

Where are you?

The Harriers
Covingham
Swindon
SN3 5BD



SEN School Offer

What do you offer?

Full time, mainstream
education for 4 to 11 year
olds.

Do you have a website?

www.cpps.swindon.sch.uk

What do you charge?

There is no cost for everyday
schooling. We sometimes ask for a
contribution towards school trips and
visitors. You may have to pay for
some after school clubs.

How do I get a place at your school?

If your child is starting school you will need to fill in an Admissions Form. If they are already at another school you will need to fill in a transfer form. For more information please Google 'Swindon Borough Council Admissions Policy'.

Who else are you linked with?

We have close links with Dorcan Academy, Roundabout Pre-School, Kingfisher Pre-School and other primary schools in our area. 'Key Time' run a breakfast club in the school (there is an extra charge for this). We can also contact specialists to give us advice on different Special Educational Needs.



How does the school know if children need extra help?

We know children need extra help if:

- Their last school or pre-school tells us
- Their work is not at the level expected for their age
- They are not learning new things as quickly as we would like
- Parents have worries about behaviour or learning
- Teachers are worried about behaviour or learning
- Other professionals are helping us (e.g. Educational Psychologist)
- The child is being seen regularly at the hospital





What should I do if I think my child has Special Educational Needs?

You know your child better than anybody else. If you are worried about your child's learning or behaviour first speak to your child's class teacher. Either the class teacher will be able to give you advice on how to help your child, or they may arrange for you to speak to Mrs Clegg, our Special Needs Co-ordinator.





How can the school help my child?

All school staff have experience of working with children with a range of Special Educational Needs and regularly receive training to update their knowledge. Depending on what will help your child to learn best, we can offer support in class, learning activities matched to their needs, support in small groups outside the classroom and we can also contact other specialists to give us advice.





Will my child have to learn what everybody else in their class is learning?

Our teachers are experts in understanding what children already know and what they need to learn next and will plan lessons so that all children are given the opportunity to learn at their own level and pace. This is one of the most important ways we support children to learn and make progress.





How will I know how well my child is doing?

We have Parent's Evenings in Terms 2 and 4 where you will be able to talk to your child's teacher about their learning. At these meetings you will also get a short written report telling you how your child is doing and what their new targets are. You will also get a School Report at the end of each year. If your child has more complex Special Needs they will have a 'Child Centred Education Plan' which will be shared with you at Parent's Evening. Some children with Special Needs will have a Statement or an Education, Health and Care Plan. This will include a review meeting every year to talk about your child's progress and next steps.






How will I know how to help my child at home?

There are lots of ways you can help your child at home:

- Share their reading book
- Help them with their homework
- Make sure you know what their targets are (you will know these from Parent's Evenings or from their School Report) and spend time working on these at home. Your child's teacher can give you some ideas for how to do this.

Come along to our Parent Open Mornings and Curriculum Evenings to find out more about what your child is doing at school and how you can help them at home.





What if my child has medical needs?

If your child has medical needs it is really important that you let the school know, even if you don't think it will affect them at school or they take all of their medicines at home.

In some cases we will contact the School Nurse and she will make sure that staff have all the up to date information and training they need to care for your child. Some children will need a 'Care Plan', which you will help the School Nurse to write.





How will you make sure
my child is happy at
school?

We know that children learn best when they feel happy, safe and settled. Every classroom has a Worry Box, where children can tell the teacher what is upsetting them without worrying that other children will hear them. We also have regular times during the week for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and have daily assemblies which cover topics from 'Good to be Me' to 'Bullying'. For children who are having a particularly hard time at home or at school we have a specially trained Nurture Leader who takes small groups of children for more work on dealing with emotions and social skills.





My child's behaviour can be difficult. How do you deal with this in school?

We understand how important it is for children who have more challenging behaviour to understand what is expected of them and what will happen if they make the wrong choices. At Covingham the whole school works on the same system of rewards and consequences. Children are awarded team points that eventually earn them a certificate and also go towards their team total. At the end of each term the winning team earns a special treat. Some children need more support and will have their own reward and consequence system, to suit their needs. If this is the case, we welcome ideas from both you and your child.





Will my child be able to
have their say?

All children with a Child Centred Education Plan will be asked for their ideas about what they are good at and what they find hard. We will also talk to your child about what they want to achieve in the future and will aim to base their learning targets around this.

If your child has a Statement or an Education, Health and Care Plan we will ask them for their opinions every year at their Annual Review.





Will the Teachers and Teaching Assistants understand my child's needs?

Our teachers and Teaching Assistants have experience of working with a range of different Special Needs. If needed, we can also call on specialists who work with the school to give us advice and training so that we know how to best support the children at our school. It is the Special Needs Co-ordinator's job to make sure staff have all the information and training they need to be able to help your child to learn.





Will my child be able to go on school trips?

Staff always think very carefully when they are planning school trips to make sure they will be appropriate for all of the children in their class.





Will my child be able to go to after school clubs?

All children at Covingham are welcome to attend any of the after school clubs, provided they are the right age. If your child has Special Educational Needs, our Special Needs Co-ordinator will work with the person who runs the club to make sure they understand your child's needs and how to help them to join in the best they can.





It's hard for my child to get around on their own. Will this be a problem?

All of the ground floor areas of our school are accessible to a child in a wheel chair or who uses a walking aid. We do have four upstairs classrooms, however year groups regularly change classrooms so a ground floor classroom could be arranged for a child who is not able to climb stairs.





I am worried about my child starting at your school. How will you help them in the beginning?

We make a big effort to get to know children as well as possible before they start school. The things that help us to do this are:

- Visiting children at their current pre-school or school
- Inviting children to come in to school to meet their new teacher and class and spend time in their new classroom
- Home visits
- Information sharing meetings with child's current school or preschool





When the time comes for my child to move on to secondary school, how will you prepare them?

Preparation for Secondary School will partly depend which school you choose for your child, but may include:

- Visits and lessons from secondary school teachers, at Covingham
- After school clubs run at our school by secondary school staff
- Visits to events at secondary school e.g. Christmas play
- 'Transition Days' where children spend the day at their new school
- Extra 'get to know you' sessions over the summer holidays.





How will you decide how much and what type of help my child needs?

We have a lot of experience in supporting children both in class and in small groups. This experience helps us to match the needs of the children to the type of support. All of this support is overseen by our Special Needs Co-ordinator. Once we have decided how to support your child we will carefully monitor the progress your child is making and this will help us decide how best to support your child in the future.





How will I know if all the help they are getting at school is working?

You will get regular information about how well your child is doing and how quickly they are making progress at Parent's Evenings and in their yearly School Report. If your child has a Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan this will also be talked about at their Annual Review meeting. You are welcome to make an appointment to discuss your child's support with their class teacher or with the Special Needs Co-ordinator.





I would like to know
more about your school.
Who should I talk to?

Our Headteacher, Mrs Polley, or our Special
Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Clegg can answer any
questions you have or give you any information
you need. Our school Business Manager, Mrs
Causton and Senior Leader, Mr Lee, are also
available to answer your questions.





Who else will come to the school to help my child?

We are lucky to be able to call on a lot of different specialists to help us provide the best possible education for our children. These include: School Nurse, Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Advisory Teacher for Hearing Impairment, Advisory Teacher for Visual Impairment, Advisory Teacher for Physical Disability, Nylands Campus Outreach Team (behaviour support), Targeted Mental Health Services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Dorcan Cluster Family Therapist (Sam Smith).

