



Team Multi-Academy Trust

SEND Information report

2023 to 2024



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 or mainstream post-16 institutions.

A child under compulsory school age has special educational needs if they fall within the definition at (a) or (b) above or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them. 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.

Aims of our provision regarding pupils with special educational needs and/or disability.

The aims of our policy and practice in relation to special educational need and disability in our schools are:

- to ensure that pupils' individual special educational needs and disabilities are identified and that the provision made at their school will enable them to make good progress and achieve their potential, and be fully included in all aspects of the school's community.
- To identify students with special educational needs and disabilities as early as possible and ensure that their needs are met by gathering information from parents/carers, education, health and care services
- To make reasonable adjustments for those with a disability by acting to increase access to the curriculum, the environment and to printed information for all.
- To use our best endeavours to secure special educational provision for pupils for whom this is required, that is "additional to and different from" that provided within the differentiated curriculum, to better respond to the four broad areas of need: 1. Communication and interaction, 2. Cognition and learning, 3. Social, mental and emotional health, 4. Sensory/physical.

- To ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need, through well-targeted continuing professional development.
- To support pupils with medical conditions to achieve full inclusion in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals to meet the medical needs of pupils.
- To work in cooperative and productive partnership with the Local Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners.

The kinds of SEND that are provided for at the school.

Under the SEND Code of Practice 2015 pupils identified as having a special educational need (SEN) will be considered as falling under four broad areas of need:

- **Communication and interaction**
- **Cognition and learning**
- **Social, emotional and mental health**
- **Sensory and/or physical**

Communication and Interaction needs

The profile for every child with communication and interaction needs is different and their needs may change over time. They may have difficulty with one, some or all the different aspects of speech, language or social communication at different times in their lives.

- Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)
- Autism (including Asperger Syndrome)

Cognition and Learning;

Support for learning difficulties may be required when children and young people learn at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation.

- Specific learning difficulties (SpLD): dyslexia (reading and spelling), dyscalculia (maths), dyspraxia (co-ordination) and dysgraphia (writing).
- Moderate learning difficulties (MLD)
- Severe learning difficulties (SLD)
- Profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD)

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties

Children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying

mental health difficulties or reflect the way a child is coping with a current loss or trauma. Other children and young people may have disorders such as:

- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Attachment Disorder

Sensory and/or Physical needs

Some children and young people require special educational provision because they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided. These difficulties can be age related and may fluctuate over time.

- Visual impairment (VI)
- Hearing impairment (HI – including Deaf and hearing impairment)
- Multi-sensory impairment (MSI - sometimes referred to as Deafblind)
- Physical disability (PD).

School policies for identifying children and young people with SEN and assessing their needs, including the name and contact details of the SENCO

Identifying children with SEND and assessing their needs.

At Team Multi-Academy Trust Schools children are identified as having SEND through a variety of ways including the following:

- Liaison with the previous educational setting
- Assessment information – is the child performing below age-related expectations?
- School based assessments carried out initially by the class teacher
- Further school based assessments carried out by the SENCo where concerns have been raised.
- Concerns raised by parents, pupils, or school staff.
- Liaison with external agencies.
- Health diagnosis

Who to contact to talk about your child's Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)

1) The Class Teacher

Responsible for:

- Checking on the progress of your child and identifying, planning and delivering any additional help your child may need (this could be targeted work or additional support) alongside the Special Education Needs/Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo).
- Setting individual targets using an individual action plan, and sharing and reviewing these with parents / carers at least termly.

- Personalised teaching and learning for your child as identified on your child's support plan
- Ensuring that the school's SEND Policy is followed in their classroom and for all the pupils they teach with any SEND.
- Overseeing support that Teaching Assistants or Intervention Teachers provide for your child.
- Ensuring that parents / carers are involved in supporting the child's learning.
- Providing work /ideas to be used at home to help your child achieve their personalised targets.

