



Special
Educational
Needs and
Disabilities
(SEND)
Information
Report 2022-



2023



**BROOKFIELD
PRIMARY SCHOOL**





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Our Approach

At Brookfields, we are passionate about embracing the diversity of our school community and supporting our children to be kind and understanding people. Our aim is to include every child in all aspects of school-life so that they can reach their full potential.

In order to make academic progress, we first need to get to know our children well.

Becoming familiar with their unique personalities is what helps us understand their individual needs. Once we know our children, we can embrace and harness the many strengths they have to offer and identify any barriers to their learning.


Alongside Higher Quality Teaching, adjustments are made to ensure all children can access a broad and balanced curriculum. As detailed in the SEND Code of Practice we follow the graduated approach of Assess, Plan, Do, Review.





Areas of Need

We understand that each child's needs are unique. The next slide gives an overview of the four broad areas of need. It is important for us to remember that many children will present with challenges in more than one area, some will have difficulties in all areas and, typically, children's areas of need will fluctuate with their development over time.






Four Broad Areas of Need

Communication
and Interaction

Social, Emotional,
and Mental Health
Difficulties


Cognition and
Learning

Sensory/Physical
Needs





Communication and Interaction

- Show a difficulty in communicating with others
 - Can range between speaking, listening, attention, and social interaction difficulties
 - Show difficulty in either a single area of communication and interaction, or face difficulties in a range of areas
 - Children on the autistic spectrum (AS) usually present difficulties with social interaction, language, communication, imagination, and interacting with others
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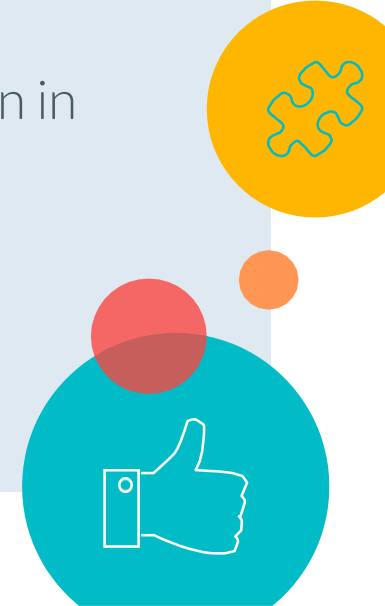
Cognition and Learning

- Children learn at a different pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation
- Children have different levels of learning difficulty, including Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD), Severe Learning Difficulty (SLD), and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties





Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Difficulties

- These difficulties can manifest in different ways (e.g. “Challenging Behaviour”)
 - These behaviours can reflect underlying mental health difficulties, such as anxiety
 - Children may have disorders such as Attention Deficit Disorder or Attachment Disorder
 - Clear processes should be in place to support children in managing their feelings and behaviour
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Sensory/Physical Needs

- A disability can prevent or hinder a child's access to the play and educational facilities provided
- These may be age-related, and can fluctuate over time
- Disabilities include visual impairment, hearing impairment, and specialist support may be required to support the child's learning





