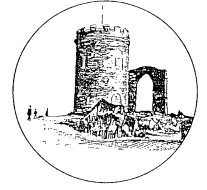




NEWTOWN LINFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Special Educational Needs (SEND) Policy



COMPLIANCE

This policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the SEND Code of Practice 0-25 (September 2014) It has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: advice for schools DfE Feb 2013
- SEND Code of Practice September 2014
- Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions April 2014
- The National Curriculum in England Key Stage 1 and 2 Framework document September 2013
- Teachers' Standards 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014

This policy has been created by governors in consultation with staff, pupils, parents of Newtown Linford Primary School

It should be read in conjunction with all other school policies, particularly: Equal Opportunities, Teaching and Learning, Child Protection/Safeguarding, Accessibility and Equalities. It is an essential part of all curriculum policies.

At Newtown Linford Primary School, the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, known as SENCo, is Mrs C Chorlton, Headteacher (BA (QTS),Hons, NPQH) who holds the National Award for SEN Co-ordination. Our SEN Governor is Mrs Hannah Shaw who is also the Chair of Governors.

Contact details: 01530 242370 or email office@newtown.bepschools.org

This policy can be accessed through the school website ([www. Newtownlinford.leics.sch.uk](http://www.Newtownlinford.leics.sch.uk)) or as paper copy, if requested, from the school office.

All staff have a responsibility for maximising opportunities and achievements for all learners – specifically, all teachers are teachers of pupils with special educational needs. Staff are aware of their responsibilities towards all vulnerable learners and a positive, sensitive and ambitious attitude is shown towards all pupils at all times. This policy outlines principles and practice.

Aims and objectives of Policy

In making provision for pupils with SEND, our aims are:

- to create a learning environment that meets the special educational needs of each child;
- to ensure that all partners in the process of meeting a child's individual needs understand and fulfil their responsibilities;
- to have the highest expectations of the progress in learning which can be achieved by all individual pupils, regardless of their individual needs;
- to enable all children, including those with SEN, to have full access to all elements of the school curriculum, and to maximise their learning and achievement;
- to ensure that our children have a voice in deciding how their individual needs might best be met;

In making provision for pupils with SEND our objectives:

- to ensure that the special educational needs of children are identified, assessed and provided for from the earliest possible age working within the guidance provided in the SEN code of practice 2014;
- To provide support and advice for all staff working with SEND pupils to ensure quality first teaching
- To ensure, in particular, that all school staff understand and fulfil their roles and responsibilities in providing for children's special educational needs;
- to ensure that parents or carers are able to play their part in supporting their child's education;
- to ensure that all necessary resources are made available to meet pupils' individual needs.
- To ensure the SENCo **manages** the provision for SEND children across the whole school

Context

All children have a right to learn. For some children this will be more difficult than for others.

At Newtown Linford Primary School, we believe that all children have rights to a full, enriching and enjoyable curriculum, irrespective of race, belief, gender, background or ability. We aim to meet each child's requirements, making necessary adaptations and taking in to account their needs and wishes. We will consult with children, parents and outside agencies to help support our good practice. Strengths will be acknowledged as well as difficulties, so that adaptations may be made relevant to the individual child. We focus on individual progress as the main indicator of success.

Every child is valued. Every child is an individual with a personality, needs and interests. We believe in the right of children to feel safe and to enjoy their school experience – thus developing the whole child, academically, socially, physically morally, emotionally and spiritually.

High quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised will 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 educational provision under Section 21 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

SEN Code of Practice (2014: Para 1.24)

Through our SEND policy we aim to

- Provide the highest possible standard of education for all pupils
- Raise aspirations of pupils with SEND, and those working with them, to be ambitious for their success and well-being
- Ensure all pupils have every opportunity to achieve their full potential

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring pupil progress is tracked systematically and action is taken to address need at an early stage
- Identifying those with special educational needs
- Ensuring all class teachers are well trained and equipped to support different additional needs
- Keeping up to date with research and best practice
- Working in a co-operative, 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.
- Listening to pupils and parents, working in partnership with them, respecting their views and concerns
- Building capacity within the school to recognise and support a wide range of need on a day to day basis
- Promoting children's self esteem and emotional well-being and helping them to form and maintain worthwhile relationships based on respect for themselves and others
- Offering quality provision which meets needs, is value for money and leads to good outcomes.

Definition of Special Educational Needs
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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 them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- *Have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age:*
or
- *Have 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 above or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them.

Section 20 of The Children and Families Act 2014.

Identifying Special Educational Need

We recognise that children learn at different rates and that there are many factors affecting achievement, including ability, emotional state, age and maturity. We are particularly aware of the needs of our Key Stage 1 pupils, for whom maturity is a crucial factor in terms of readiness to learn. We understand that many pupils, at some time in their school life, may experience difficulties affecting their learning, and we recognise that these may be long or short term. At Newtown Linford

Primary School, we aim to identify problems as early as possible and provide teaching and learning contexts that enable each child to achieve their full potential. The earlier action is taken, the more responsive the child is likely to be.