2) The Lead Special Needs/Disability Coordinator (Lead SENDCo) is Kate Ashley, along with SENCO Team; Stacey Pye, Fran Trofa, Claire Jones and Sue Radley :

Responsible for:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the schools SEND policy.
- Coordinating provision for children with SEND and advising on the deployment of the school's staff & resources.
- Providing specialist support for teachers and support staff in the school.
- Being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services and liaising with parents of children with SEN.
- Updating the school's SEND register (a system for ensuring that all the SEND needs of pupils' in this school are known) and making sure that records of the child's progress and needs are kept.

Arrangements for consulting parents of children with SEN and involving them in their child's education.

Consulting parents of children with SEN and involving them in their child's education.

If a child is identified as not making progress, the school will set up a meeting to discuss this with parents / carers in more detail and to:

- Listen to any concerns they may have.
- Plan any additional support your child may need.
- Discuss with parents / carers any referrals to outside professionals to support their child.
- The school will aim to ensure that parents / carers are:
 - o involved in supporting their child's learning
 - o kept informed about the support their child is getting
 - o involved in reviewing how they are doing

All parents have a formal opportunity to liaise with their child's class teacher twice a year during our Parent/Teacher Consultation days. In addition, all parents receive a written report identifying how their child is progressing in all areas of the curriculum.

If a child is identified as not making progress, the school will set up a meeting to discuss this with parents in more detail and to:

- Listen to any concerns they may have
- Discuss/review a Support Plan
- Plan any additional support the child may need.
- Discuss with parents / carers any referrals to outside professionals to support the child.

Please note that the class teacher is regularly available afterschool to discuss a child's progress or any concerns parents may have and to share information about what is working well at home and school, so that similar strategies can be used.

Via appointment, the SENCo, SENCo assistants and pastoral team are available to meet with parents / carers to discuss the child's progress or any concerns/worries.

- All information from outside professionals will be shared with parents / carers either through a direct discussion or in a report.

Arrangements for consulting young people with SEN and involving them in their education.

The school will ensure that the views of the child are considered by gathering their views individually and through regular pupil survey's pupil voice focus groups.

Arrangements for assessing and reviewing children and young people's progress towards outcomes, including the opportunities available to work with parents and young people as part of this assessment and review

All pupils will be provided with high quality teaching that is differentiated to meet the needs of all learners. The quality of classroom teaching provided to pupils with SEND is monitored through several processes that include:

- classroom observation / learning walks by the senior leadership team, the SENCo, external verifiers,
- ongoing assessment of progress made by pupils with SEND,
- work sampling and scrutiny of planning to ensure effective matching of work to pupil need,
- teacher meetings with the SENCo to provide advice and guidance on meeting the needs of pupils with SEND,
- pupil and parent feedback on the quality and effectiveness of interventions provided,
- attendance and behaviour records.

Pupils with a disability will be provided with reasonable adjustments (such as auxiliary aids and services) to overcome any disadvantage experienced in schools and increase their access to the taught curriculum.

All pupils have individual national curriculum targets set in line with national outcomes to ensure ambition. Parents are informed of these via the reporting system and at events such as Parents' Evenings.

Pupils' attainment is tracked using the whole school tracking system and those failing to make expected levels of progress are identified swiftly. These pupils are then discussed in termly progress meetings that are undertaken between the class teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership team and if appropriate, the pupil themselves.

Additional action to increase the rate of progress will be then identified and recorded that will include a review of the impact of the differentiated teaching being provided to the child, and if required, provision to the teacher of additional strategies to further support the success of the pupil. Where it is decided during this early discussion that special educational provision is required to support increased rates, parents will be informed that the school considers their child may require SEN support and their partnership sought to improve attainments.

