

# **SIMONSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL SEN AND DISABILITY POLICY**

**(The SEND policy should be read in consultation with the  
Accessibility Plan, Annual SEN Report and the Parents/Carers'**

**SEN Information Guide)**



**SENCO: Mrs L Annal (SENCO)**

**Mrs Annal is the coordinator of special educational needs and is responsible for the day to day operation of the SEND policy. She is also our lead teacher for inclusion.**

**This policy has been discussed and shared with the staff and Governors of the school after consultation with the LA and Senior Leadership Team. They acknowledge shared responsibility for making appropriate provision for children with special educational needs. The policy is made available to parents and families through our on line website.**

## **Rationale:**

At Simonside Primary School every child is equal, valued and unique. We aim to provide an environment where all pupils feel safe and can flourish. We will respond to individuals in ways which take into account their varied life experiences and particular needs. We strongly believe in and promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This policy exemplifies these rights and our practice aims to ensure that the following rights are adhered to:

**Article 3** – The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children

**Article 12** – Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them and to have their views taken seriously

**Article 23** – A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to provide support to disabled children.

**Article 29** – Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment

Throughout this policy, and the following policies, we will ensure steps are taken to prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favorably than others: Accessibility Plan, Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy, Parent/Carers' SEND Information Guide, SEND Policy, Annual SEND Report. Simonside Primary School is committed to providing an education that enables all pupils to make progress so that they achieve their best, become confident individuals living fulfilling lives and make a successful transition into adulthood.

## **Objectives:**

- To ensure equality of provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and disability
- To take into account legislation related to SEN and Disabilities, including part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, The SEN Code of Practice 2014, The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, The Special Educational Needs ( Personal Budgets and Direct Payments) Regulations, Section 49, The Order setting out transitional arrangements, Section 137, Equality Act 2010, The Mental Capacity Act 2005, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016, Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions 2014
- To provide full access for all pupils to a broad and balanced curriculum

- To ensure that the needs of pupils with SEND are identified, assessed, planned for and regularly reviewed to improve outcomes
- To enable pupils with SEND to achieve their potential
- To ensure parents / carers are fully engaged in decision making
- To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of pupils
- To provide advice and support for all staff working with pupils with SEND
- To provide detailed information about the arrangements for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with SEND

### **Admission Arrangements**

The school has adopted the criteria set out in the OWLT's admission policy. The school welcomes pupils with known special educational needs and disability, as well as identifying and providing for those not previously identified as having SEND.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO):

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the policy
- coordinating provision for pupils with SEND
- liaising with the Designated Teacher where a looked after pupil has SEND
- advising on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- liaising with parents of pupils with SEND
- liaising with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies
- being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- liaising with potential next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- working with the Headteacher and school governors to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- ensuring that the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date

The class/subject teacher:

- Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils
- Promote good progress and outcomes for pupils
- Plan and teach lessons in which teaching responds to the strengths and needs of pupils with SEND
- Work closely with support staff in the planning and monitoring of interventions
- Make accurate and productive use of assessment to inform the four part cycle
- Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment
- Fulfil wider professional responsibilities in relation to SEND, e.g. the effective deployment of support staff, professional development, acting on specialist advice
- Communicate effectively with parents with regard to pupils achievements and pupils well-being

The SEND Teaching Assistant (Mrs Davidson) supports individuals and groups of pupils at SEND support level of provision in Key Stage 2, both in class and through withdrawal for targeted interventions/ programmes recommended by professionals. All Teaching Assistants have been trained in a range of interventions to support children throughout the school with SEND.

The designated teachers for child protection are Mrs Thompson (Headteacher) and Mrs Hills (Deputy Headteacher)

The designated member of staff responsible for managing pupil premium is Mrs Thompson (Headteacher)

The designated member of staff for looked-after-children (LAC) is Mrs Thompson (Headteacher). The SENCO and Headteacher will meet half termly if and when required to ensure that arrangements are in place for supporting pupils that are looked after and also have SEND. SEND Reviews and PEP meetings are coordinated and where possible meetings are held on the same day.

There is a designated Governor for SEND.

