

**Foston CE VC and Terrington CE VA  
Primary School Confederation**

**Policy for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

**Agreed by governors.....**

**Review date.....**

**This policy is in line with the final draft Code of Practice which will be ratified by  
parliament for use from September 2014**

**Abbreviations used**

<b>ASCROSS</b>	<b>Autism Outreach Support Service</b>
<b>CoP</b>	<b>Code of Practice</b>
<b>EP</b>	<b>Educational Psychologist</b>
<b>EMS</b>	<b>Enhanced Mainstream School</b>
<b>ESW</b>	<b>Educational Social Work Service</b>
<b>SEND</b>	<b>Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities</b>
<b>SENCo</b>	<b>Special Educational Needs Coordinator</b>
<b>TA</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant</b>

## School's aims and values

All children and young people are entitled to an education that enables them to make progress so that they achieve their best, become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education or training (6.1 final draft CoP)

### **Objectives of the policy**

The aims and objectives 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 make clear the expectations of all partners in the process;
- 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 school curriculum;
- to ensure that parents or carers are able to play their part in supporting their child's education;
- to ensure that our children have a voice in this process.

In our school, 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 that they are a valued part of our school community. 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 communication, language and literacy;
- planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all their senses and of varied experiences;
- planning for children's full participation in learning, and in physical and practical activities;
- helping children to manage their behaviour and to take part in learning effectively and safely;
- helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning;
- ensuring that intervention is flexible and quickly supportive of need.

### **Philosophy**

**The school community believes that:**

- All pupils are equally valued and the school has high aspirations for all.
- All pupils are the shared responsibility of all staff.

- All pupils are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which is personalised and focused on outcomes.
- Teaching and learning will be adapted to suit the needs of learners and recognise different routes to achievement.
- Early and accurate identification is essential.
- There will be a flexible continuum of provision for pupils with SEND.
- SEND and high needs funding will be used efficiently to ensure good progress of pupils with additional needs.
- Staff will be given appropriate training to allow them to meet a wide range of needs.
- Parents will be fully involved as partners in their child's education.
- Pupils will give their views on what learning is like for them.
- Governors should have access to information which will allow them to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the SEND policy.

## **Principles**

A child is defined as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made or if he or she finds it much harder to learn than children of the same age.

A learning difficulty means that the child either:

- a) has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age.
- b) has a disability, which either prevents or hinders the child from making use of the educational facilities which are provided for children of the same age in a mainstream school.

Special educational provision means educational provision, which is additional to, or different from, the provision made generally for children of the same age in a mainstream school.

(xiii, xiv CoP 2014)

Evidence suggests that approximately 75% of disabled children also have a special educational need and these pupils are also protected by the Equalities Act 2010.

Mainstream educational settings must use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision called for by the child's or young person's needs.

Early identification is vital. In many cases, children join us with their needs already assessed. All children are assessed when they enter our school, so that we can build upon their prior learning. We use this information to provide starting points for the development of an appropriate curriculum for all our children.

If our assessments show that a child may have a learning difficulty, we use a range of strategies that make full use of all available classroom and school resources. The child's class teacher 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 or carers informed and draw upon them for additional information. The Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), if not already involved, will become involved if the teacher and parents/carers feel that the child would benefit from further support. The SENCO will then take the lead in further assessments of the child's needs.

## **Procedures**

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable them to:

- understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities;
- 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; we differentiate work appropriately, and we use assessment to inform the next stage of learning.

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. 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.

Class teachers will record, in an Individual Provision Map (IPM), the strategies used to support the child. The IPM will show the short-term target set for the child, and the teaching strategies to be used. It will also indicate the planned outcomes and the date for the plan to be reviewed. In most cases, this review will take place once a term.

If the IPM review identifies that support is needed from outside services, we will consult parents/carers prior to any support being actioned. In most cases, children will be seen in school by external support services. External support services will provide information for the child's new IPM. The new strategies in the IPM will, wherever possible, be implemented within the child's normal classroom setting.

If the child continues to demonstrate significant cause for concern, a request for statutory assessment will be made to the LA. A range of written evidence about the child will support the request.

In our school, the SENCO:

- manages the day-to-day operation of the policy;
- co-ordinates the provision for and manages the responses to children's special needs;
- supports and advises colleagues;
- oversees the records of all children with special educational needs;
- acts as the link with parents and carers;
- acts as the link with external agencies and other support agencies;
- monitors and evaluates the special educational needs provision, and reports to the governing body;

- manages a range of resources, both human and material, to enable appropriate provision to be made for children with special educational needs;
- contributes to the professional development of all staff.

The Headteacher has the overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND.

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

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

The governing body does its best to secure the necessary provision for any pupil identified as having special educational needs. The governors ensure that all teachers are aware of the importance of providing for these children. They consult the LA and other schools, when appropriate, and report annually to parents and carers on the success of the school's policy for children with special educational needs. The governing body ensures that parents or carers are notified of any decision by the school that SEN provision is to be made for their child.

