitored and evaluated regularly by the

SENCO and information is fed back to the staff, parents and governors. This helps to identify whether provision is effective.

Complaints procedure

If a parent or carer has any concerns or complaints regarding the education, care or welfare of their child, an appointment can be made by them to speak to the Headteacher or SENCO, who will be able to advise on formal procedures for complaint.

Continuing Professional Development

We aim to keep all school staff up to date with relevant training and developments in teaching practice in relation to the needs of pupils with SEN. The SENCO attends relevant SEN courses, cluster SEN meetings and facilitates/signposts relevant SEN focused external training opportunities for all staff. We recognise the need to train all our staff on SEN issues and we have funding available to support this professional development. The SENCO, with the senior leadership team, ensures that training opportunities are matched to school development priorities and those identified through the use of provision management (see **Evaluating Success of Provision**).

Links to support services

The school continues to build strong working relationships and links with external support services in order to fully support our SEN pupils and aid school inclusion. Sharing knowledge and information with our support services is key to the effective and successful SEN provision within our school. Any one of the support services may raise concerns about a pupil. This will then be brought to the attention of the SENCO who will then inform the child's parents.

Working in partnerships with parents

Covingham Park Primary School believes that a close working relationship with parents is vital in order to ensure

- a) early and accurate identification and assessment of SEN leading to appropriate intervention and provision
- b) continuing social and academic progress of children with SEN
- c) personal and academic targets are set and met effectively

In cases where more frequent regular contact with parents is necessary, this will be arranged based on the individual pupil's needs. The SENCO may also signpost parents of pupils with SEN to the local authority Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SIAS, formerly SENDIASS and Parent Partnership) where specific advice, guidance and support may be provided.

If an assessment or referral indicates that a pupil has additional learning needs the parents and the pupil will always be consulted with regards to future provision. Parents are invited to attend meetings with external agencies regarding their child, and are kept up to date and consulted on any points of action drawn up in regards to the provision for their child. The school's SEN governor may be contacted at any time in relation to SEN matters.

Links with other schools

The school works in partnership with the other primary schools in the cluster as well as the Dorcan Academy and other Swindon schools. This enables the schools to build a bank of joint resources and to share advice, training and development activities and expertise.

Links with other agencies and voluntary organisations

Covingham Park Primary School invites and seeks advice and support from external agencies in the identification and assessment of, and provision for, SEN. The SENCo is the designated person responsible for liaising with the following (among others):

- Swindon Education Psychology Service
- SEMH Outreach Team
- Advisory Teachers for Physical Disability, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Specific Learning Difficulties, Dyslexia, ASC/SCID and Assistive Technology
- Speech and Language Service (Class teacher also liaises)
- School Nurse
- TaMHS
- Trailblazers 'Project Me'
- Occupational Therapy
- Community Paediatricians

In cases where a child is under observation or a cause for concern, focused meetings will be arranged with the appropriate agency.

Compliance

This policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25 (September 2014) and has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: advice for schools DfE Feb 2013
- SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25 (September 2014)
- Schools SEN Information Report Regulations (2014)
- The National Curriculum in England Key Stage 1 and 2 framework document Sept 2013
- Safeguarding Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Teachers Standards 2012

This policy was created by the school's SENCO in liaison with the SEN Governor, the SLT and all staff. It is readily available to parents and other interested parties via our website. The co-production of this policy by all stake holders echoes the key messages of the recent SEND reforms.