

## SEND & Inclusion Policy



# Wheatley Hill Community Primary School

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**Chair Of Governors:** *Jayne Dinsdale*

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## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY**

**This policy should be read in conjunction with school policies for:**

- Equality policy, statement and objectives
- Accessibility Plan
- Behaviour Policy
- Medical Needs Policy
- SEND Teaching and Learning Policy
- SEND Information Report

### **1. DEFINITIONS**

#### **Definition of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND):**

For the purposes of this policy we have used the term Special Educational Needs and Disabilities as defined by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 implemented in September 2014.

A child or young person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. (*Code of Practice D.F.E. 2014*)

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

- a) has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of pupils of the same age; or
- b) 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.

Special educational provision which meets the needs of children and young people with SEND includes:

- High quality teaching that is differentiated and personalized to meet the individual needs of the majority of children and young people. Some children and young people need educational provision that is additional to or different from

this. This is special provision under Section 21 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

## **2. RATIONALE**

Wheatley Hill Primary School is an inclusive school in the heart of the local community, with an Enhanced Mainstream Provision supporting pupils with Speech and Language Difficulties and a huge specialist provision named The Climb Project, which supports children with a wide range of complex needs, including pupils with:

- Communication and interaction needs.
- Cognition and learning needs
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- Sensory or physical needs

These 4 broad areas of SEND are identified in the Code Of practice (2014).

Our school welcomes all children and values them as individuals, treating them equally and with dignity and respect. We believe that all children have the right to have their own particular needs recognised and addressed in order to achieve the best possible outcomes. We believe that all teachers are teachers of children with SEND and it is therefore a whole school responsibility to ensure that these children's needs are met in the best possible way. Through staff working together as a team, and in partnership with pupils and their parents, we strive to ensure that the following aims are met.

Children who access the Enhanced provision also receive regular Speech and Language Therapy and can access specialist teaching and resources where required.

Children with an EHCP, access our Climb Project. The Climb project is a specialist SEND inclusion approach that joins Special School and Mainstream teaching routes in a clear learning pathway. This provides young people with a simultaneous Special & Mainstream School learning route. Young people within the climb-project receive the intensive specialist support, as you would expect in any quality Special School provision, whilst at the same time offering the young people the teaching approaches, peer integration and expansive curriculum associated with the mainstream primary experience. All young people, regardless of need, follow an individualised learning route that is specifically designed to meet the young person's needs based on the outcomes of their EHCP

## **Aims**

- To follow the guidelines set out in the SEND Code of Practice;
- To ensure that all pupils have equal access to a broad, balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to meet individual needs and abilities;
- To identify children with SEND as early as possible and plan a program of support and intervention to address their needs;
- To regularly track the progress of children with SEND through school tracking systems, review meetings, lesson observations and provision maps and support plans;
- To provide good quality and regular training for staff in relevant areas of SEND;
- To evaluate the impact of staff training and provision/intervention programs;
- To develop good relationships with parents/carers to ensure pupils with SEND are supported well both at home and at school;
- To ensure that all staff working with SEND children are clear about their roles;
- To ensure that the SEND budget is used appropriately to fund high quality resources for children with Special Educational Needs.
- To work effectively with a range of other external agencies;
- To make good links with other mainstream primary schools, secondary schools, and special schools.

## **3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Provision for pupils with special educational needs is a matter for the school as a whole. Teachers, TA's, Subject leaders and SENDCo are all actively involved in ensuring high quality provision.

**Headteacher: Alan Scarr**

**SENDCO: Joy Hodgkinson**

**Designated Governor: Joanne O Neil**

### **Governing Body**

The governing body will have the following responsibilities. They will:

- Have regard to the SEND Code of Practice and should oversee the implementation of the reform and provide strategic support to the head teacher
- Publish information on the school's websites about the implementation of the governing body's or the proprietor's policy for pupils with SEND.
- Ensure that there is a qualified teacher designated as SENDCO.
- Cooperate generally with the local authority including in developing the local offer and when the school is being named in an EHC plan.
- Ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- Publish information about the arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps taken to prevent disabled children being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to assist access of disabled children, and their accessibility plans.

### **The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher**

The head teacher and Deputy head teacher will have the following responsibilities. They will:

- Take overall responsibility for implementing the code of practice.
- Ensure that the SENDCO is able to influence strategic decisions about SEND.
- Ensure the wider school community understands the implications of SEND provision for whole school improvement (from governors to classroom teachers and teaching assistants).
- Put in place arrangements to ensure parents are regularly engaged in discussions about the progress of their child (at least three times a year).
- Ensure a process is in place for involving parents and young people in reviewing provision and planning for those currently on school action/plus and any newly identified pupils with SEND.

