



# Old Park Primary School & Nursery

## SEND Policy

**Policy owner: Julie Bebb/Rebecca Hughes**

**Date: November 2023**

**Next Review: November 2024**

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 At Old Park Primary School and Nursery we follow the guidelines set out in the SEND Code of Practice: for 0 to 25 years.
- 1.2 Old Park Primary provides a broad and balanced curriculum for all children. Birth to 5 Matters is used as a starting point for those children within the Early Years. The National Curriculum is our starting point for planning the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. When planning, teachers set suitable learning challenges and respond to children's diverse range of needs. Some children have barriers to learning that mean they have special needs and require particular action by the school.
- 1.3 These requirements may arise as a consequence of a child having special educational needs. Teachers take account of these requirements and make provision, where necessary, to support individuals or groups of children and thus enable them to participate effectively in curriculum and assessment activities. Such children may need additional or different help from that given to other children of the same age.
- 1.4 Children may have special educational needs either throughout, or at any time during their school career. This policy ensures that curriculum planning and assessment of children with special educational needs takes account of the type and extent of the difficulty experienced by the child.

## **2 Aims and objectives**

- 2.1 The aims of this policy are:
  - to create an environment that meets the special educational needs of each child;
  - to ensure that the special educational needs of children are identified, assessed and provided for;
  - to identify the roles and responsibilities of staff in providing for children's special educational needs;
  - to enable all children to have full access to all elements of the nursery and/or school curriculum;
  - to ensure parents are able to work in partnership with the school and nursery to support their child's education;
  - To ensure that our children have a voice in this process.

### **3 Educational inclusion**

3.1 At Old Park Primary School and Nursery we aim to offer excellence and choice to all our children, whatever their ability or needs. We have high expectations of all our children. We aim to achieve this through the removal of barriers to learning and participation. We want all our children to feel they are a valued part of our school and nursery community. Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that the children:

- have different educational and behavioural needs and aspirations;
- require different strategies for learning;
- acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates;
- Need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences.

3.2 Teachers respond to children's needs by:

- providing support for children who need help with communication, language and literacy;
- planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all available senses and experiences;
- planning for children's full participation in learning, and in physical and practical activities;
- helping children to manage their behaviour and take part in learning effectively and safely;
- Helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning.

(For further information see School Information Report)

### **4 Special Educational Needs**

4.1 Children with special educational needs have a range of difficulties that call for special provision to be made. All children may have special needs at some time in their life. Children who have a 'need':

- May have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age;
- May have a disability that prevents or hinders them making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age;
- May have emotional and social skills which become a barrier to their learning

- 4.2 All our children are assessed when they join Old Park Primary School and Nursery, so that we can build upon their prior learning. We use this information to provide starting points for development of an appropriate curriculum for all our children.
- 4.3 In the Early Years Foundation Stage, the Foundation Stage Team is responsible for managing the special educational needs of children in the Foundation Stage. This includes writing individual Plan, Do, Reviews or intervention sheets in liaison with the special educational needs co-ordinators (SENCo) and outside agencies. The Nursery Teacher is responsible for managing the special educational needs of children in the Nursery with the support of staff with 'SENDCO in the Early Years' qualifications.
- 4.4 If our assessments/professional judgements show that a child may have a 'need' we use a range of strategies that make full use of all available classroom and school resources. This level of support is called SEN support. The child's class teacher/keyworker will offer interventions that are different from or additional to those provided as part of the school's usual working practices. The class teacher will keep parents informed and draw upon them for additional information. The SENCo will then liaise with external agencies as necessary.
- 4.5 We will record the strategies used to support children on a Plan, Do, Review (PDR) These show the short-term targets set, the teaching strategies to be used, alongside any other provision offered. They indicate planned outcomes, identify a baseline, expected and achieved outcome and show frequency of intervention. They are reviewed regularly and used to inform next steps.
- 4.6 If intervention review identifies that support is needed from outside services, we will consult parents prior to any support being actioned. In most cases, children will be seen in school/nursery by external support services. They will provide information for the child's next intervention steps. The new strategies will, wherever possible, be implemented in the child's normal classroom setting.
- 4.7 If the child continues to demonstrate significant cause for concern, a request for advice or additional funding is sought through the Inclusive Schools Forum (ISF) or a statutory assessment (EHCNA) may be made to the Local Authority (LA). A range of written evidence about the child will support both of

these requests. In Nursery staff can apply for the Early Years Inclusion Panel Funding (EYIPF) to support individuals.

4.8 In Old Park Primary School and Nursery the SENCo alongside the inclusion manager work alongside the class teachers to:

- manage the day-to-day operation of the policy;
- co-ordinate the provision for and manages the responses to children's special needs;
- support and advise;
- oversee the records of all SEND children;
- act as the link with parents;
- act as the link with outside agencies and other support agencies;
- monitor and evaluate the special needs provision and report to the governing body;
- manage a range of resources, human and material, to enable appropriate provision for children with special educational needs;

## **5 The role of the governing body**

5.1 The governing body has due regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out its duties toward all pupils with SEND.