Action relating to SEN support will follow an assess, plan, do and review model:

1. **Assess:** Data on the pupil held by the school will be collated by the class/SENCo to make an accurate assessment of the pupil's needs. Parents will always be invited to this early discussion to support the identification of action to improve outcomes. An information summary will be completed to identify the child's strengths and difficulties and gain a clear picture of the child.
2. **Plan:** If the review of the action taken indicates that "additional to and different from" support will be required, then the views of all involved including the parents and the pupil will be obtained and appropriate evidence-based interventions and approaches identified, recorded and implemented by the class teacher with advice from the SENCo. These will be recorded in a Support Plan and parents' views sort on the provision being made. A copy of the support plan will be provided for parents.
3. **Do:** this plan will identify actions to be taken and by who will be delivering the support for the child, this will often be the class teacher and support staff working in the classroom but can include other such as our pastoral support team.
4. **Review:** Progress towards these outcomes will be tracked and reviewed termly with the parents.

If progress rates are judged to be inadequate despite the delivery of high quality interventions, advice will always be sought from external agencies regarding strategies to best meet the specific needs of a pupil. This will only be undertaken after parent permission has been obtained and may include referral to:

- Local Authority Support Services

- Specialists in other schools e.g. teaching schools, special schools.
- Social Services
- Health partners such as School Nurse and Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service

N.B. For a very small percentage of pupils, whose needs are significant and complex, and the SEN support required to meet their needs cannot reasonably be provided from within the school's own resources, a request will be made to the local authority to assess education, health and care needs. This may result in an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan being provided.

Arrangements for supporting children and young people in moving between phases of education and in preparing for adulthood.

We recognise that transitions can be difficult for a child with SEND, and we take steps to ensure that any transition is as smooth as possible.

If a child is joining us from another school:

- If the child has an EHC Plan the SENCo will endeavour to attend the annual review. Where this is not possible the SENCO will talk with the previous school to gather information on how the child's needs are best met,
- The child will be able to visit our school and stay for sessions as appropriate.
- Parents / Carers will be invited to attend a visit/tour to meet the Teacher, Head of School and SENDCo (if appropriate)
- Parents /Carers may be given an opportunity for additional visits where appropriate to help to prepare their child for the move to the school.
- All records are sent to us from the previous school.

When moving classes in school:

- Information will be passed on to the new class teacher in advance and in most cases a planning meeting will take place with the new teacher. Support plans and other SEND records will be shared with the new teacher.
- Every child will have a 'meet the new teacher' session to meet their new teacher and class.
- The child may participate in a transition group or be able to visit the new class more frequently where appropriate, to prepare them for the move.

In Year 6:

- The SENCo and class teacher will discuss the specific needs of the child with the SENCo of the child's secondary school. Where appropriate, a transition review meeting to which parents / carers will be invited will take place with the SENCo from the new school.
- Where possible, the child will visit their new school on several occasions, and in some cases staff from the new school will visit the child in this school

- In some cases, a Pupil Profile is created with the pupil to help them inform their new setting about their likes and dislikes.
- Current records relating to the child's SEND provision will be passed on to the Secondary School.
- If the child has an EHC plan then a representative from the secondary school can be invited to attend the annual review meeting in Year 5 and Year 6.

The approach to teaching children and young people with SEN.

a) Class teacher input, via excellent targeted classroom teaching (Quality First Teaching).

This would mean:

- That the teacher has the highest possible expectations for the child and all pupils in their class
- That all teaching is built on what the child already knows, can do and can understand.
- That different ways of teaching are in place, so that the child is fully involved in learning in class.
- That specific strategies (which may be suggested by the SENCo) are in place to support the child to learn well.
- The teacher will have carefully checked on a child's progress and will have decided that the child has a gap or gaps in their understanding/learning and needs some extra support to help them make the best possible progress, either during the lesson or in addition to it

b) Targeted intervention work (either 1:1 or in a group)

Intervention which may be:

- Run in the classroom or outside of class.
- Run by a teacher, teaching assistant (TA) an intervention teacher (IT) or a pastoral worker.

c) Personalised learning targets

At Team Multi Academy Trust Schools teachers will work closely with parents, the child, the SENCo and the pastoral support team to decide what interventions and support need to be put in place for children identified as requiring additional provision. Small, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-dependant (SMART) targets will be identified. This will be recorded on a Support plan and reviewed at least every term. The Support Plan will clearly identify the areas of needs, the desired outcomes, the support and resources provided, including any teaching strategies or approaches that are required. The Plan will be shared with all the professionals working directly with the child.