EVERY Teacher is a Teacher of SEND

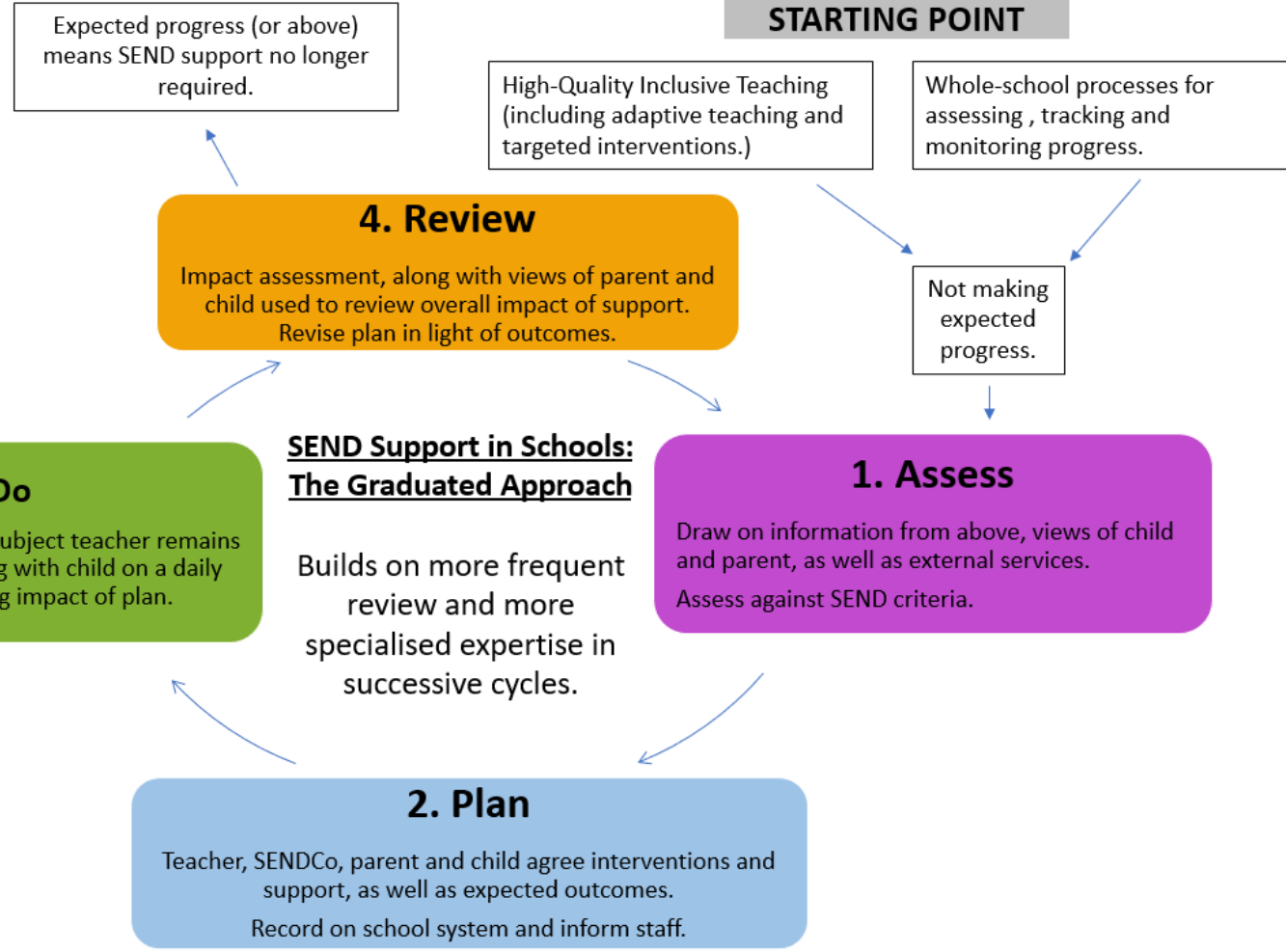
– Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (2015)

At Brookfields, teachers provide high-quality, inclusive learning tailored to the needs of each class. If a child's needs reach beyond Higher Quality Standard then we follow the assess, plan, do cycle detailed further on the next slide.

Using what we know about the child, we set specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound (SMART) targets that are communicated with parents and reviewed termly. Each term, we ask parents and children for their views on the progress so far and welcome family involvement in setting new targets.



The Graduated Approach: An Overview



The Graduated Approach in Practice

Parent and/or teacher raises a concern about a child and whether adaptations need to be made to the environment and/or learning

After 2-3 terms, the SENDCo and class teacher will review the ILPs and conduct an internal observation/assessment. In consultation with the family, they may make a referral to:

- An Educational Psychologist
- The Communication and Autism Team (CAT)
- Pupil and School Support
- A paediatrician
- A speech and language therapist.
- Other specialists

Additional provision, interventions and adaptations are made according to the needs of the child. The class teacher writes an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) with up to 4 targets to be reviewed termly with families.