Any of the following can trigger a concern:

- Parent/Carer
- Child
- Class teacher
- Widening gap or failure to close a gap between self and majority of peers
- Feedback from service providers
- Records transferred from another school
- Base line and on-going assessments
- EYFS/KS1 results
- In-house testing and assessment
- Pupil tracking

There are four broad areas of special educational need. These areas are to help the school identify and provide for needs rather than to label a child or put them in a particular category. The needs of the child will be identified with consideration of the 'whole child' not just their special educational needs.

1. Communication and Interaction

This includes children with speech and language delay, impairments or disorders, specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia and dyspraxia, hearing impairment, and those who demonstrate features within the autistic spectrum.

2. Cognition and Learning

This includes children who demonstrate features of moderate, severe or profound learning difficulties or specific learning difficulties or such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia or dyspraxia.

3. Social, Mental and Emotional Health.

This includes children who may be withdrawn or isolated, disruptive or disturbing, hyperactive or lack concentration.

4. Sensory and/or Physical Needs

This includes children with sensory, multi-sensory and physical difficulties.

Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because of the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught. All schools have a duty to make reasonable adjustments in accordance with current Disability Legislation.

Children with poor behaviour, looked after children, poor attendees or those with medical need, for example, will not necessarily be considered as having special educational needs. There may be a range of considerations that impact on progress and attainment but these, in isolation, are not SEN issues.

Supporting Children with SEND – A Graduated Approach to Support

Quality First Teaching is an entitlement for every child. Children who are falling behind their peers and therefore causing concern, will be monitored by teachers and supported with school resources. Assessment for learning, attention to learning styles, preparatory and over-teaching will resolve many issues for learners. High quality teaching differentiated for individuals is the first step in responding to pupils who may have SEND. The school regularly and systematically reviews the 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 SEND most frequently encountered.

Where progress for any child is inadequate, the class teacher will make provision that is additional to and different from that provided as part of the usual differentiated curriculum offer, to enable the pupil to learn more effectively. Whatever the level of difficulty the key test of how far the learning needs are being met is whether the child is making expected progress.

Expected progress can be defined in a number of ways:

- Closes the gap between the child and peers
- Prevents the attainment gap from growing wider
- Is similar to that of peers starting from the same baseline but less than that of the majority of peers
- Matches or betters the child's previous rate of progress
- Demonstrates an improvement in self-help, social or personal skills
- Demonstrates improvements in the child's attitude and behaviour for learning

Teachers will identify the specific support being used in the class to address pupil's weaknesses. A record will be kept of support and outcomes. Progress will be reviewed at parents' evenings each term and at pupil progress meetings with the Headteacher/SENCo. In some cases, an individual or group plan will be drawn up identifying three or four targets, agreed with parents, and identifying approaches to achieve these. At this stage support is devised and delivered by school staff using formative assessments and early assessment materials and is known as at Newtown Linford Primary School as SCHOOL SUPPORT.

The triggers for intervention could be the teacher's or others' concern, underpinned by evidence, about a child who despite receiving differentiated learning opportunities:

- makes little or no progress when teaching approaches are targeted particularly in a child's identified areas of weakness
- shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematical skills which result in poor attainment in some curriculum areas
- presents persistent emotional or behavioural difficulties which are not modified by the positive behaviour management techniques usually employed in the school
- has sensory or physical problems, and continues to make little or no progress despite the provision of specialist equipment
- has communication and/or interaction difficulties, and continues to make little or no progress despite the provision of a differentiated curriculum.

Where a child continues to have difficulties, despite quality support, advice will be sought from external services. This stage is known at Newtown Linford Primary School as SPECIALIST SUPPORT and involves outside agencies in advising and/or working to assess the nature of the need and helping plan more specific support. It will be important to record all external advice and support received – this will be kept in the child’s file and copied to the SENCo.

Should a child fail to make progress, despite quality teaching and targeted interventions, it may be necessary to apply for additional funding to secure further support. We will use appropriately qualified personnel from ‘outside agencies’ to make assessments and inform further action. Where the school recognises that there may be a significant cost to the school to secure support for the child, due to significant and sustained learning issues, a Local Authority SUPPORT PLAN will be devised in consultation with parents and all those involved in the child’s education and welfare. An application will be made for High Needs Funding to the Local Authority, having regard to the criteria for funding provided through SENA service. The school will be responsible for managing any funds received.

In some cases, children will have a wide range of complex issues, including health and welfare, which are impacting on their education. Where the need is such that significant support is needed from a range of sources, an application will be made to the Local Authority for an Education, Health and Care plan, which will be drawn up in consultation with parents, child and services. This will be reviewed annually and will last for the duration of a key stage. At the end of each key stage, need will be reviewed and considerations of age and the next stage of development taken into account when planning provision.

Supporting Children and Families

We listen to and act upon the concerns of parents. All staff are alert to the pressures that parents and families may be under because of a child’s needs. We actively encourage parents to support their child through positive attitudes, giving user friendly information and effective communication. We work in partnership with parents, recognising their knowledge and expertise in relation to their child. We will make parents aware of the Parent Partnership Services available as part of the LA Local Offer and keep our school website up to date with relevant information.