### **Access to Facilities and Provision:**

Please refer to school's accessibility plan which outlines how we:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils □ Provide disabled toilets

### **Allocation of Resources:**

The Headteacher and SENCO are responsible for the operational management of the budget for SEND provision. The school will use a range of additional funding including the national SEND budget and, where applicable, pupil premium to provide high quality appropriate support for pupils with SEND. Where a pupil's needs exceed the nationally prescribed threshold (currently £6,000), additional funding will be applied for from the local authority.

### **Access to the Curriculum:**

All pupils should have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. All pupils receive inclusive quality first teaching that is differentiated to meet individual needs. Identifying, assessing, planning and review is part of Quality First Teaching. Our Parents/Carer' SEND Information Guide and Annual SEND Report provides a clear description of the details of what is available for all children with SEND through Quality First Teaching and what is additional and different provision.

Teachers at Simonside have high expectations for all pupils. In planning and teaching, teachers provide suitable learning objectives, meet the pupils' diverse learning needs and remove the barriers to learning. For the majority of the week, pupils with SEND are taught with their peers in mainstream classes. Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils. However, in order to maximize learning, some pupils are withdrawn, individually and in small groups, to take part in targeted, time limited interventions planned to meet particular needs.

Pupils with SEND are actively encouraged and supported to join in and benefit from additional activities and clubs as well as any wider community activities.

### **Identification, Assessment, Planning and Review Arrangements:**

Simonside Primary School follows the graduated approach of assess, plan, do and review as outlined in the Code of Practice (2014). This approach is embedded in whole school practice for all pupils and every teacher is responsible for 'adapting teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils'. (Teachers' Standards 2012)

School assessment data, teacher judgments and, where appropriate, assessments from outside agencies are used to identify pupils who require additional and different provision. A provision map / intervention sheets outline all SEND support and is updated each term.

There are four broad areas of need:

- **Communication and Interaction** (including Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD))
- **Cognition and Learning** (including Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD), Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) and Specific learning Difficulties (SpLD))
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties**
- **Sensory and/or Physical Needs**

The following are **not** SEND but may impact on progress and attainment:

- Disability
- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Receipt of pupil premium
- Being a looked – after child
- Being a child of service personnel

### **SEND support – four part cycle:**

The identification of SEND is built into the overall approach to monitoring the progress and development of all pupils in school. Termly pupil progress meetings support the early identification of pupils who may have SEND. Where concerns are identified, an initial concerns checklist is completed and discussed with the SENCO.

### **Assess:**

The class teacher, working with the SENCO, will carry out a clear analysis of a pupil's needs. This assessment will be reviewed regularly. Where appropriate,

professionals will help to inform the assessment. Parents will be asked to contribute to the assessment.

**Plan:**

Parents will be formally notified as to the kind of intervention the school will be putting in place to support their child. Adjustments, interventions, support and review dates will be agreed with staff, parents and pupils. This will be recorded on the school information system.

**Do:**

The class teacher will remain responsible for working with the pupil on a daily basis and retain responsibility for their progress and outcomes. They will plan and assess the impact of support and interventions with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved. The SENCO will support the above.

**Review:**

The effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed on the agreed date. Reviews will be held with parents at least three times per year. The class teacher, working with the SENCO, will revise the support in light of the pupil's progress. If a pupil does not make expected progress over a sustained period of time, school will seek specialist expertise. This will inform future provision. School liaises with the following services - Educational Psychology Service, School Health, School Effectiveness SEND team, SEND Teaching and Support Service (SENTASS), and, when appropriate, Social Services and Looked After Children Team. Our Parent Support Advisor (PSA) also supports families of children with a SEND or disability if required.

Where, despite having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEND of a pupil, the pupil has not made expected progress, then school or parents will consider requesting an Education, Health and Care assessment. School will provide the local authority with evidence of the action taken as part of SEND support.

***Further details on provision for pupils with SEND can be found in the Parents/Carers' SEND Information Guide***

This guide, and the Annual SEND Report, can be found on the school website. These outline the provision normally available for pupils with SEND as well as

provision within the four broad areas of need – communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social, emotional and mental health difficulties; sensory and/or physical. The Annual SEND Report includes an evaluation of the impact of the above provision on outcomes for pupils with SEND.

