



Policy for Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

‘Our vision for children with special educational needs and disabilities is the same as for all children and young people. – that they achieve well in their early years, at school and in college and lead happy and fulfilled lives.’
Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014.

Our school vision of “Foundations for Life” is driven by our school values of Kindness, Justice and Respect.

This policy explains how Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School makes provision for pupils with SEND, in line with the school’s ethos, values and current legislative requirements. The policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years (DfE, July 2014) and has been written with reference to the Code of Practice and the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: Advice for school (DfE, February 2013)
- School Accessibility Plan
- Children’s and Families Act (2014)
- Wiltshire Local Authority and School SEND Local Offer (2014)

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Introduction

Our policy is based on the exemplar policy devised by the LA team has been adapted to suit the needs of our own school by the SEND coordinator and the governor for Special Needs, in consultation with the staff.

‘There is a greater focus on support that enables those with SEND to succeed in their education and make a successful transition to adulthood’. Code of Practice 2014

A School arrangement

A1 Definition, aims and objectives

Definition

“Children have special educational needs if they have a *learning difficulty* which calls for *special educational provision* to be made for them. Children have a *learning difficulty* if they: -

- Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age; or
- Have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in school.”

Special educational provision means: -

“For children of two or over, educational provision which is additional to, or otherwise different from, the educational provision made generally for children of this age in schools maintained by the LA, other than special schools in the area.”

Aims

At Alderbury and West Grimstead School we believe that each child has individual and unique strengths/talents and needs. However, some pupils require more support than others. If these pupils are to achieve their full potential, we must recognise this and plan accordingly. We acknowledge that a significant proportion of pupils will have special educational needs at some time in their school career. Many of these pupils may require help throughout their time in school, whilst others may need a little extra support for a short period to help overcome more temporary needs. The school aims to provide all pupils with strategies for dealing with their needs in a supportive environment, and to give them meaningful access to the National Curriculum also in line with our Equality Policy and Accessibility Plan. In particular, we aim:

- To enable every pupil to experience success;
- To promote individual confidence and a positive attitude;
- To ensure that all pupils, whatever their special educational needs, receive appropriate educational provision through a broad and balanced curriculum that is relevant and differentiated, and that demonstrates coherence and progression in learning;
- To give pupils SEND equal opportunities to take part in all aspects of the school’s provision, as far as is appropriate.

We work in close partnership with parents who play an active and valued role in their children’s education.

Objectives

Our objectives in this policy are:

- To identify and monitor children's individual needs at the earliest possible stage using a range of formal and informal assessments including the Wiltshire Graduated Response to SEND support so that appropriate provision can be made and their attainment is raised;
- To plan an effective curriculum to meet the needs of children with special education needs ensuring that the targets set on Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) and/or My Support Plans and EHCPs are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time related (SMART).
- To identify, assess, record, and regularly review pupils’ progress and needs;
- To involve children and parents in the identification and review of their targets;
- To raise the self-esteem of children with special education needs, acknowledging the progress they have made;

- The school's key objective for SEND, as identified in the School Improvement Plan, is to "ensure that SEND provision is targeted effectively." The actions of this are:
 - Introduce appropriate intervention strategies
 - Targets set on ILPs and/or My Support Plans and EHCPs should be refined to be ideally be achievable within a term
 - Involve parents more actively in their children's progress through ILPs and meetings when necessary
 - Track pupils' progress through the school's tracking programme (Insight Tracking).
- To work collaboratively with parents, other professionals and support services including the Educational Psychology Service;
- To ensure that the responsibility held by all staff and governors for SEND is implemented and maintained.

A2. Roles and Responsibilities

Governors' Role

The Local Governance Committee (LGC) of our school will:

- Ensure that the necessary provision is made for any child with special education needs;
- Ensure that where the responsible person has been informed by the LA that a child has special educational needs, those needs are made known to all who are likely to teach them;
- Ensure that teachers in our school are aware of the importance of identifying and providing for children with special educational needs;
- Consult the LA and the governing bodies of other schools when it seems necessary or desirable, in the interests of coordinated special educational provision in the area as a whole;
- Ensure that a child with special educational needs joins in the activities of the school together with children who do not have special educational needs, so far as is reasonably practical. These activities will be compatible with the child receiving the special educational provision their learning needs call for, the efficient education of the children with whom they are being educated, and the efficient use of resources;
- Have regard to Special Education Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014 when carrying out its duties toward all children with special educational needs;
- Ensure that parents are notified of a decision by the school that their child will be given an ILP/My Support Plan/EHCP and notified of the provision within it.