Where appropriate, the Support will detail the support from other agencies and how this will support the pupil in achieving the desired outcomes.

d) Statutory Assessment of Needs

- This type of support is available for children whose learning needs are severe, complex and Lifelong where the provision need to support the child is above that expected from that provided by a mainstream school setting.

- This is usually provided via an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This means the child will have been identified by professionals as needing a particularly high level of individual or small- group teaching and/or specialised training or equipment.
- This type of support is available for children with specific barriers to learning that cannot be overcome through 'Quality First Teaching' and intervention groups.
- The school (or parents / carers) can request that Local Authority Services carry out a statutory assessment of the child's needs. This is a legal process which sets out the amount of support that will be provided for the child.
- After the request has been made to the local authority, Devon's 0-25 team (with a lot of information about the child, including the support plan and other assessment information), will decide whether they think the child's needs (as described in the paperwork provided), seem complex enough to need a statutory assessment. If this is the case, they will ask parents / carers and all professionals involved with the child to write a report outlining the child's needs. If they do not think the child needs this, they will ask the school to continue with the current support.
- After the reports have all been submitted; the local authority will decide if the child's needs are severe, complex and lifelong. If this is the case, they will write an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). If this is not the case, they will ask the school to continue with the current level of support.
- The EHCP will outline the long term outcomes for the child (usually for a key stage or phase of education, for example infants or juniors). It will also suggest the provision that should be made to ensure the outcomes can be met.

How the school monitors a child's progress.

A child's progress will be continually monitored by his/her class teacher.

- His/her progress will be reviewed formally with members of the senior leadership team every term in reading, writing and maths, through pupil progress meetings.
- If your child is in KS1 or KS2 working below National Curriculum Expected Standard progress will be recorded using the Pre-Key Stage Standards.
- At the end of each key stage (i.e. at the end of year 2 and year 6), all children are required to be formally assessed using Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). This is something the government requires all schools to do and the results are published nationally.
- Where necessary, children will have a Support Plan based on targets agreed by teachers, parents, and where appropriate the SENCo and/ or external agencies which are specific to their needs. Targets will be designed to ensure the child makes appropriate progress from their own starting point. Progress against these targets will be reviewed regularly, evidence for judgements assessed and a future plan made.

- Regular book scrutinies and lesson observations will be carried out by members of the senior leadership team to ensure that the needs of all children are met and that the quality of teaching and learning remains high.
- For all children with an Education, Health and Care plan, an annual review will take place with all adults and relevant professionals involved with the child to review the needs and current level of support they are receiving. A report will be provided to the local authority who will make a decision whether to cease, maintain or amend the ECHP.

Deciding upon the type and how much support a child will receive

The school budget includes money for supporting children with SEND and the head of school / executive head decides on the deployment of resources for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, in consultation with the local governing body, based on needs in the school. The school identifies the needs of SEND pupils on a SEND register. The support the child receives will be identified in the child's support plan.

How adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of children and young people with SEN.

Class teachers plan lessons and differentiate their planning according to the specific needs of all groups of children in their class (including using Pre-Key stage Standards for children working below National Curriculum expected standard) and will ensure that a child's needs are met.

- The class teacher or Support staff, under the direction of the class teacher, can adapt planning to support the needs of a child where necessary.
- Specific resources and strategies will be used to support the child individually and in groups
- Planning (including that for Pre-Key stage Standards and for specific intervention programmes) and teaching will be adapted, daily if needed, to meet a child's individual learning needs.

The expertise and training of staff to support children and young people with SEN, including how specialist expertise will be secured.

The school provides training and support to enable all staff to improve the teaching and learning of children, including those with SEND. This includes whole school training on SEN issues, such as Specific Learning Difficulties, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and speech and language difficulties.