The governing body has identified a governor to have specific oversight of the school's provision for pupils with special educational needs. 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 or the new 0-25 Education, Health and Care plan (EHC Plan) are aware of the nature of the pupils needs.

The SEN governor ensures that all governors are aware of the school's SEN provision, including the deployment of funding, equipment and personnel.

### **Whole school approaches:**

- All staff contribute to the completion of whole school provision maps and ensure that strategies are implemented to ensure quality first teaching for all;
- Regular communication takes place between class/ subject teachers, TAs, SENCo, parents and pupils to ensure good progress.
- All staff have appropriate access to up to date information about pupils with additional needs.
- The SENCo offers advice on differentiation to all staff.
- Pupils are supported alongside their peers whenever possible.
- All pupils are encouraged to join in extra-curricular activities.
- All students have individualised targets.
- The training budget for staff is transparent.

- Provision for pupils with SEND is reflected throughout school self-evaluation.
- The complaints procedure is transparent and easily available to parents.
- Good access arrangements are made so that all pupils can demonstrate their full potential in tests and exams.
- School uses the local authority's Local Offer to inform the SEN Information Report. This is published on the school website as part of the governors' SEN information report\*.

### **Individualised approaches:**

- Additional interventions will be implemented as necessary and these interventions will be monitored and evaluated.
- Additional help will be sought appropriately from EPs, EMS, ESWS, ASCOSS etc.
- Some pupils will have individualised provision maps, behaviour plans, risk assessments or health care plans.
- Person-centred reviews will be held regularly with families, considering acceptable meeting times. The parents and pupil will be respectfully listened to and their views will inform personalised learning pathways.
- TAs will be trained so that they can encourage and support pupils, regardless of communication needs, to make their views known.
- Transition arrangements will be personalised to support additional need.
- The SENCo will be appropriately qualified and have the skills required to meet statutory duties.
- Designated finances will be used appropriately to meet needs without reducing independence.
- Staff training will reflect the needs of the current school community.
- Parents will be given clear routes to access support, and be encouraged to bring a supporter to meetings if desired.
- The school will follow the latest statutory guidance, currently the CoP 2014.

### **Monitoring and evaluating performance**

Monitoring and evaluating the progress of pupils with SEN is an integral part of our whole school system to monitor and evaluate achievement, teaching, behaviour and leadership and management. However, to ensure good life outcomes for this vulnerable group, additional, focused monitoring takes place. This includes:

- Monitoring and evaluating of interventions, including their value for money.
- Forensic analysis of data examining the progress of different vulnerable groups.

- Learning walks and pupil interviews to evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies listed on provision maps.
- Completion of statutory functions by the SENCo related to referral for statement/ education health care plans, termly meetings and annual reviews.
- Work scrutiny with selected pupil groups.
- Focused monitoring by the SENCo, LA adviser, SEN governor.
- Detailed discussions with families and pupils.
- Progress through a variety of transitions.
- Attendance and exclusions analysis.
- Feedback from support agencies and Ofsted.
- Local authority analysis of information and data about the school.

**The governing body evaluate the work of the school by:**

- Appointing an SEN governor who is a champion for pupils with SEND.
- Monitoring data with respect to vulnerable groups.
- Challenging the leadership through informed questioning.
- Undertaking learning walks in school with a focus on SEND.
- Meeting with parents and pupils.
- Ensuring there is appropriate continuing professional development taking place for all staff with regard to SEND.
- Holding the school to account for its use of SEN funding.

Formulated.....

Approved by governors.....

Review date.....

\*The SEN information report

6.79 The governing bodies of maintained schools and maintained nursery schools and the proprietors of academy schools **must** publish information on their websites about the implementation of the governing body's or the proprietor's policy for pupils with SEN. The information published should be updated annually and any changes to the information occurring during the year should be updated as soon as possible. The information required is set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 and **must** include information about: the kinds of SEN that are provided for, policies for identifying children and young people with SEN and assessing their needs, including the name and contact details of the SENCO (mainstream schools), arrangements for consulting parents of children with SEN and involving them in their child's education, arrangements for consulting young people with SEN and

involving them in their education, arrangements for assessing and reviewing children and young people's progress towards outcomes. This should include the opportunities available to work with parents and young people as part of this assessment and review, arrangements for supporting children and young people in moving between phases of education and in preparing for adulthood. As young people prepare for adulthood outcomes should reflect their ambitions, which could include higher education, employment, independent living and participation in society, the approach to teaching children and young people with SEN, how adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of children and young people with SEN, the expertise and training of staff to support children and young people with SEN, including how specialist expertise will be secured, evaluating the effectiveness of the provision made for children and young people with SEN, how children and young people with SEN are enabled to engage in activities available with children and young people in the school who do not have SEN, support for improving emotional and social development. This should include extra pastoral support arrangements for listening to the views of children and young people with SEN and measures to prevent bullying, how the school involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting children and young people's SEN and supporting their families, arrangements for handling complaints from parents of children with SEN about the provision made at the school.