## **The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO)**

The role of the SENDCOs includes:

- oversee day-to-day operation of school's SEND policy;
- coordinating provision for children with SEND;
- liaise with designated teacher where a Looked after Child has SEND;
- advise on graduated approach to SEND Support;
- advise on use of delegated budget/ other resources;
- liaise with parents of children with SEND;
- maintain links with other education settings and outside agencies;
- liaise with potential next providers of education;
- work with head and governors on Equality Act; and
- ensure that SEND records are up to date.

## **Class Teachers**

Class teachers have the following responsibility to:

- Focus on outcomes for the child: Be clear about the outcome wanted from any SEND support.
- Be responsible for meeting special educational needs: Use the SENDCO strategically to support the quality of teaching, evaluate the quality of support and contribute to school improvement.
- Have high aspirations for every pupil: Set clear progress targets for pupils and be clear about how the full range of resources are going to help reach them.
- Involve parents and pupils in planning and reviewing progress: Seek their views and provide regular updates on progress.

## **SEND Support Staff**

Class teachers work with SEND support staff to plan effective provision for pupils with SEND. Effective liaison between support staff and class teachers is essential to ensure planned activities are linked to targets set out in support plans.

- HLTA's/LSA/TAs are part of the whole school approach to SEND working in partnership with the class teacher and the SENDCO to deliver pupil progress and to narrow gaps in performance.
- The support they give should be focused on the achievement of specific outcomes within the graduated approach to SEND support agreed with parents in the context of high quality teaching overall.
- HLTA's/LSA/TAs can be part of a package of support for the individual child but should never be a substitute for the teacher's involvement with that child.

#### **4. IDENTIFICATION**

At Wheatley Hill Primary School, we aim to identify SEND as early as possible. It is important that there is early identification, assessment and provision for any child who may have SEND since the earlier action is taken, the more responsive the child is likely to be, and the more readily an intervention can be made. Identification may come as a result of the following methods of assessment:

- **Prior to admission** – Parents are asked to provide us with certain information when they place their child's name down for the Nursery or school. They are asked to include details of any difficulties in their child's development, if any services are already involved or if any previous support has been given to their child.
- **In our Nursery** – The details given at the time of application for a Nursery place are all checked on admission, amendments made and supplementary information noted.
- **On entering school-** this is continued into Reception and progress against the Early Learning Goals are recorded and reported at the end of the year.

Through their discussions, observations, assessments and data analysis the SENDCOs, class teachers, key workers and support

staff will identify any children who appear to have SEND. Children with SEND may also be identified by outside agencies and organisations. Parents and carers may also inform the SENDCOs or teaching staff of any concerns and possible Special Educational Needs. When a child is identified as having SEND they will be placed on the SEND register as school support.

### **SEND Support**

When a class teacher or the SENDCOs identify a child with Special Educational Needs, the class teacher will provide interventions that are additional to those provided as part of the school's usual differentiated curriculum. Discussions will happen with parents, teachers and SENDCO as part of a child centered approach and progress monitored closely. The child would be placed on the SEND register and a SEND support plan put in place to outline the reasonable adjustments and interventions in place for the child. These are formally reviewed termly.

The triggers for SEND support are that, despite receiving quality first teaching the child:

- continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period;
- continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age;
- continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematics skills;
- has emotional difficulties which substantially and regularly interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class group.
- has Sensory or physical needs, and requires additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service;
- has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and cause substantial barriers to learning.

If a child has a school SEND support and continues to make limited progress in one of the 4 broad areas of need, the SENDCO may refer the child to outside agencies such as Educational Psychology, Cognition and Learning team, CAMHs, ASD team, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language



Therapy or a range of other Specialist Support Teams for additional support.

Advice and recommendations from these services would then be added to the child's SEND support plan and implemented in school. Progress would be closely monitored as part of a 'plan, do, review' approach.

### **Referral for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment or Top Up Funding**

If a child makes limited progress in their area of need, despite the school having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEND of a child, the school or parents should consider requesting either top up funding, or an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment.

To inform this decision, the local authority will expect to see evidence of action taken by the school. These include:

- Records of regular reviews and their outcomes;
- The pupil's health including the child's medical history where relevant;
- Early Learning Goals and National Curriculum levels of attainment in literacy and mathematics;
- Educational and other assessments, for example from an advisory specialist support teacher or an educational psychologist;
- Views of the parents and of the child;
- Involvement of other professionals such as health, social services or education welfare service;
- Costed provision maps;
- Personalised timetable

### **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)**

An EHCP includes the following and will be reviewed annually:

- The pupil's name, address and date of birth;
- Details of all of the pupils' special needs, including health needs;
- Identification of the provision necessary to meet the pupil Special Educational Needs;
- Short term targets for the child to work towards;

- Identification of the type and name of the school where the provision is to be made;
- Relevant non-educational needs of the child;
- Information on non-educational provision;
- Reports and views of any other specialist involvement.