The views of the child with SEN will be considered at all stages of support so that they understand why they are working in a particular way and what the expected outcomes are.

Further information can be found on the LA website about the Leicestershire Local Offer, which outlines service provision in the county and support available to parents and children with SEND. A link to this is available on our website. Newtown Linford Primary School’s local offer is also on our school website. A paper copy can be requested via our school office.

National Tests

Children entering SATs tests will be considered for access arrangements or withdrawal from the tests if their special needs are such that they could not attempt the tests without additional provision. The SENCo will make the necessary arrangements in line with statutory guidance.

Transition

We have a transition day within the school during the summer term, to enable children to meet the new teacher, and work in their new class. Open afternoons and curriculum meetings enable parents to keep abreast of the work their children are doing and give a chance to familiarise themselves with methods and standards. Parents' evenings and regular informal contact through an 'open door' policy provide good opportunities for parents and teachers to talk informally.

Children transferring to Secondary School have a planned transition programme. Less confident children may be accompanied to the School by a member of staff from Newtown Linford Primary School for a planned programme of additional induction. SENCOs liaise and records are passed on.

Children entering school at YR, visit the school in the summer term for 4 visits. Home visits also take place by the Class Teacher and Cover Supervisor to enable parents to meet the teaching team and pass on information relevant to the development of their child. Pre-School providers involve the SENCO and class teacher in pre-school meetings for children causing concern and our Nursery Nurse also visits each child in their setting.

If the school is alerted to the fact that a child may have a difficulty in learning, they will make their best endeavours to collect all relevant information and plan a relevant, differentiated curriculum.

Managing Medical Conditions

The school recognises that pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. Some children with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010. Some children may also have special educational needs and may have a statement or Education, Health and Care Plan which brings together their special educational, health and social care provision.

At Newtown Linford Primary School, we support children, where possible, with medical conditions. Staff will be trained as need arises.

Refer to policy for Managing Medical Conditions in School

Admission Arrangements

The admission arrangements for all pupils are in accordance with national legislation, including the Equality Act 2010. The LA is the admitting authority for Newtown Linford Primary School. Schools cannot refuse admission to pupils with special educational needs unless that need would seriously compromise the learning of other pupils and there are no reasonable steps that can be taken to prevent any incompatibility. The LA makes the final decisions on admissions

Facilities for Pupils with SEN

The school complies with relevant accessibility requirements. Being a small school with restricted space, there are limitations for withdrawal groups. The building has limited access for wheelchair users but does include a toilet for disabled, changing and shower facilities. Staff are highly trained

and have experience of working with a wide range of agencies. The accessibility plan is updated annually and is available from the website.

Responsibilities

The SENCo has responsibility for;

- The day to day operation of the school's Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- Advising class teachers
- Liaising with external agencies including, educational, medical, social and voluntary services
- Deployment of Teaching Assistants, Learning Support Assistants & Nursery Nurse.
- Monitoring effectiveness of support programmes and services
- Ensuring parents are fully involved in positive outcomes for their children's learning
- Implementing a programme of annual review
- Overseeing records of all children with SEND
- Liaising with relevant schools to ensure smooth transition between phases and places of education
- Liaising with SEND governor and keeping abreast of national/local developments through network meetings and relevant training

Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of pupils in their class at all stages of SEND support. At all stages teachers work to develop independent, confident learners. They are responsible for managing Teaching Assistants/Learning Support Assistants/Nursery Nurses and resources in their class and liaising with parents.

The Governing Body endeavours to ensure the best possible provision for Special Educational Needs at Newtown Linford Primary School. All governors understand their duty of care.

The SEND Governor has responsibility to:

- assist and advise the governing body on fulfilling its special education responsibilities
- ensure children with Special Educational Needs are included in activities with other children, so far as this is reasonably practical and compatible with good education for all
- ensure budget allocation takes account of staffing, training, resourcing requirements for individual children
- be aware of the implementation and effectiveness of the school's policy by monitoring for example -

Training and Resources

Training needs are identified by staff themselves or by the SENCo to meet the needs of children in school or those known to be coming into school.

All teachers and staff undertake induction on taking up post and this involves an introduction to the school's provision and practice discussion of the needs of individual pupils.

The SENCo regularly attends LA briefings, Bradgate Education Partnership (BEP) meetings and SENConet meetings to keep up to date with local and national developments and to share best practice.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Pupils' progress is monitored by teacher assessment using Target Tracker and small steps trackers if necessary. Quality of teaching is monitored through lesson observations, learning walks, scrutiny of books and pupil interviews. Interventions are evaluated for their effectiveness and value for money. Parent and pupil surveys, feedback on reports at parent's evenings and SEND review meetings are undertaken to inform our practice.

Complaints

Should a parent or carer have a concern about special provision made for their child, they should, in the first instance, discuss this with the class teacher. If the concern continues this should be referred to the Headteacher, who will try to resolve the matter and can advise on formal procedures for complaint. Our school's complaints policy is also on our website. At all stages parents are able to seek advice from Parent Partnership Service.

This policy is reviewed annually, or in responses to changes in national SEND policy.