**Transition Arrangements:**

Transition is carefully planned. In order to ensure successful transition both within school and from setting/school to setting/school, parents/carers will be fully involved in the planning for the transfer to the new setting. Key information about SEND provision will be shared with the next school /setting through the review process. During the summer term, staff from feeder schools are invited to review meetings alongside teachers and parents for Year 6 children with SEND. All documents/assessments are handed over with a transition document. Pupils from our school generally transfer to Walbottle High School and Kenton although a few children do go to other secondary schools. Children who transfer from our school into specialist provision are supported with the transition and will have visits before they move. Teachers will coordinate the transfer of records beforehand.

**Partnership with Parents/Carers:**

Simonside Primary School has positive attitudes to parents/carers and values their important role in their child's education. Parents/carers are always informed when their child is placed on the SEND list and the graduated response, outlined in the Code of Practice, is explained to them. Parents are informed about Newcastle Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service. This service provides information, advice and support at any stage of a child or young person's education, and provides an Independent Supporter for families in the process of getting an Education Health and Care Plan. Parents are fully involved in the review process. Interpreters are arranged for parents who require translation during meetings. Written information is in accessible formats and sufficient notice is given for meetings to enable parents/carers time to prepare.

The Parent Support Advisor (Kay Dixon) is proactive in supporting parents in a variety of ways, including home visits, liaising with agencies, organising activities and facilitating and delivering training. Early Help (formally known as Common Assessment Framework –CAF) is used to coordinate support for children and their families who have a range of needs.



**Pupil Participation:**

The views of all pupils are valued. Whenever appropriate, pupils with SEND are supported to be involved in decision making and to be able to express any concerns. All pupils are made aware of their individual targets and a pupil review sheet is used to gather their views on their progress. The pupil review sheet is completed on a termly basis with either the class teacher or the SENTA. Pupils in upper key stage 2 are invited to attend their termly review meeting.

**Monitoring and Evaluating the Success of Provision – for further details see Annual SEN Report:**

- A variety of methods are used to monitor and evaluate the provision and achievements for the pupils with SEND
- Regular observation of teaching by the senior management team
- Analysis of assessment data, with high expectations for the progress expected between key stages for all pupils
- Assessment records that illustrate progress over time – e.g. reading ages
- Pre and post assessments for those pupils who are withdrawn for targeted interventions
- Success rates in respect of individual targets
- Monitoring and support by the governor with responsibility for SEND
- The views of parents/carers and pupils
- Regular meetings between SENCO, SENTA and the Headteacher
- Provision Mapping – used as a basis for monitoring the impact of interventions
- LA SEND Review to externally validate provision and outcomes for pupils with SEND

**Staff Development:**

The Senior Leadership Team reviews the training needs of staff through Performance Management and pupil progress to plan appropriate CPD in relation to SEND. The SENCO ensures staff are informed of local and national developments in relation to SEND and Inclusion. Where appropriate, specialists are used to deliver the training. Newly qualified teachers are offered support and in school training by the SENCO. See Annual SEND Information Report for details.

The SENCOs in the OWL Trust meet termly to discuss new initiatives, share expertise and good practice. The Trust has bought in to SENTASS SLA and meetings have taken place with specialists to develop the expertise of all SENCOs. In addition, the SENCO

attends termly SENCO network meetings with local authority schools where expertise and best practice can be shared.

The Foundation Stage maintains links with local Sure Start Centres and playgroups. The Headteacher meets regularly with colleagues both locally and city wide, enabling a share of good practice and concerns.

### **Medical Conditions**

Simonside Primary School will follow the recommendations of the Children and Families Act 2014 with regard to arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions. Where a pupil also has SEND, their provision will be planned and delivered in a coordinated way with their healthcare plan. (See Medicines in Schools Policy – SLT to be responsible for safe keeping of medicines)

### **The Complaints Procedure:**

Initially an attempt will be made to resolve a complaint about SEND provision at school level, within one week of the complaint having first been made. The procedure is firstly that the class teacher attempts to resolve matters, then if required the SENCO and /or Headteacher becomes involved.

If the complaint is unresolved, then the person making the complaint is advised of their rights under Section 23 of the Education reform Act to make a complaint. The Governing Body will consider the complaint, after which, if necessary the LA will become involved. School will inform parents/carers of the local authority's commissioned independent disagreement resolution service. Details can also be found in the Local Offer.

**Date agreed: 11/11/2019**

**Review Due : November 2020**

**Related policies: Admissions, Accessibility Plan, Annual SEN Report, Antibullying Policy, Looked After Children, Medicines in School, Safeguarding, Teaching and Learning, Transition.**