



St Peter's Church of England (VC) Primary School

Policy:	SEN & Disability Policy/Information Report
Owner:	SEND
Approval Date:	May 2022
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Signed:	
Notes:	<p>This policy is written in line with the requirements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Families Act 2014• SEN Code of Practice 2014<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SI 2014 1530 Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014○ Part 3 Duties on Schools – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators○ Schedule 1 regulation 51– Information to be included in the SEN information report○ Schedule 2 regulation 53 – Information to be published by a local authority in its local offer• Equality Act 2010• Schools Admissions Code, DfE 1 Feb 2012• SI 2012 1124 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012• SI 2013 758 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 <p>This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies: Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy, Child Protection Policy, Complaints Policy, More Able Pupils Policy, Medical Needs Policy.</p>

"Our life together at St Peter's Church of England Primary School is rooted in the Christian values of Hope, Respect, Faith, Love, Forgiveness and Perseverance. With these values underpinning all that we do, we expect to reflect God's Love for one another as part of our school community. In line with our school ethos we want our children to leave us as confident, well rounded and happy individuals, who not only feel valued, but who also value both themselves and others. Where a member of the school is going through challenging times, our hope and wish is that they might have Perseverance to seek help where appropriate, make right choices, and have Faith for a transformed future. Where specific support for a member of the St Peter's school family is needed, we seek to offer it in the spirit of Love and Respect, and where there are issues that need attending to, we look for Forgiveness and reconciliation to be part of the solution and way forward"

This policy and information report sets out for parents how St Peter's endeavours to approach the education of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Definition of SEN



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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 him or her.

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

- (a) Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others 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 or mainstream post-16 institutions. SEN Code of Practice (2014, p 4)

Definition of disability

Many children and young people who have SEN may also have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is '...a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. This definition provides a relatively low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial' SEN Code of Practice (2014, p5)

1. SEN at St Peter's School

At St Peter's CEP School we can make provision for many kinds of frequently occurring special educational need. For instance we have children with mild and moderate dyslexia, dyspraxia, speech and language needs, learning difficulties and emotional and social, emotional and mental health difficulties. There are other kinds of special educational need which do not occur as frequently and with which the school is less familiar, but we can access training and advice so that the needs of these children can also be met. When a child's needs are considered to be very complex and require a great deal of additional support they may have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) designed to ensure that their needs are met. The school currently meets the needs of pupils with EHCPs. Decisions on the admission of pupils with a Statement or an EHC plan are made by the Local Authority.

The admission arrangements for pupils without an EHC plan do not discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.

Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is Mrs Laura Fowler (see Section 8 for further detail)

2. How do we identify and assess pupils with SEN?

At St Peter's CE Primary School we monitor and officially record the progress of all pupils on school tracking systems three times a year. In addition, class teachers continually monitor progress and attainment of pupils. We use a range of assessments with all the pupils at these points including statutory assessments in year R, year 2 and year 6 and the Phonics Screening Check in years 1/2 and Times Tables test in year 4. Pupils in Reception are assessed using a baseline assessment in line with national guidance. We also assess Reception pupils using Speech



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Link and Language Link assessments to identify early difficulties in this area as well as BVPS (British Picture Vocabulary Scale) to identify any delays in a child's vocabulary development

Where there is concern about an aspect of a child's progress or well-being the teacher will take action within the daily classroom routine (as part of our quality first teaching approach – see Mainstream Core Standards). This may be adapting teaching resources or teaching methods. Alternatively, it may involve some additional support via teaching groups within the child's classroom. This additional support is written into class teachers planning via the class 'provision map'.

Some pupils may continue to make inadequate progress, despite additional resources, teaching methods and support. For these pupils (in consultation with parents), we may use a range of assessment tools to try to further determine the cause and/or severity of the learning difficulty.

We may also refer children in need of additional support to external advisors who are able to use additional assessment tools, where appropriate to the child's apparent difficulties. This may include Specialist Teaching and Learning Services or Educational Psychologist.