All children with EHCP will have short-term targets set for them that have been established after consultation with parents, and the child. An EHCP will be reviewed annually and will last until the child is 25, or all targets are met.

## **5. PROVISION/INTERVENTION**

At Wheatley Hill primary School, there are a range of intervention programmes and provision that may be put into place for a child with Special Educational Needs at our school. These include:

- A fully differentiated or modified curriculum
- Special equipment and resources
- Literacy programmes and phonics support
- Numeracy Programmes to develop basic skills
- Social skills sessions
- Social stories
- Comic Strip Conversations sessions
- Specialist classrooms in our Climb project
- Work stations
- Visuals
- PECS
- Communication boards
- Identiplay
- Zones of Regulation
- Task boxes
- Work systems
- Scaffolded activities
- Practical learning opportunities
- Outdoor learning
- Forest School
- Beach school
- Sensory swings
- Art therapy
- Lego Therapy
- Independent purpose activities
- Soft play area
- Sensory room complete with ball pit and sensory lights

- Counselling support
- Anger Management work shops
- Life skills programmes
- Sensory sessions
- Visual discrimination
- Fine motor interventions
- Gross motor skills interventions including gross motor carousels
- Rebound Therapy
- Work with other agencies such as Physiotherapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, ASD team etc

In consultation with staff, parents and pupils, the SENDCO choose the appropriate provision/intervention programme for each child. The SENDCO ensure that all children with SEND are catered for effectively. Using data analysis, lesson/session observations and pupil, staff and parent feedback, the SENDCO evaluate the impact of provision/intervention programmes annually, including value for money in relation to the SEND budget. This is formally reviewed termly and the SENDCO tracks data carefully to measure the impact of each provision.

## **6. RESOURCE ALLOCATION**

The Local Authority (LA) provides the school with a budget towards meeting pupils' SEND. The school needs to allocate additional funding from the main school budget to SEND.

The school spends this money on:

- SENDCO non contact time;
- SEND support staff salaries;
- Training for all teachers and teaching assistants so they can meet pupil's needs more effectively;
- Special resources and equipment.

The details of how individual pupils receive support are recorded on their SEND support plans and EHCPs

## **7. RECORDING SEND**

Records are kept on all children with SEND, detailing steps taken to support them. Electronic record files are kept for all children with SEND by the SENDCO and shared with class teachers and assistants. Teachers keep termly SEND Support Plan, which are personalised to each child and regularly reviewed and updated - these are shared with parents and outside agencies.

### **SEND Register**

This is a register kept by the SENDCO. It indicates which children have SEND and what stage they are at. The SENDCO maintain the Register as a working document. The Register will state the following:

- Child's name;
- Date of Birth;
- Details of SEND;
- Involvement of outside agencies;
- SEND code for Census

### **Medical Register**

The Headteacher and deputy headteacher maintains a copy of the Medical Register as the responsible people. Copies will be kept in the first aid room filing cabinet, easily accessible by first aiders and are available in other areas throughout school. The Medical Register may be amended throughout the year by the class teacher following consultation with the designated administrator (Mrs Nichola Booth). The SENDCO will become involved should a child's medical attention present a barrier to their learning.

**Electronic Pupil Files** are kept up to date by the SENDCO and copies are accessible by the class teacher for use with planning, strategies and resources. Class Teachers will keep copies of each SEND support plan for reference and amending in their short term planning files.

**Class teachers-** The SENDCO meets with class teachers termly for pupil progress meetings, this supports with identification of SEND and helps promote early identification of need and aims to provide specific intervention based on the level and area of need and also signposts to other agencies that may offer support. Advice and strategies are discussed and can also be given to parents to help support their child at home.

**Transfer of Information** will be the responsibility of the SENDCO if a child moves school or joins our school.

## **8. ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING PROGRESS**

The progress of children with SEND is monitored in a number of ways. These include:

- Reviewing of SEND support plan targets and outcomes;
- Pupil Progress Meetings;
- Discussion at review meetings;
- Regular Reading assessments;
- Moderation of book/ captured learning by the child;
- Weekly/half term class assessments;
- Specific Intervention Programme tracker sheets
- School tracking systems of data
- Observations by SENDCo

Adequate progress can be defined in a number of ways. It might be progress which:

- Closes the attainment gap between the child and their peers;
- prevents the attainment gap growing wider;
- Is similar to that of peers starting from the same attainment baseline, but less than that of the majority of peers;
- Matches or betters the child's previous rate of progress;
- Ensures access to the full curriculum;
- Demonstrates an improvement in self-help, social or personal skills;
- Allows children to feel happy and secure within their environment and reduce any negative impact upon their Emotional and Mental Health.