The governors play an important role in ensuring that:

- They are fully involved in developing and monitoring the school's SEND policy.
- They are up-to-date and knowledgeable about the SEND provision, including how funding, equipment, and personnel resources are deployed.
- Data is analysed to ensure continuity and progress.
- Liaison takes place with the SENDCo to ensure the governors are updated with SEND developments.
- Keeping the governing body informed about SEND issues;
- SEND provision is an integral part of the School Development Plan and the Equality Policy, and the quality of provision is continually monitored. The impact of this is evaluated by Governors.
- The quality of SEND provision is continually monitored;
- Currently the governor for Special Needs is **Mrs Paramor**
- Currently the governor for Looked-after Children is **Mrs Paramor**
- The Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSL) is **Mr Thorpe**. In his absence the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers (DDSLs) are Ms Andrea Hodgson, Mrs Debbie Budd and Mrs Caroline Wilkinson.

Headteacher's role

The Headteacher has responsibility for:

- The management of all aspects of the school's work, including provision for pupils with special educational needs;
- Working closely with the SENDCo – ensuring professional needs and training are met;
- The deployment of all special educational needs personnel within the school;

SENDCo's role

The SENDCo is Mrs Caroline Wilkinson who has gained the National SENCo award and is responsible for co-ordinating the provision of special educational needs throughout the school. This will involve:

- Overseeing the day to day operation of the SEND policy;
- Representing the needs of SEND pupils on SLT.
- Working alongside staff to assist them in identifying and planning for children's needs and ensuring that children make progress;
- Assisting in the monitoring and evaluation of progress of pupils with SEND through the use of existing school assessment information, e.g. class-based assessments/records, SATs, Insight/iASEND, EYFS descriptors
- Coordinating the provision for children with additional needs through identifying children, assessing their needs and planning correctly. This will be done in conjunction with the class teachers.
- Overseeing and maintaining specific resources for special educational needs;
- Liaising with outside agencies, arranging meetings, and providing a link between these agencies, class teachers and parents;
- Contributing to and, where necessary, leading the in-service training of staff;
- Monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the provision for children with SEND to the governing body in conjunction with the Governor for SEND;
- Maintaining the school's SEND register and SEND records;
- Make sure that class teachers carry out detailed assessments and observations of pupils with specific learning problems following the graduated approach
- Liaising with the SENDCo's in secondary schools and/or other primary schools to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the other;
- In conjunction with the class teacher, liaising with parents of children with special educational needs, so that they are aware of the strategies that are being used and are involved as partners in the process.
- Overseeing the sending out of copies of new or updated ILPs to parents in conjunction with the class teacher.
- Liaise with the designated SEND Governor.
- To attend cluster group meetings and relevant professional courses and meetings to ensure continued professional development and up to date knowledge.
- Provide the SEND governor with timely information in an agreed format to ensure clear communication with the Local Governance Committee.

Class teachers are responsible for including pupils with SEND in the classroom, and for providing an appropriately differentiated and inclusive National Curriculum (reflected in their planning).

- Providing the SENDCo with any information required
- Has the responsibility for writing, updating and evaluating ILPs
- Responsibility for improving outcomes for all pupils including those with SEND in their class and the wider school community.
- Effectively track progress for all pupils using the schools' recognised systems.
- Coordinating LSAs within their classroom to provide support and challenge for SEND pupils.
- Be accountable for the effective deployment of LSAs within the class to improve outcomes for the children.
- Keeping up to date intervention record folders and analysing data from interventions.
- Actively use CPD to improve classroom practice and engage with LA SEND professionals.

Learning Support Assistants work as part of the team alongside the SENDCo and the teachers. They support pupils' individual needs, and help with inclusion of pupils with SEND within the class by helping scaffold their learning. They play an important role in implementing ILPs and monitoring progress. They contribute to review meetings and help pupils with SEND to gain access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

LSAs should:

- Be fully aware of the school's SEND policy and the procedures for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils' responses to tasks and strategies;
- Be fully aware of the school's behaviour policy to ensure a consistent approach;

- Give feedback to teachers about pupils' responses to tasks and strategies.