The purpose of this more detailed assessment is to understand what additional resources and different approaches are required to enable the pupil to make better progress. These will be shared with parents, put into a SEN Provision Plan (where considered appropriate) and reviewed three times each year.

If we feel that a child 'has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age' or that 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 or mainstream post-16 institutions, ' (SEN Code of Practice:2014, p 4) then we will have identified that the pupil has a special educational need because the school is making special educational provision for the pupil which is additional to and different from what is normally available.

If the pupil is able to make good progress using this additional and different resource (but would not be able to maintain this good progress without it) we will continue to identify the pupil as having a special educational need. If the pupil is able to maintain good progress without the additional and different resources he or she will not be identified with special educational needs. When any change in identification of SEN occurs parents will be notified.

We will ensure that all teachers and support staff who work with the pupil are aware of the support to be provided and the teaching approaches to be used.

3. How does the school make provision for pupils with special educational needs whether or not they have EHC Plans?

3a. How does the school evaluate the effectiveness of its provision for such pupils?



Each review of the child's provision will be informed by the views of the pupil, parents and class/subject teachers and the assessment information from teachers which will show whether adequate progress is being made.

The SEN Code of Practice (2014, 6.17) describes inadequate progress thus:

- 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 rate of progress
- Widens the attainment gap

For pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan there will be an annual review of the provision made for the child, which will enable an evaluation of the effectiveness of the special provision. The collation of all annual review evaluations of effectiveness will be reported to the governing body.

3b. What are the school's arrangements for assessing and reviewing the progress of pupils with special educational needs?

Every pupil in the school has their progress tracked three times per year. In addition to this, pupils with special educational needs may have more frequent assessments, including those carried out by professionals from external agencies. The outcomes of these will enable class teachers and the SENCO to see if pupils are increasing their levels of skills in key areas.

If these assessments do not show adequate progress is being made the SEN support plan will be reviewed and adjusted.

3c. What is the school's approach to teaching pupils with special educational needs?

At St Peter's CEP we strongly believe that high quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN and are aware that additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching. The school regularly and carefully reviews the quality of teaching for all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered (SEN Code of Practice, 2014, 6.37).

At St Peter's the quality of teaching is judged to be good, as reported in our last Ofsted inspection – a copy of which can be found on the school website. We follow the Mainstream Core Standards advice developed by Kent County Council to ensure that our teaching conforms to best practice - see the Mainstream Core Standards The Mainstream Core Standards - KELSI

In meeting the Mainstream Core Standards the school employs some additional teaching approaches, as advised by internal and external assessments e.g. one to one tutoring, precision teaching, mentoring, small group teaching, use of ICT software learning packages.

3d. How does the school adapt the curriculum and learning environment for pupils with special educational needs?



We follow the advice in the Mainstream Core Standards on how to adapt the curriculum and the learning environment for pupils with special educational needs. We also incorporate the advice provided as a result of assessments, both internal and external, and the strategies described in statements of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plans.

3e. What additional support for learning is available to pupils with special educational needs?

As part of our budget we receive 'notional SEN funding'. This funding is used to ensure that the quality of teaching is good in the school and that there are sufficient resources to deploy additional and different teaching for pupils requiring SEN support. The amount of support required for each pupil to make good progress will be different in each case and a full list of the interventions we can offer is on our provision map. In very few cases a very high level of resource is required. The funding arrangements require schools to provide up to £6000 per year of resource for pupils with high needs, and above that amount the Local Authority should provide top up to the school.

3f. How does the school enable pupils with special educational needs to engage in activities of the school (including physical activities) together with children who do not have special educational needs?

All clubs, trips and activities offered to pupils at St Peter's are available to pupils with special educational needs either with or without an Education, Health and Care Plan. Where it is necessary, the school will endeavour to use the resources available to it to provide additional adult support to enable the safe participation of the pupil in the activity.

3g. What support is available for improving the emotional and social development of pupils with special educational needs?

At St Peter's we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all pupils to develop emotional resilience and social skills, which is facilitated through direct teaching for instance PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education), or circle time in class and indirectly with every conversation adults have with pupils throughout the day.

For some pupils with the most need for help in this area, more support can be put in place. This may include: Lego therapy, sensory circuits, mentoring by specific members of staff, zones of regulation, the incredible 5 point scale, and in school counselling when necessary. We may also be able to refer pupils to specific counselling programmes such as CAMHS through the Early Help referral service.

Pupils in the early stages of emotional and social development because of their special educational needs will be supported to enable them to develop and mature appropriately. This will usually require additional and different resources, beyond that required by pupils who do not need this support. It may also require personalised adaptations to the class or school environment or to the school behaviour policy in order to take into consideration those needs,



especially where the behaviour is linked to other diagnosed conditions such as ASD, ADHD, ODD or Attachment Disorder or difficulties. This may include task and reward provision, sensitive seating arrangements, personalised learning environments or personal reward systems to promote good social skills or learning behaviours.

4. Who can I contact at the school about SEN?

The SENCO at St Peter's is Mrs Laura Fowler who is a qualified teacher and has a Master's Degree in Inclusion. Mrs Fowler can be contacted on 01622 717335 or Senco@stpetersaylesford.kent.sch.uk

The Learning and Well-being Mentor, who works closely with Mrs Fowler, is Mrs Sarah Butcher. She is a trained Mental Health First aider.

5. How can I find out about the expertise and training of staff in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and how specialist expertise will be secured?

The school's SENCO co-ordinates all of the training needs in relation to children and young people with special educational needs. Should you wish to make an enquiry about any of this training, please make contact with Mrs Fowler.

Where a training need is identified we will find a provider who is able to deliver it. Training providers we can approach are: Outreach programmes from special schools, Educational Psychologist, Speech and language therapist, occupational therapists, physio therapists, dyslexia specialists, training offered by Kent CPD Online and the STLS (Specialist Teaching and Learning Service).

Further details relating to the training or expertise of specific members of staff in relation to SEN provision can be accessed by contacting the SENCO.

6. How does the school access equipment and facilities to support children and young people with special educational needs?

Where external advisors recommend the use of equipment or facilities which the school does not have, we can seek advice from specialist services and or seek it by loan. For highly specialist communication equipment the school will seek the advice of the KCC Communication and Assistive Technology team.

7. What are the arrangements for consulting parents of children with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education?



All parents of pupils at St Peter's are invited to discuss the progress of their children in terms two and four and receive a written report in term 4. In addition we are happy to arrange meetings outside these times. As part of our normal teaching arrangements, all pupils will access some additional teaching to help them catch-up if the progress monitoring indicates that this is necessary; this will not imply that the pupil has a special educational need. All such provision will be recorded, tracked and evaluated on a Provision Plan – provision and outcomes will be shared with parents three times per year.

If, following this normal provision, improvements in progress are not seen, we will contact parents to discuss the use/results of internal or external assessments which will help us to address these needs in a better way. From this point onwards the pupil will be identified as having special educational needs because special educational provision is being made and parents will be actively supported to contribute to assessment, planning and review.

In addition to this, parents of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan will be invited to contribute to and attend an annual review, which, wherever possible will also include other agencies involved with the pupil. Information will be made accessible for parents.

8. What are the arrangements for consulting young people with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education?

When a pupil has been identified to have special educational needs because special educational provision is being made for him or her, the pupil will be consulted about and involved in the arrangements made for them as part of person-centred planning. Parents are likely to play a more significant role in the childhood years with the young person taking more responsibility and acting with greater independence in later years. All children taking part in interventions are asked to feedback their views; this then forms part of our evaluation of a particular programme or support.