## **9. ANNUAL REVIEWS**

It is a statutory requirement for children with an EHCP to have an Annual Review. At Wheatley Hill Primary School we hold annual reviews for children with an EHCP. Children with an EHCP will have at least one formal review each year. Parents/carers and other agencies, where appropriate, are invited to these.

Children with a SEND support plan are reviewed are part of the Parent/Teacher evenings in the Autumn and Summer Terms. During these reviews, feedback is given about a child's progress and new and outcomes are agreed where necessary.

## **10. STAFF TRAINING**

The school makes an annual audit of training needs for all staff taking into account school priorities as well as personal and professional development. The Head Teacher and Deputy Head teacher devise a weekly training programme. The Deputy Head teacher delivers coaching sessions to each base class on a weekly basis with a different focus depending on school priorities. Particular support will be given to Newly Qualified Teachers and other new members of staff.

Staff have had a vast range of training including:

- Speech and Language training
- Sensory profiling Training
- PECs training
- Makaton training
- Communication Friendly Classrooms
- Team Teach Training
- De-escalation training
- Rebound Therapy
- Lego Therapy Training
- Supporting Children with ASD
- Pediatric First Aid
- Forest School Training
- Supporting pupils with PDA
- Gross motor support training
- TEACHH Training
- Work system and scaffolding training
- Communication and Interacting
- Task box training
- Practical learning for children with SEND
- Using ICT to support pupils with SEND

- Phonics Training
- Grass Sledge training
- Purposeful big play support
- How to support pupils with Cognition and Learning difficulties
- Supporting pupils with specific learning difficulties

## **11. PARENT PARTNERSHIP**

At Wheatley Hill Primary School, we place a great deal of value on the role of the parent/carer. We understand that it can be difficult, in some cases, for parents to deal with the fact that their child has additional needs and we are particularly sensitive in the early stages when a child is first identified. We aim to reassure parents/carers and clarify issues/information for them throughout the SEND process. We recognise that parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of their child's needs and the best ways of supporting them. All parents of pupils with Special Educational Needs will be treated as partners and supported to play an active and valued role in their pupil's education. We will always keep parents/carers well informed about their child's special needs and invite them to all review meetings.

## **12. PUPIL INVOLVEMENT**

Pupils are at the centre of everything we do at Wheatley Hill, Primary School. It is important that children with SEND are aware of their targets and outcomes and the additional support that is being put in place for them and why. We ensure that children are given regular feedback about their progress and are also given the opportunity to give their opinions about the progress they are making and the provision/intervention they receive. Where appropriate, we encourage children to help to set new targets and outcomes for themselves. Children with SEND support are offered regular review meetings with their parents during parents evening. Children with an EHCP are invited to the annual reviews held by the SENDCo and the children prepare and share a power point about themselves for the meeting. Children can also attend the review meetings at parents evenings, if they wish.

### **13. LINKS WITH OTHER SCHOOLS**

Wheatley Hill Primary School have strong links with other schools which allows to share information effectively and result in a smoother transition for children with SEND and their parents/carers. As chair of the Community of Learning, we provide and share training with our local schools. We also maintain strong links with special schools to access training opportunities and seek advice relating to specialist SEND areas. SENDCOs and Headteachers in our local area attend our COL meetings in order to share good practise. The SENDCO attends SENDCO network meetings to meet with other SENDCOs from nearby mainstream and special schools in order to share expertise and keep up to date with new and current issues.

### **14. LINKS WITH OTHER AGENCIES**

We have very strong links with a wide range of external agencies and services as well as extra service level agreement (WHP pay for extra time from services), providing a wealth of expertise for our children with SEND. These include:

- Speech and Language Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Educational Psychology
- Autism Outreach
- Occupational Therapy
- Language and Learning
- Family Workers and Parent Support Advisors
- Learning Support
- Specialist Support Services for children with Physical Disabilities
- Behaviour intervention Team
- EWEL Team
- School Nurse
- Mental Health Support Teams
- CAMHs
- Cognition and Learning Team
- Early Help Support
- Parent Partnership
- Health, including School Nurse and Health Visitors
- Social Services
- One Point services



## **15. POLICY EVALUATION**

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Headteacher and SENDCO. It will be reviewed annually.

When reviewing the success of this policy we will take into account:

- Progress of SEND children compared to non- SEND
- Standards reached by pupils with SEND;
- The percentage of parents attending review meetings, including Annual Reviews;
- The number of complaints received regarding SEND provision.

Through regular classroom observation we will also take into account:

- The quality of curriculum planning and the extent to which teachers and SEND support staff work together as a team;
- The extent to which pupils are following an appropriately differentiated curriculum using appropriate strategies and resources.
- The use of varied resources which enable pupils with SEND to make progress towards their targets;
- The ethos of the classroom and the extent to which pupils with SEND are well-cared for and supported.

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**Date of Review: September 2023**

**Author:**

**Joy Hodgkinson – Deputy Headteacher and SENDCO**