5.2 The governing body has an identified governor to have a specific oversight of the school's provision for pupils with SEND. The 'responsible person' in this school is the headteacher. The headteacher ensures that all those who teach a pupil with a statement of special educational needs are aware of the nature of the statement.

5.3 The SEN Governor ensures that all governors are aware of the school's SEN provision, including the deployment of funding, equipment and personnel and meets termly with the SENCos.

## **6 Allocation of resources**

6.1 The SENCos and the headteacher are responsible for the operational management of the specified and agreed resourcing for special needs provision within school and nursery, including the provision for children with ISF funding or statements of special educational needs (EHCP's).

6.2 The headteacher informs the governing body of how the funding allocated to support special educational needs has been employed.

- 6.3 The headteacher and SENCos meet annually to agree on how to use funds directly related to ISF funding or EHCPs.

## **7 Assessments**

- 7.1 Early identification is vital. The class teacher and the parents at the earliest opportunity can discuss concerns and work together.
- 7.2 The class teacher and SEN Team assess and monitor the children's progress in line with existing school practices. This is an ongoing process.
- 7.3 The SEN Team work closely with parents and teachers to plan an appropriate programme of work.
- 7.4 The assessment of children reflects as far as possible their participation in the whole school and/or Early Years curriculum. The class teacher and SEN Team can break down the assessment into smaller steps in order to aid progress and provide detailed and accurate indicators.
- 7.5 The LA seeks a range of advice before offering advice or additional funding through ISF, EYIPF or making a formal statement (EHCP). The needs of the child are considered paramount in this process.

## **8 Access to the curriculum**

- 8.1 All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable children to:
- understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities;
  - Experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.
- 8.2 Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs. Lessons/focus activities have clear learning objectives; we adapt work appropriately and we use assessment to inform the next stage of learning.
- 8.3 Plan Do Reviews and Social, Emotional and Sensory Passports are developed for those children being monitored or going forward for Inclusive Schools Funding or Statutory Assessment or have already got an EHCP. Intervention is recorded for all other children and vulnerable groups e.g. FSM, CIC.
- 8.4 We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their

peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom situation. There are times though, for specific interventions e.g. co-ordination, speech and language programmes, TalkBoost intervention, we ask the children to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom. Children within the Early Years have access to Hedgehogs, a sensory room, designed and planned to support children with a range of needs. There is also space for staff to carry out intervention with individuals and groups of children.

## **9 Partnership with families**

- 9.1 Old Park Primary School and Nursery works closely with families in the support of those children with SEND. We encourage an active partnership through an on-going dialogue with families. They have much to contribute to support our children with SEND.
- 9.2 The school prospectus contains details of our policy for SEND, and the arrangements made for children in our school. A named governor takes a special interest in special needs, and is willing to talk to parents.
- 9.3 We share Plan do Reviews/Social, Emotional and Sensory Passports and interventions with families. We inform the families of any outside intervention, and we share the process of decision making by providing clear information relating to the education of children with SEND.

## **10 Pupil participation**

- 10.1 At Old Park Primary School and Nursery we encourage children to take responsibility and make decisions as learners, developing a 'can do' and resilient attitude. This is a part of the culture of our school and relates to children of all ages. The work from the Early Years Foundation Stage throughout KS1 and KS2, recognises the importance of children developing social, as well as educational skills.
- 10.2 Children are encouraged to make judgements about their own performance against their targets and levels, e.g. writing targets.

## **11 Monitoring and evaluation**

- 11.1 The SEN team monitor the movement of children within the SEN system in school and nursery. They provide staff with termly summaries of the impact of the policy on the practice of the school through SEN review meetings. Governors are reported to annually.
- 11.2 The SEN team are involved in supporting teachers involved in drawing up Plan do Reviews/Social, Emotional and Sensory Passports and interventions for children. The SEN team and the headteacher hold regular meetings to review the work of the school in this area.
- 11.3 The governing body will review the policy and considers any amendments in the light of any future SEN changes.

### **SEN Team**

SENCoS - Julie Bebb, Rebecca Hughes

Nursery SENDco - Laura Humpage

Nursery Teacher - Sarah Davies

Inclusion Manager - Jackie Gray

Assistant Inclusion Manager - Kelly Ryder

Governor with responsibility for SEND - Lyndsay Galbraith

**Policy review date Nov 2024**

### **Appendix A**

List of outside agencies involved with Old Park:

SALT - Speech and Language

CIC - Children in Care team

SIS - Sensory Inclusion Service

OT - Occupational Therapist

Physiotherapists

LSAT - Learning Support Advisory Team

EYAT - Early Years Advisory Teacher

BST - Behaviour Support Team

IASS - Information, Advice and Support Service

EP - Educational Psychologist

EWO - Education Welfare Officer

CSO - Community Support Officers

Houghton Outreach



Linden Centre

Healthy Child Programme 0-19 Service

Community Nurses

BeeU - Emotional Health and Wellbeing Education

Mental Health Practitioner (Telford Team) - Bee U Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service.

BEAM drop-in centres

Strengthening Families Workers

Community Social Worker

Community Paediatricians