Once reviewed, if the child has made good progress towards their targets and no longer needs additional adjustments they no longer need an ILP. Otherwise, new targets are put in place and the graduated approach continues.


Implement recommendations made by external agencies and use them to inform ILP targets. Place child on SEND register.



SEND Register

Of the 325 pupils we have at Brookfields, 44 are on our SEN register. That's over 13% of our school community.

Children will be added to the SEND register when they have a persistent need or diagnosis which requires support that is additional to/different from pupils of the same age. This includes but is not limited to:

- Children with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP)
 - Children with a formal diagnosis
 - Children who have been assessed by an external specialist and are receiving follow up support in the area/s of difficulty identified.
 - Children who are presenting with a high level, persistent or complex need requiring immediate intervention.
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A fully inclusive mainstream school



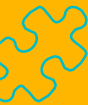
Equipment

Reasonable adjustments are made in school according to the needs of each child. Examples of these include:

- Fidget tools
- Writing slopes
- Pencil grips
- Use of word processing
- Now and Next board/box
- Task boards
- Wobble cushions

Accessibility

- Most of our classrooms are on one level and have full wheelchair access.
- For children who need support away from the busy classroom environment, we in the early stages of developing a nurture room with individual workstations, a calm sensory area and a physical are with room for sensory circuits.






SEND Policy

Our trust SEND policy sets out the vision, values and broader aims and arrangements for pupils with SEND.

[Create SEND Policy](#)





Developing Independence

Maximising independence is hugely important for our SEND learners. We think carefully about the roles adults in school play in developing self-confidence and are mindful of the fine line between support and dependency. Our long-term aim is to enhance children's opportunities, and to give them self-satisfaction and conviction to fulfil their ambitions.





Training and Staff Development

Last year, to support the number of children with communication and language needs, all staff undertook initial training in Makaton signing. We plan to upskill staff further in this area in 2023.

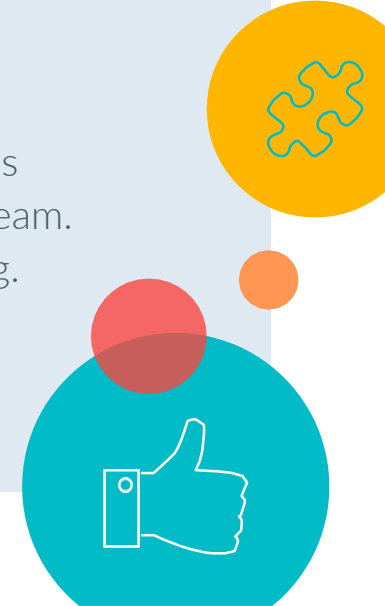
All teaching and support staff received “Team Teach” training and “Making Sense of Autism” training accredited by the Autism Education Trust in November 2022.

Support staff are due to take part in training provided by the Communication and Autism Team in the TEACCH approach and how to set up effective workstations for SEND learners.

The SENDCo is due to undertake training specific to supporting children with Downs Syndrome in December.

Emotion coaching is planned for the Spring term 2023.

Teachers and support staff are regularly consulted on their development needs through questionnaires and professional dialogue with the school leadership team. Alongside accredited training, we ensure staff receive regular in-house training.

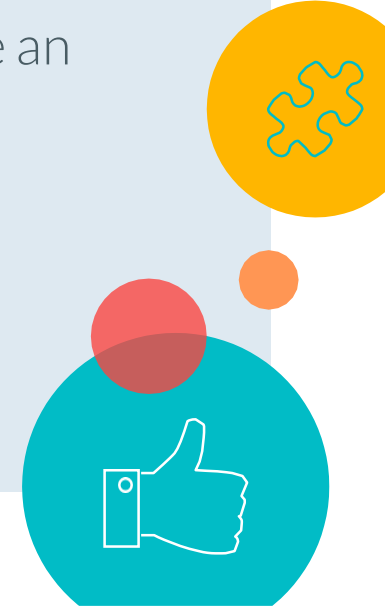




Family and Pupil Voice - Family

Families know and understand their children best. Whilst we can provide parents with advice and support for their child, we also highly value the expertise and insight they offer us to build a supportive and positive relationship.

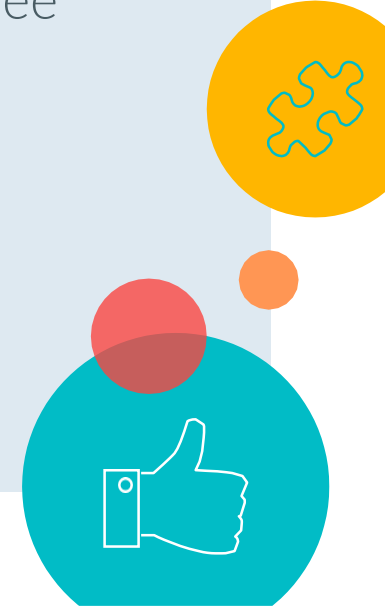
We aim to be flexible in developing communication at times that fit in with family-life and work commitments and have an “open-door” policy via email and telephone.





Family and Pupil Voice - Pupil

Children are at the heart of the decisions we make as a school. We recognise that developing and capturing pupil voice is an area we need and want to improve. We plan to establish this further through:

- Having SEND pupils represented on our school council.
 - Conducting questionnaires with our SEND children to see how they feel about the support they receive.
 - Including KS2 children in ILP and EHCP reviews.
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The Local Offer



The current provision in education, health and social-care is available to SEND children and their families in the form of the Birmingham local offer. The aim is to make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving SEND children and their parents in its development and review. As some of our children and their families are from outside of Birmingham, hence details of the Sandwell and Dudley Local Offer are below too:

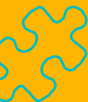
[Local Offer Birmingham | SEND Advice and Information.](#)

[Sandwell Local Offer | Family Information Service Hub](#)

[Dudley's Local Offer | Dudley Council](#)

Here you will find:

- Childcare, including suitable provision for disabled children and those with SEN
- Sports, arts and other clubs available in Birmingham
- Transition guidance to support children between phases of education.
- Travel arrangements to and from schools.
- The process for resolving disagreements and/or mediation.
- Details of how parents and young people can request an assessment for an EHC Plan



Moving On



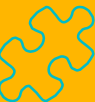
Transitions can be exciting for both children and families but can also trigger anxiety and uncertainty. Our aim is to prepare children for any challenges they may encounter, whether they are moving year groups, key stage or making the move to secondary school.

For moving between classes and key stage we prepare our SEND children by:

- Providing personalised transition booklets for new phases/class including photos of new staff, classrooms and common areas.
- Consulting with the child and their family about their views and suggested approaches.
- Visiting the new class and teacher prior to the actual move.
- Information sharing with the next teacher and any other staff working with the child.

For moving on to secondary school:

- Holding discussions with the child and their family about choices for secondary provision.
- Organising additional visits to the chosen secondary School with staff from Brookfields.
- Inviting the secondary SENCo to the year 6 EHCP review.
- Preparation transition booklet for secondary school, completed in consultation with the child, addressing any concerns or fears they may have.



Complaints

- We are proud of the support we give to our SEND children and their families. However, we are a reflective team and are always looking for ways to improve
- If you have any queries, complaints or concerns about our SEND provision, please email Alex Bird (Assistant Head and SENDCo) a.bird@brookfields.createpartnership.org.uk
- You can also pop into the school office and arrange a time to speak with us.
- We are fully committed to listening to your thoughts and finding positive ways forward.