- Individual teachers and support staff attend training courses run by outside agencies that are relevant to the needs of specific children in their class or interventions they are running
- The Lead SENCo and three of the SENCO team hold the National Award for SEN Co-ordination the fourth is enrolled for the course for the next academic year
- The lead SENCO has also complete the National Professional Qualification for leading behaviour and Culture (NPQ-LBC) and is a member of the Trusts senior leadership team.

- Support Staff receive a range of training as part of their ongoing CPD and to respond to the needs of the individual children they are working with.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the provision made for children and young people with SEN.

School leaders will undertake a range of monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure the effectiveness of the school's SEN provision. These will include observations of SEND pupils learning; looking at evidence in books; discussions with staff, pupils & parents: regularly reviewing tracking and progress information; reviewing the impact of the school's SENCo; evaluating the effectiveness of the deployment of staff and resources; and the implementation of the school's SEN policy and practices. Monitoring and evaluation will be used inform future developments to our SEND provision.

How children and young people with SEN are enabled to engage in activities available with children and young people in the school who do not have SEN.

All activities in the classroom and all trips outside of school will be planned so that all children within the class can be included. In some cases, additional adults and/or resources will be used to enable this.

Support for improving emotional and social development, Including extra pastoral support arrangements for listening to the views of children and young people with SEN and measures to prevent bullying.

We recognise that some children have extra emotional and social needs that need to be developed and nurtured. These needs can manifest themselves in several ways, including behavioural difficulties, anxiousness, and struggling to communicate effectively.

- All children receive a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum to support their development.
- Staff are trained in the importance of relational approaches and trauma informed practise.
- A team of pastoral workers are available to support parents' and individual children. This may be an ongoing regular support or shorter term support to resolve specific issues or at times of distress.
- Each school has developed a programme of alternative provision called 'Learning Champions' which seeks to support those with needing emotional or social support and to enrich the curriculum.
- Each school has a Wellbeing Champion who is skilled in directing and advising other about emotional well-being. In most case this person also provided some pastoral support on the school site including counselling and access to the learning champions provision.

How the school involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting children and young people's SEN and supporting their families

Specialist Support offered by Outside Agencies

This means a pupil has been identified by the SENCo and Class Teacher as needing some extra specialist support in school from a professional outside the school. This may be from outside agencies such as:

- Communication & Interaction Team,
- Social, Emotional, Mental Health Team
- SEN Support Team
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Integrated Children Services
- Occupational Therapy Service
- Children and Adolescence Mental Health Service
- School Nurse
- Early Help

Parents will be asked to give their permission for the school to refer their child to a specialist professional.

- The specialist professional will work with the child to understand their needs and make recommendations about the ways your child is given support.

Arrangements for supporting children and young people who are looked after by the local authority and have SEN.

When a child is looked after by the local authority (a child in care, CIC) the SENCo and class teacher will work closely with the local authority Virtual school to develop a Personal Education Plan (PEP). This plan identified the targets for the child to ensure they continue to meet education targets. To avoid duplication, the PEP will be used as the Support Plan for children in care. These are reviewed at least termly with the local authority and child's carers.

When a child leaves care but continues to have a support needs then a Support plan or Education Plan for an adopted child (EPAC) would be developed to ensure the child's needs are still planned for and reviewed.

SEND Local Offer – support for children in Devon

Parents can find out more about the support available for children from the SEND local offer which is available on line at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/education-and-families/send-local-offer/>

Arrangements for handling complaints from parents of children with SEN about the provision made at the school

Pupils, staff and parents are expected to listen carefully and respectfully to each other. Where an issue arises, parents should, in the first instance, make an appointment to speak with their child's class teacher and seek to resolve any concerns. If a parent believes that their concern has not been resolved to their satisfaction or is of a more serious or sensitive nature, an appointment should be made to see the SENCo, who will investigate and report back on the results of the investigation. Where an issue is not satisfactorily resolved, parents should then take up the matter with the head of school / executive Head of School and Chair of the Local Governing Body. A copy of the school's Complaints Procedure is available on request from the school.