



## **Communication and Interaction Hub**

### **Background Information:**

The specialist hub caters for children with a primary need relating to communication and interaction and is managed in partnership with Haughton School. The hub is for a maximum of 10 Key Stage 2 children (i.e. year groups 3, 4, 5 and 6) all of whom have an EHCP which outlines complex interaction and communication needs and may also include Autism and associated cognition and learning difficulties. The overarching aim of the hub is to ensure that, with intensive support, the children can develop strategies to cope with the everyday sensory demands of a mainstream class so that they have every opportunity to be included with their mainstream peers and to achieve their full academic and personal potential. Our mainstream teachers work in partnership with the specialist hub staff in order to ensure they are able to provide a learning environment and teaching approach which is adapted to meet the children's specific needs.

Children who attend the hub are officially on roll at Haughton School, however they wear the uniform of Old Park School and Nursery and are fully included as members of our school community.



### **Staffing**

Children in the hub are taught by a specialist teacher and a minimum of 2 teaching assistants who are employed and managed by Haughton School. They are experienced in working with children with SEND and are trained in specialist approaches for working with children who have communication and interaction difficulties.

### **Learning levels and curriculum needs**

- Initially the children are taught within the specialist setting of the Hub classroom. This provides an individual workroom (if needed), individual workstations and also the opportunity for small group work when appropriate. The classroom also has a small kitchen area and a playground.
- Children are supported to progress towards accessing mainstream sessions (building up to at least 50% of their time in school). Children start by accessing lessons which match their particular strengths and interests in order to give them the maximum opportunity to succeed and develop positive self-esteem and confidence. They are accompanied by a member of the Hub class team.



- The curriculum is presented in a highly specialised and flexible way with opportunities for consolidation. Children's sensory needs are addressed through specialised and individual approaches.
- Children who attend the Hub are likely to have a spiky profile but will have the cognitive ability to work towards age related expectations in some areas. The hub is not suitable for children who have more severe learning difficulties.

### Placement Review

The C&I Hub place is reviewed on an on-going basis (at least annually) in line with statutory requirements. The following circumstances would always lead to a placement review:

- If a child has progressed to such an extent that they could thrive in mainstream classroom on a full-time basis with appropriate support.
- Change of Key Stage.
- If, after one year, the child is not making progress in being able to access the mainstream learning environment on a regular basis.
- If attendance drops below 80% an interim review will be required.
- If a child or parent requests that a change of provision is needed.
- There is a consensus view that the priority need could be best met elsewhere.
- The child's behaviour is a threat to the health and safety of staff and/or other children.