A3 Arrangements for co-ordinating and managing provision for children with SEND

At Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School:

- Sharing of expertise is welcomed and encouraged;
- Special educational needs is a part of the school development plan;
- The SENDCo has regular input at staff meetings;
- The SENDCo holds regular meetings with LSAs to discuss current issues and to offer in house training;
- The SENDCo meets with the Headteacher each term to review individuals progress and provision;
- There is daily informal contact between all staff to monitor individual pupils and to discuss concerns;
- Pupils are involved as far as practical in discussions about their targets, provision and progress. ILPs are shared with children, and parents;
- A Professional Planning meeting is held every twelve months with the school's allocated Educational Psychologist to plan In-service training and provision and general pupil concerns. The EP service is now a traded service and the school prioritises where any funding is allocated,
- Pupil progress meetings are held with the SENDCo and / or Head / Deputy Headteacher and class teachers.

The SENDCo ensures that the following information is easily accessible to staff and those governors with SEND responsibility:

- The school's SEND policy;
- The SEND register.
- The school's Equality Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- SEND Information Report

A4 Admission arrangements

The school does not discriminate on the basis of SEND.

- Normal admission arrangements apply (see Admissions Policy). We strive to be a fully inclusive school.
- All children will be treated according to their needs in line with the school's policy for equality of opportunity.
- No child will be denied admission because of his or her creed, race, physical ability or academic attainment.
- Where a child has a particular need e.g. wheelchair access, the governors will make reasonable adjustments to ensure the child's needs are fully met.
- If a child is transferring into the school with an EHCP, or has been receiving extra support from LA centrally funded resources in their previous school, the continuation of this support will be negotiated with the LA to ensure that their needs can be met.

Any variation to the above will need to be agreed by the full governing body.

A5 Specialisms and specialist facilities

At Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School:

- All teaching staff are able to teach pupils with SEND. Additional training for teachers and LSAs is made available when necessary and appropriate, particularly training to meet the specific needs of an individual pupil;
- Differentiated resources are used to ensure access to the curriculum; resources are easily accessible in the Studio and in each classroom. The Studio, Infant and Junior libraries and the conservatory provide additional teaching bases as well as the Garden Room providing a quiet space for group/individual interventions.
- All staff are kept well informed about the strategies needed to manage pupils' needs effectively, and we try to ensure that other pupils understand and respond with sensitivity;
- Pupil support aims to encourage as much independence as possible within a safe and caring environment;
- We have access to the expertise of LA services and other agencies if it is required.

- As a school we provide ELSA support to those children identified with emotional needs within school. Our trained ELSAs are Mrs Carly Hill and Mrs Kate Whaley. They work with children individually or in groups.

The school provides easy access for wheelchairs, an accessible toilet with frame and washing area. The governors do their best to ensure that the environment of the school is such that, as far as is practically possible, children with disabilities can participate in the full curriculum.

B Identification, Assessment and Provision

B1 Allocation of resources

Most of the resources used by children having special educational needs are available within the classroom. SEND is resourced by funds devolved from the LA and from the school budget. This money will be spent on additional resources, staffing costs and time allocated to the SENDCo for managing the support in order to meet the objectives of this policy. Learning Support Assistants may be targeted to work with identified children under the guidance of a teacher and in consultation with the SENDCo. Occasionally, children may be allocated a special needs allowance by the LA to enable them to receive additional and targeted provision.

B2 Identification, Assessment and Review Arrangements

Our school follows the guidance contained in the Special Education Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014.

This recommends a graduated approach. The Code of Practice does not assume that there are hard and fast categories of special need but recognises that children's needs and requirements fall into four broad areas. These are: Communication and Interaction, Cognition and Learning, Social, Emotional and Mental health, Sensory and/or Physical.

Code of Practice needs	Categories
Communication and Interaction (C&I)	Speech and Language Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Cognition and Learning (C&L)	Learning Specific learning difficulties e.g. Dyslexia
Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)	Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
Sensory and / or Physical (S&P)	Hearing, Visual, Physical

Where possible we will try to meet every child's need within the classroom through ensuring that our planning, teaching and approaches meet the needs of the majority of the children in our school-. A detailed provision map is provided by the class teacher each term identifying where and what provision is being made for pupils. The impact of any intervention is carefully monitored.

However, where through careful identification and assessment, we and / or parents, determine that a child is not making satisfactory progress, or presents other concerns, the class teacher will consult the SENDCo. They in conjunction with the parents, will review the strategies and approaches that are currently in use and the way these may be developed. Where this review leads to the conclusion that the child needs help, over and above that which is normally available within the class or school, we will help the child.

Levels of Provision

SEND support

This level meets the moderation criteria in the LA's 'The entitlement of Pupils in Mainstream School' document, it can involve us in contacting external support services provided by the LA and other external agencies, such as the Health Authority. We may seek advice on fresh targets and strategies, or more specialist assessments that can help us with our

planning. Another ILP will be written to reflect these new targets after consultation with these agencies, parents, the child and the SENDCo and class teacher. We will ensure that parental consent is sought before any outside agencies are involved. A pupil who is needing a range of support and has significant needs will have a My Support Plan written in conjunction with parents, teacher and LSAs as well as the SENDCo. This will be reviewed at least 3 times yearly.

Where, despite all of our best endeavours, the child still makes little or no progress in the areas targeted, we will discuss with the parents and child the need for either of us to approach the LA to request a statutory assessment. In order to request a Statutory Assessment the pupil must have had a My Support Plan in place for at least 12 months. The request may or may not result in the LA issuing an EHCP. Where a child has an EHCP we will carry out an Annual Review which parents, child, outside agencies, SENDCo and the class teacher, will be invited to attend.

Reviews of Individual Learning Plans or My Support Plans

Reviews of pupils with additional needs can be carried out 3 times a year for pupil with a My Support Plan or more frequently with an ILP and short-term targets. Pupils are fully involved. Parents are given copies of the ILPs and invited to discuss these with the class teacher or SENDCo if they wish to do so. LSAs are invited to provide input into the reviewing of targets and the writing of new ILPs / My Support Plans

Writing and reviewing EHC 'My Plans'

The threshold of an EHCP is that a school is unable to meet a child's special educational needs without substantial additional support to access the curriculum. EHCPs are built on a streamlined assessment process which includes parents, children and young people, reflecting the child's needs.

Annual Reviews

For pupils with EHCPs, an Annual Review Meeting has to be held. in addition to the regular reviews. At this meeting, consideration is given to whether the EHCP should continue, and whether provision/ strategies should be maintained or amended. It reviews the objectives and sets new long-term objectives for the following year if necessary. Annual Reviews are normally held during the school day. All relevant professionals, including those who contributed to the original EHCP are invited to attend or submit a written report. The pupil usually attends the Annual Review at least for part of the meeting.

B3 Curriculum access and inclusion

Pupils are grouped in classes according to age and / or ability. As there is a wide range of ability in each year group, all staff provide a differentiated curriculum suitable for all the pupils, to ensure access at all levels. Any pupils with particular needs are included as fully as possible into the normal classroom environment and, where appropriate, the curriculum is adjusted. Sometimes it may be appropriate to withdraw a pupil sensitively, to work individually or with a group with a LSA in order to acquire, reinforce or extend skills more effectively. For some pupils, withdrawal sessions may be used to improve motor skills or to give support in a particular area, e.g. spelling. Small groups of children are given support for additional reading, spelling and mathematics. The class teacher, in conjunction with the SENDCO, will oversee this provision to ensure it meets the objectives of this policy. Targeted interventions take place where needed

Provision for pupils with SEND is intended to enable them to make the greatest possible progress in the context of the National Curriculum and in their personal development. Participation in extracurricular activities, clubs and school visits is promoted and encouraged. On occasion, some children with SEND may access a life skills curriculum – for example going on the bus to shops to spend money. Others attend alternative off site provision such as equine therapy and Farm visits. Therapists including play therapists also work with children on site.

B4 Evaluating the success of our policy

The policy will be evaluated against the objectives stated in this policy and measured by the following:

- Teachers' planning reflecting the learning objectives for children with special educational needs
- Parents being aware of individual targets set for children by discussing, and receiving, and having their views recorded on copies of ILPs for their child;

- Children being involved in discussing, contributing to, reviewing and having their views recorded on their own ILP;
- Targeted support being monitored to ensure that children progress through specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-bound targets (SMART);
- Analysis of pupil tracking data and test results:
 - For individual pupils (both formatively e.g. through observations and monitoring of work and summatively, e.g., using standardised test results, Insight)
 - Teacher of pupils with significant needs where small steps of progress need to be identified can use IASSEND instead.
 - For cohorts (Insight)
- Ensuring that outside agencies, where appropriate, have their comments recorded on My Support Plans and are involved in their development;
- The School Profile shows the success of the policy or any changes needed for the subsequent year;
- The School Improvement Plan priorities which include the provision for SEND;
- Undertaking a value for money review of our Special Educational Needs funding
- Monitoring of procedures and practice by the SEND governor in conjunction with the SENDCo;
- Value-added data for pupils on the SEND register, the number of children on the register;
- School self-evaluation
- Any external evaluation or inspection, which also enables us to evaluate the success of our provision.

Success criteria will be:

- All planning reflects targeted provision including ILPs and specific interventions as highlighted on the provision maps and any previously identified need;
- Children identified and needing ILPs reach their expected target as judged through objective testing and/or teacher's professional judgement and/or no longer need additional support;
- Parents and children are invited to write comments on ILPs, and where necessary outside agencies are also involved;
- All SEND pupils make better progress than previously.

B5 Arrangements for complaints

If parents have a complaint concerning provision for their child, they should discuss this with the class teacher. If this proves unsuccessful the matter should be referred to the SENDCo. Should the matter still be unresolved the parents should contact the Headteacher. If the complaint remains unresolved the Pickwick Academy Trust Director of Education (Southern Hub) should be involved and finally, if still unresolved, the complainant has the right to raise the matter with the LA and/or Secretary of State.

C Partnership within and beyond the school

C1 Partnership with Parents

Parents are important partners in the effective working relationship with the school in raising their child's attainment. They are fully involved in the identification, assessment and decision-making process from the outset and encouraged to discuss any concerns with class teachers as they arise. Parents' contribution to their child's education is valued highly by the staff of the school. Parents are encouraged to involve their child in the decision-making processes, including recording children's views and implementing and reviewing the Individual Learning Plan/My Support Plan. The school will also update parents with relevant information. Parents are consulted before outside agencies are involved and are included as far as possible in strategies instigated. Parents have the right to access records of their child's progress and are encouraged to contribute to these records.

C2 Pupil's Voice

We show sensitivity, honesty and mutual respect in encouraging children to share concerns, discuss strategies and see themselves as equal partners in the school. All children are involved in making decisions, where possible, as soon as they start at the school. The ways in which we encourage them to participate reflects their emerging maturity. Confident young children, who know that their opinions will be valued and who can practise making choices, will be more secure and effective children during their school years. In this school, we encourage children to participate in their learning. We encourage them to have a voice in deciding the priorities for our School Improvement Plan through the School Council. We encourage them to take ownership of their learning targets by discussing their targets and what they can do to improve. For children with SEND this includes discussing the strategies for success in their Individual Learning Plans / My Support Plans and also the opportunity to attend Annual Review meetings. We encourage them to take part in reviewing their progress and in setting new goals and challenges.

C3 Links with other agencies, organisations and support services

Close links are maintained with the LA support services in order to ensure that the school makes appropriate provision for children with special educational needs. Where it is necessary to contact outside agencies, the SENDCo will make the necessary arrangements and discuss with parents accordingly. These agencies normally include:

- The Educational Psychologist;
- The Local Education Team including SSENS;
- The Physical and Sensory Impairment Support Service team,
- The Behaviour Support Team;
- The Educational Welfare Officer;
- Speech/Occupational therapist- now run by HCRG Group
- The School Medical Team; now run by HCRG Group
- CAMHS; now run by Oxford Health
- The Traveller Support team (EMTAS)
- Early Years Support team, The Pre-School

Any or all of these agencies may be involved in the construction, delivery or review of targets set in children's Individual Learning Plans and My Support Plans in order to ensure children's attainment is raised.

C4 Links with other schools and transfer arrangements

Links are maintained to ensure a smooth transfer on school entry through liaison and visits to local Early Years Settings (including the pre-school). Children are invited to visit us for induction visits in the term before they start school. If necessary, the school liaises with other agencies (such as the Early Years Advisory Team) at this stage.

Children with SEND who transfer from other schools are supported through their induction to the school by the class teacher, SENDCo and by classroom buddies (where appropriate) to ensure that they have a smooth transition.

Liaison from Year 6 to Year 7 ensures a smooth transition. There are usually opportunities for all pupils to visit their prospective Secondary School. Extra visits are arranged if deemed necessary. Staff from Secondary Schools usually visit us and are invited to attend the final annual review of Year 6 pupils with EHCPs for whom the particular school has been named. They may also attend meetings in Year 5 to discuss secondary school options.

Transfer within the school

Teachers liaise closely when pupils transfer to another class within the school. Meetings are arranged between the staff involved in monitoring the pupil's progress and relevant documentation eg ILPs / My Support Plans / EHCP targets are fully shared.

C5 Staff Development

Through the monitoring and evaluating of our provision, the SENDCo, with the Headteacher, will identify any particular professional development needs of the staff. Staff who attend further courses and cluster meetings will feedback on courses attended through staff meetings. Whole staff in-service training sessions are arranged as appropriate, in response to particular needs within the school. The effectiveness of such training will be monitored and evaluated by the SENDCo, and information provided during the annual evaluation of the school's overall SEND provision.

Date of review

This policy was reviewed in January 2025