

East Stour Primary School

SEN & Disability Policy/SEN Information Report

Issued October 2018

This policy is written in line with the requirements of:-

Children and Families Act 2014

SEN Code of Practice 2014

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

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies

Behaviour Policy, Equalities Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Homework Policy, Complaints Policy

This policy was developed with the Head Teacher, SENCO, SEND & Safeguarding Governor and representative of parents of children with SEND and will be reviewed annually.

Definition of SEN

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 The kinds of special educational need for which provision is made at the school

At East Stour primary School, we can make provision for every kind of frequently occurring special educational need without an Education, Health and Care Plan, for instance dyslexia, DCD, speech and language needs, autism, Asperger’s syndrome, learning difficulties and behaviour difficulties and some physical needs. There are other kinds of special educational needs which do not occur as frequently and with which the school is less familiar, but we can access training and advice so that these kinds of needs can be met.

The school also currently meets the needs of pupils with a Education, Health and Care plan with the following kinds of special educational need: speech & language & communication, complex physical needs, behaviour & emotional needs and global delay. Decisions on the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan are made by the Local Authority.

The admission arrangements for pupils without an Education, Health and Care Plan do not discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.

2 Information about the policy for identification and assessment of pupils with SEN

At East Stour Primary School we monitor the progress of all pupils four times a year to review their academic progress. We also use a range of assessments with all the pupils at various points e.g. Y1 phonics screening, speech link, language link, reading age, Assertive Mentoring, Dyslexia and Visual Stress Screening.

Where progress is not sufficient, even if special educational need has not been identified, we put in place extra support to enable the pupil to catch up. Examples of extra support are FIZZY, Clever Hands, Sensory Circuits, Clay therapy, Lego therapy, Write from the Start, Human Givens counselling, Music Therapy and speech & language groups

Some pupils may continue to make inadequate progress, despite high-quality teaching targeted at their areas of weakness. For these pupils, and in consultation with parents, we will use a range assessment tools to determine the cause of the learning difficulty. At East Stour Primary School we are experienced in using the following assessment tools, Lucid Rapid, Lucid COPS, Boxall Profile, Goodman’s strength & difficulties questionnaires. We have access to external advisors such as Educational Psychologists, Specialist Teaching Service,

Speech & Language Therapists, Counsellor, Play Therapist and also outreach support from specialist provision such as ASD from Ashford Oaks Primary School & complex and severe needs from The Wyvern School.

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 support plan and reviewed regularly, and refined / revised if necessary. At this point 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 and different to 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 is changed 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 Information about the school's policies for making provision for pupils with special educational needs whether or not they have EHC Plans, including

3a How the school evaluates the effectiveness of its provision for such pupils

Each review of the SEN support plan 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 or without an Education, Health and Care Plan there will be three yearly reviews of the provision made for the child, which will enable an evaluation of the effectiveness of the special provision. The collation of all review evaluations of effectiveness will be reported to the governing body.

3b 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 four times per year. In addition to this, pupils with special educational needs may have more frequent assessments of reading age, spelling age and through Bsquared small steps progress. The assessments we use at East Stour Primary School are listed in Section 2. Using these it will be possible to see if pupils are increasing their level 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 the school's approach to teaching pupils with special educational needs

High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching. Schools should regularly and carefully review 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)*

In East Stour Primary School the quality of teaching is judged to be good in our last Ofsted inspection and the school is working closely with the Local Authority to improve this to outstanding

We follow the Mainstream Core Standards (http://www.kelsi.org.uk/pupil_support_and_wellbeing/targeted_support/inclusion/inclusion_and_achievement/publications_and_documents.aspx) advice developed by Kent County Council to ensure that our teaching conforms to best practice.

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, mentoring, small group teaching, additional support for speech & language development. These are delivered by additional staff employed through the funding provided to the school as 'notional SEN funding'

3d how the school adapts the curriculum and learning environment for pupils with special educational needs

At East Stour Primary School 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 Education, Health and Care Plans.

The school provides a safe and secure environment for children and adults and is overall a wheelchair friendly level, no steps or stairs. The school has identified that the following aspects of the school need to be improved: disabled ramp to the reception classrooms.

3e additional support for learning that 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 (KCC's Schools Funding Forum is currently developing a system for this which was implemented in April 2015)

3f how the school enables 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 East Stour Primary are available to pupils with special educational needs either with or without a Statement of Special Educational Needs / Education, Health and Care Plan. Where it is necessary, the school will use the resources available to it to provide additional adult support to enable the safe participation of the pupil in the activity

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

At East Stour Primary School we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all pupils to develop emotional resilience and social skills, both through direct teaching for instance PHSCE, R Time, Growth Mindset and indirectly with every conversation adults have with pupils throughout the day. The school has implemented whole staff training of social, emotional and play coaching as well as the use of the Incredible 5 point scale and Growth Mindset. All teachers deliver daily sessions of R-Time or circle time for the most vulnerable children and pastoral intervention is a high priority.

For some pupils with the most need for help in this area we also can provide the following access to a counsellor or music and clay Therapist, Helping Hands time, time with member of senior leadership team, external referral to ChYPs, Positive Play, and safe space/time out for pupils to use when they are struggling to cope emotionally.

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.

4 The name and contact details of the SEN Co-ordinator

Mrs Jordan Charlesworth qualified with a SEN Coordination certificate in May 2018. She works within the SEN team with:

Mrs Carol Elliott: SEN administrator

Mrs Julie Steele: SEN Intervention Assistant

The team are available on 01233 630820 or charlesworth@east-stour.kent.sch.uk.

5 Information 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

All teachers and teaching assistants have had the following awareness training: Growth Mindset, ASD Support, Dyslexia awareness and support, Child Protection & Safeguarding and Emotion, Social and Play coaching.

In addition, some staff have received the following enhanced and specialist training, Social Stories, BRP, Communicate in print, Infant & Junior Language Link, Speechlink, Selective Mutism, Positive Play, Lego therapy, Fizzy, Clever Hands, and Behaviour Support, Zippy's Friends, Clay therapy. The School is proud to have an ELSA trained specialist who works with vulnerable children and have also named an ASD champion who will begin her training in Term 3.

Where a training need is identified beyond this we will find a provider who is able to deliver it. Training providers we can approach are, The Wyvern School, Ashford Oaks Primary Schools, Educational Psychologist, Speech and language therapist, occupational therapists, physiotherapist and The Goldwyn school. The cost of training is covered by the notional SEN funding.

6 Information about how equipment and facilities to support children and young people with special educational needs will be secured

Where external advisors recommend the use of equipment or facilities which the school does not have, we will purchase it using the notional SEN funding, 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 The arrangements for consulting parents of children with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education

All parents of pupils at East Stour Primary School are invited to discuss the progress of their children on 3 occasions a year and receive a written report 4 times per year. 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 Map which will be shared with parents three times per year.

If following the normal provision improvements in progress are not seen, we will contact parents to discuss the use of internal or external assessments which will help us to address these needs better. From this point onwards the pupil will be identified as having special educational needs because special educational provision is being made and the parent will be invited to all planning and reviews of this provision. 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 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.

9 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 East Stour Primary School are used for complaints about provision made for special educational needs. We encourage parents to discuss their concerns with the class teacher, FLO, SENCO, Deputy Head Teacher 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 an EHCP 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 the governing body involves 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

The governing body have engaged with the following bodies:-

- Free membership of LIFT for access to specialist teaching and learning service
- A Service Level Agreement with Educational Psychology service for 3 days per year
- 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 pupil with requirement for direct therapy or advice
- Membership of professional networks for SENCO eg SENCO forum, NASEN, AEN updates.

11 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)

Kent Parent Partnership Service (KPPS) provides free, impartial, confidential, advice, support and options around educational issues for parents who have children with special educational needs or disabilities (0-19). They empower parents to play an active and informed role in their child's education. They can be contacted on

HELPLINE: 03000 41 3000

Office: 0300 333 6474 and

Minicom: 0300 333 6484

E-mail: kentparentpartnershipservice@kent.gov.uk

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/kpps>

12 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

At East Stour Primary School 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. Reception & Nursery staff visit local pre- school settings to see children and additional meetings are held if appropriate. Transition meetings are held with Secondary staff where every child in year 6 is discussed.

We also contribute information to a pupils' onward destination by providing information to the next setting.

13 Information on where the local authority's local offer is published.

The local authority's local offer is published on [http://www.kelsi.org.uk/pupil support and wellbeing/targeted support/sen and disabilities/local offer.aspx](http://www.kelsi.org.uk/pupil%20support%20and%20wellbeing/targeted%20support/sen%20and%20disabilities/local%20offer.aspx) and parents without internet access should make an appointment with the SENCO for support to gain the information they require.

Approved by the GB on

Next review on November 2019