

ST BENEDICT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St. Benedict's Primary School

Special Educational Needs Policy



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1. Aims and Vision

St. Benedict's Primary School is a Rights Respecting School and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is at the heart of everything we do.

We aim for our children to be:

Enjoying their rights, fulfilling their dreams.

- Ambitious: To take pride in learning, make progress and achieve.
- Resilient: To face challenges with perseverance and determination.
- Respectful: To be inclusive, enjoy their rights and respect the rights of others. Our SEND policy and information report aims to:
 - Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEND)
 - Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEND

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy and information report is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

- [Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEND and disabilities
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEND co-ordinators (SENDCOs) and the SEND information report

3. Definitions

A pupil has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability that calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

They have a learning difficulty or disability if they have:

- A significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of the others of the same age, or
- A disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

Special educational provision is educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The SENDCO

The SENDCO is Mrs. Samantha Thompson.

They will:

- › Work with the headteacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school
- › Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEND, including those who have EHC plans
- › Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEND receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching
- › Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- › Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- › Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority (LA) and its support services
- › Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- › Ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date

4.2 The SEND governor

The SEND governor will:

- › Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings
- › Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND and disability provision within the school and update the governing board on this
- › Work with the headteacher and SENDCO to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school

4.3 The headteacher

The headteacher will:

- › Work with the SENDCO and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision within the school
- › Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND and/or a disability

4.4 Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- › The progress and development of every pupil in their class
- › Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions, and how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- › Working with the SENDCO to review each pupil's progress and development, and decide on any changes to provision
- › Ensuring they follow this SEND policy

5.1 The kinds of SEND that are provided for

Our school currently provides additional and/or different provision for a range of needs, including:

- › Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties

- › Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia
- › Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- › Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
- › Moderate/severe/profound and multiple learning difficulties

5.2 Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs

We will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils 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

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.

Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEND.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

5.3 Consulting and involving pupils and parents

We will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents when identifying whether they need special educational provision. These conversations will make sure that:

- › Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty
- › We take into account the parents' concerns
- › Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child
- › Everyone is clear on what the next steps are

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record and given to their parents.

5.4 Assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes

We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.

The class or subject teacher will work with the SENDCO to carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. This will draw on:

- › The teacher's assessment and experience of the pupil
- › Their previous progress and attainment or behaviour
- › Other teachers' assessments, where relevant
- › The individual's development in comparison to their peers and national data
- › The views and experience of parents
- › The pupil's own views
- › Advice from external support services, if relevant

The assessment will be reviewed regularly.

All teachers and support staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of their needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided, and any teaching strategies or approaches that are required. We will regularly review the effectiveness of the support and interventions, and their impact on the pupil's progress.

5.5 Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood

We will share information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is moving to. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this.

5.6 Our approach to teaching pupils with SEND

Teachers are 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 pupils who have SEND. This will be adapted for individual pupils.

We will also provide a range of evidence-based interventions.

5.7 Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

We make the following adaptations to ensure all pupils' needs are met:

- › Adapting our curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- › Adapting our resources and staffing
- › Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- › Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

5.8 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEND provision

We evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEND by:

- › Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term
- › Reviewing the impact of interventions every half term
- › External agency audits and feedback
- › Using pupil questionnaires
- › Monitoring by the SENDCO
- › Using provision maps to measure progress
- › Holding annual reviews for pupils with EHC plans

5.9 Enabling pupils with SEND to engage in activities available to those in the school who do not have SEND

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 residential trip

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

No pupil is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEND or disability.

5.10 Working with other agencies

St. Benedict's Primary School invites and seeks advice and support from external agencies in the identification and assessment of, and provision for, SEND. The SENDCO is the designated person responsible for liaising with the following:

- Educational Psychology Service EPS
- Communication and Autism Team (CAT)
- Physical Disability Service (PDSS)
- Educational Psychology Service (EPS)
- Pupil and School Support (PSS)
- Speech and Language Therapy Service (SALT and Chatterboxes)
- Sensory Support Service (SSS)
- Beacon Behaviour Support
- City of Birmingham School

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

5.11 Complaints about SEND provision

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

The parents of pupils with disabilities have the right to make disability discrimination claims to the first-tier SEND tribunal if they believe that our school has discriminated against their children. They can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

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

5.12 The local authority local offer

Our local authority's local offer is published here: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/>

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy and information report will be reviewed by the SENDco **every year**. It will also be updated if any changes to the information are made during the year.

It will be approved by the governing board.

7. Links with other policies and documents

This policy links to the following documents:

- › Accessibility Plan
- › Positive Behaviour Policy
- › Equality information and objectives
- › Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy