



**Wellington
Primary**

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy

Approved by: Debbie Norton & CoG

Date: September 2023

Last reviewed on: September 2022

Next review due by: September 2024

Introduction

Wellington Primary School has a named SENDCO (Mrs L Gleeson) and an appointed named School Governor for SEND (Mrs Satbir Sidhu). They ensure that the Wellington Special Educational Needs policy works within the guidelines and inclusion policies of the Code of Practice (2014), the Local Education Authority and other policies current within the school.

Here it is the belief that all children have an equal right to a full and rounded education, which will enable them to unlock their future. We use our best endeavours to secure special educational provision for pupils for whom this is required. In name that which is additional to and different from that provided within our already quality first curriculum; to better respond to the four areas of need identified in the SEND Code of Practice (September 2014).

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Social, mental and emotional health
- Sensory/physical

What are special educational needs?

A child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability, which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A learning difficulty or disability is a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age. Special educational provision means educational or training provision that is 'additional to, or different from', that made generally for others of the same age in a mainstream setting in England.... (also including) Health care provision or social care provision, which educates or trains a child or young person, is to be treated as special educational provision. **Code of Practice 2014**

Children may be offered additional support, through small group or 1:1 activity, in order to boost their academic progress and/or self-esteem/confidence.

The school recognises that the needs of high achieving children should also be catered for and recognised as a 'special educational need'.

This SEND policy details how, at Wellington, we will do our best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs and that those needs are known to all who are likely to work with them. We will ensure that teachers are able to identify and provide for those pupils with special educational needs, allowing them to join in all school activities alongside peers who do not have special educational needs.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of this policy are:

- To create an environment that meets the special educational needs of each child in order that they can achieve their current and future learning potential and engage in activities alongside peers who do not have SEND
- To request, monitor and respond to parents/carers and pupil's views in order to evidence high levels of confidence and partnership

- To make clear the expectations of all partners in the process
- To ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need, through well targeted continuing professional development
- To ensure pupils with medical conditions have full inclusion in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of all staff in providing for children's special educational needs
- Through reasonable adjustments, enable all children to have full access to all elements of the school curriculum
- To work in cooperation and productive partnerships with the Local Education Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Through all subjects we ensure that the school meets the needs of all, taking account gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, language, sexual orientation, age, ability, disability and social circumstances. It is important that in this school we meet the diverse needs of pupils to ensure inclusion for all and that all pupils are prepared for full participation in a multi-ethnic society. We also measure and assess impact regularly through meetings with our support staff and class teachers to ensure all children have equal access to success across all subjects.

Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that 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

Teachers respond to children's needs by:

- providing support for children who need help with a variety of different needs such as communication, literacy, numeracy or social understanding.
- 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 self –regulation and behaviour, in order to take part in learning effectively and safely
- helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma, anxiety or depression, in order to take part in learning alongside their peers

Identification, Assessment and Provision

Provision for children with special educational needs is a matter for the whole school. The governing body, the school's Headteacher, the SENDCO and all other members of staff, particularly class teachers and teaching assistants, have important day-to-day responsibilities.

The school will assess each child's current levels of attainment on entry in order to ensure that they build on the patterns of learning and experience already established during the child's pre-school or previous education. If the child already has an identified special educational need, this information may be transferred from other partners in their Early Years or previous setting and the class teacher and SENDCO will use this information to:

- Provide starting points for the development of an appropriate curriculum.
- Identify and focus attention on action to support the child within the class.
- Use the assessment processes to identify any learning difficulties.
- Ensure ongoing observation and assessments provide regular feedback about the child's achievements and experiences, in order to form the basis for planning the next steps of the child's learning.

The identification and assessment of the special educational needs of children whose first language is not English requires particular care. Where there is uncertainty about a particular child, a teacher will look carefully at all aspects of the child's performance in different subjects to establish whether the problems are due to limitations in their command of English or have arisen from special educational needs.

The Role of The SENDCO and what Provision Looks like at Wellington

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator's [SENDCO] responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND policy.
- Co-ordinating provision for children with SEND.
- Liaising with and advising fellow teachers.
- Overseeing the records of all children with SEND.
- Liaising with parents of children with SEND.
- Contributing to the in-service training of all staff.
- Liaising with local Secondary schools so that support is provided for Y6 pupils as they prepare to transfer. Similarly liaising with other settings and Early Years providers to ensure smooth transitions at the beginning of or during the school year.
- Liaising with external agencies including the LEA's support and educational psychology services, health and social services and voluntary bodies.
- Co-ordinating and developing school based strategies for the identification and review of children with SEND.
- Making regular visits to classrooms to monitor the progress of children on the SEND Support Register.

Monitoring Children's Progress

The school's system for observing and assessing the progress of individual children will provide clarification of areas where a child requires support. Under these circumstances, teachers may need to consult the SENDCO to consider what else might be done to accelerate progress or manage social emotional

behaviours. This review might lead to the conclusion that the pupil requires help over and above that which is normally available within the particular class or subject.

The key test of the need for action is that current rates of progress are inadequate.

Inadequate progress can be classed as that which would see a child achieving significantly below the National Expectations for a child's age, or a child who needs significant and frequent support in class in order to meet the expectations of his or her National Curriculum year group.

Adequate progress can be identified as that which:

- Prevents the attainment gap between the child and his peers from widening.
- Closes the attainment gap between the child and his peers.
- Better the child's previous rate of progress.
- Ensures access to the full curriculum.
- Demonstrates an improvement in self-help, social or personal skills.
- Demonstrates improvements in the child's wellbeing or relationships with others in the school community.

In order to help children with special educational needs, Wellington will adopt a graduated response. This may see us using specialist expertise if as a school we feel that our interventions are still not having the agreed desired impact on the individual. The school will record the steps taken to meet the needs of individual children through the use of a Personal Progress Programme and a whole school wide provision map. The Class Teachers will have responsibility for ensuring that records are kept and available when needed. If we refer a child for an Education Health and Care Plan, we will provide the LEA with a record of our work with the child to date.

When any concern is initially noticed it is the responsibility of the class teacher to take steps to address the issue. Parents may be consulted and specific intervention put in place and monitored for a period of 6 -12 weeks.

The class teacher, after discussion with the SENDCO, will then provide additional interventions that are more targeted than those provided as part of the school's quality first curriculum. The child will be given individual learning targets which will be applied within the classroom. These targets will be monitored by the class teacher and teaching assistants within the class and reviewed formally with the SENDCO, parents and young person.

Reasons for a child being added to the SEND support register may include the fact that he/she:

- Makes little or no academic progress, over a monitored period of time.
- Shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematics skills, which result in lower and increasingly wider attainment gaps between the young person and their peers.
- Presents persistent social emotional, mental wellbeing or behavioural difficulties which are not improved by the relationship 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 when engaging with their peers.

Partnership with parents

Partnership plays a key role in enabling children and young people with SEND to achieve their current and future potential. Our school community parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of their child's needs. All parents of children with special educational needs will be treated as partners and given support to play an active and valued role in their child's education.

Children and young people with special educational needs often have a unique knowledge of their own needs and hold clear views about the types of support they require. They will be encouraged to contribute to the assessment of their needs and the review and transition process where appropriate.

The school website contains further details of our work with special educational needs; the SEND Information Report includes the arrangements made for children in our school with special educational needs.

At all points of the special needs process, the school keeps parents fully informed and involved. We take account of the wishes, feelings and knowledge of parents at all stages.

We encourage parents to make an active contribution to their child's education and have regular meetings each term to share the progress of all children, including those with special needs, with their parents. We inform the parents of any outside intervention, and share the process of decision-making by providing clear information relating to the education of their child.

Parents always have access to the SENDCO through a school email address and parents and children have access to the school website which has a dedicated section for Special Educational Needs.

The Nature of Intervention

The SENDCO and the child's class teacher will decide on the action needed to help the child progress in the light of earlier assessments. This may include:

- Different learning materials or specialist equipment.
- Small group or individual support, which may involve small groups or individuals being withdrawn to work with the SENDCO; or, with TA support.
- Extra adult time to devise/administer the nature of the planned intervention and also to monitor its effectiveness.
- Staff development and training to introduce more effective strategies.

After initial discussions with the SENDCO, the child's class teacher will be responsible for working with the child on a daily basis and ensuring delivery of any individualised programme in the classroom. Parents will continue to be consulted and kept informed of the action taken to help their child, and of the outcome of any action. Parents will be invited to meet regularly with the class teacher, SENDCO or external agencies involved on a termly basis.

The SENDCO will support further assessment of the child where necessary; assisting in planning for their future needs in discussion with colleagues and parents.

The use of outside agencies

These services may become involved if a child continues to make little or no progress despite considerable input and adaptations. They will use the child's records, with parental consent, in order to establish which strategies have already been employed and which targets have previously been set.

The external specialist may act in an advisory capacity, or provide additional specialist assessment or be involved in teaching the child directly. The child's personal progress programme will set out strategies for supporting the child. These will be implemented, at least in part, in the normal classroom setting. The delivery of the interventions recorded in the programme continues to be the responsibility of the class teacher.

Outside agencies may become involved if the child:

- Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a monitored period.
- Continues working at National Curriculum expectations substantially below that expected of children of a similar age.
- Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematical skills.
- Has emotional, mental wellbeing or behavioural difficulties which regularly and substantially interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class group.
- Has sensory or physical needs and requires additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service.
- Has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and cause substantial barriers to learning.
- Despite having received intervention, the child continues to fall behind the level of his/her peers.

School Request for Education Health and Care Plans

A request will be made by the school to the LEA if the child has demonstrated significant cause for concern. The LEA will be given information about the child's progress over time, and will also receive documentation in relation to the child's special educational needs and any other action taken to deal with those needs, including any resources or special arrangements put in place.

The evidence will include:

- Previous progress programmes.
- Records of regular reviews and their outcomes.
- Records of the child's health and medical history where appropriate.
- National Curriculum attainment in core subjects.
- Education and other assessments, for example from a SALT, OT or educational psychologist.
- Views of the parents.

The parents of any child who is referred for an EHCP will be kept fully informed of the progress of the referral. Children with an EHCP will be reviewed each term in addition to the statutory annual assessment. When this coincides with transfer to secondary school, the SENDCO from the secondary school will be informed of the outcome of the review.

Individual learning plans

Strategies employed to enable the child to progress will be recorded within an Individual learning plan which will include information about:

- Basic information regarding the child – DOB, languages spoken, Pupil Premium entitlement etc..
- An overview of strategies used in school
- Current provision

Access to the Curriculum

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated and provides scaffolds, in order to allow pupils to understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities. They should experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.

Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs. Lessons have clear learning objectives and staff differentiate and scaffold work appropriately. Teaching staff will use assessment to inform the next stage of learning.

By breaking down the existing national expectations of attainment into finely graded steps and targets, we ensure that children experience success. All children on the Special Needs Support register have a personal learning programme.

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences as that of their peers without SEND. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom situation. There are times though when, to maximise learning, we ask the children to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom.

Allocation of resources

The SENDCO is responsible for the operational management of the specified and agreed resourcing for special needs provision within the school, including the provision for children with Education Health and Care plans.

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

The Headteacher and the SENDCO meet regularly to agree on how to use funds directly related to EHCP's.

The role of the governing body

The governing body challenges the school and its members to secure necessary provision for any pupil identified as having special educational needs. They ask

probing questions to ensure all teachers are aware of the importance of providing for these children and ensure that funds and resources are used effectively.

The governing body has decided that children with special educational needs will be admitted to the school in line with the school's agreed admissions policy.

The Governing Body reviews this policy annually and considers any amendments in light of the annual review findings. The Headteacher reports the outcome of the review to the full governing body.

The named Governor for SEND meets with the SENDCo termly to evaluate current provision – a report is given to Governors at termly committee meetings.

Monitoring and evaluation

The SENDCO monitors the movement of children within the SEND system in school and provides staff and governors with regular summaries of the impact of the policy on the practice of the school. They are involved in supporting teachers and in drawing up learning programmes for children. The SENDCO and the Headteacher hold regular meetings to review the work of the school in this area.

Signed: Louise Gleeson

Date: September 2023

Review: September 2024