9. What are the arrangements made by the governing body relating to the treatment of complaints from parents of pupils with special educational needs concerning the provision made at the school?

The normal arrangements for the treatment of complaints at St Peter's are used for complaints about provision made for special educational needs and disabilities. We encourage parents to discuss their concerns with the class or subject teacher, SENCO or Head teacher to resolve the issue before making the complaint formal to the Chair of the Governing Body.

If the complaint is not resolved after it has been considered by the Governing Body, then a disagreement resolution service or mediation service can be contracted. If it remains unresolved after this, the complainant can appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), if the case refers to disability discrimination, or to the Secretary of State for all other cases.



There are some circumstances, usually for children who have a Statement of SEN, where there is a statutory right for parents to appeal against a decision of the Local Authority. Complaints which fall within this category cannot be investigated by the school.

10. How does the governing body involve other bodies, including health and social services bodies, local authority support services and voluntary organisations, in meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and in supporting the families of such pupils?

- Free membership of LIFT for access to specialist teaching and learning service
- The ability to engage the services of an Educational Psychologist
- A link to Disabled Children's Service for support to families for some pupils with high needs
- Access to local authority's service level agreement with Speech and Language Therapy Services / Occupational Therapy Services / Physiotherapy Services for pupils with a requirement for direct therapy or advice
- Ability to make ad hoc requests for advice from Communication and Assistive Technology Team
- Membership of professional networks for SENCO including SENCO forum, Kent's AEN Updates, NASEN.

11. What are the contact details of support services for the parents of pupils with special educational needs, including those for arrangements made in accordance with clause 32 (Parent Partnership Services)?

Information Advice and Support Kent (IASK) provides a free and confidential, information, advice and support service, for parents of a disabled child or child with special educational needs and to children and young people up to age 25 who have a special educational need or disability. Trained staff can provide impartial legally based information and support on educational matters relating to special educational needs and disabilities, including health and social care. The aim is to empower parents, children and young people to fully participate in discussions and make informed choices and decisions. Also to feel confident to express their views and wishes about education and future aspirations.

They can be contacted on

HELPLINE: 03000 41 3000

Office: 03000 413000

About | IASK

E-mail: iask@kent.gov.uk

12. What are the school's arrangements for supporting pupils with special educational needs in transferring between phases of education or in preparing for adulthood and independent living?



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At St Peter's we work closely with the educational settings used by the pupils before they transfer to us in order to seek the information that will make the transfer as seamless as possible.

The SENCO attends the open evening for prospective parents so that families are able to discuss any needs at that early stage. Reports from pre-school meetings are used to inform the class teacher and highlight any needs or professional input already in place, so that this can be continued. The class teacher also conducts home visits with all reception families during the first few weeks of term, so that a full picture of the child's developmental history can be obtained. Occasionally, it may be appropriate for the SENCO and/or the class teacher to visit the child in his/her early years setting in order to fully assess the needs and discuss provision to be put in place.

We also contribute information to a pupil's onward destination by providing information to the next setting. We work collaboratively with secondary schools to complete documentation relating to SEN and disabilities and to alert schools to those children who may require an extended transition experience (where available). SEN files are transferred to their new schools within the first few weeks of term. We regularly communicate via phone or emails with secondary schools to give further background information or to answer questions where required, both prior to and following the transition.

13. Where is the local authority's local offer published?

The local authority's local offer is published on <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-andchildren/special-educational-needs/about-the-local-offer> and parents without internet access should make an appointment with the SENCO for support to gain the information they require.

Acronyms used within this policy/Information Report:

SEN	Special Educational Needs
ADHD	Attention and Hyperactivity Disorder
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder
BSL	British Sign Language
DfE	Department for Education
EHCP	Education Health and Care Plan
KCC	Kent County Council
LA	Local Authority
IASK	Information Advice and Support Kent
LIFT	Local Inclusion Forum Team
NASEN	National Association for Special Educational Needs
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SENCO	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator
SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs