

**Special Educational**

**Needs and Disability**

**Policy**

**Review date: Spring Term 2022**

**Mission Statement**

**Our primary aims are:**

* **To offer a secure and carefully structured environment, where disaffected and/or permanently excluded pupils develop as confident and independent learners able to** **achieve their best outcomes.**
* **To facilitate and support the successful reintegration of pupils into schools.**
* **To promote the values of citizenship, courage, friendship, equality, determination, inspiration, mutual respect and tolerance**

**Curriculum Intent**

Our curriculum enables our pupils to be:

* *Be Confident learners*
* *Be independent learners*
* *Achieve their best outcomes*
* *Be emotionally resilient and regulate/manage their emotions*
* *Communicate successfully with others and develop positive relationships.*
* *Know how to keep themselves safe and healthy – physical and mental health*
* *To further understand their rights and responsibilities as a global citizen*
* *To participate in a wide range of cultural experiences and enrichment*
* *Learn how to manage in a technological world of study and work*

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

**1.1** This policy embraces the principles of inclusive education as expounded by the current Code of Practice (issued Jan 2015), specifically ‘*The presumption of mainstream education is supported by provisions safeguarding the interests of all children and young people and ensuring that the preferences of the child’s parents or the young person for where they should be educated are met wherever possible’*. (Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years, January 2015) Regulation 51 of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations (2014), The Equality Act 2010 (including paragraph 3 of schedule 10),the Children’s and Families Act 2014 –notably sections 69(2).

The Code of Practice states ‘Schools have additional duties under the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014. Schools must publish more detailed information about their arrangements for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with SEN. Therefore, KPA’s SEN Offer is available at:

http://www.kenningtonpark.org.uk/page/264/SEN-Report.aspx

<http://www.kenningtonpark.org.uk/media/10288/sen-policy-2016-17.pdf>

**1.2** All pupils, irrespective of their special educational needs will have equal access to the curriculum delivered at Kennington Park Academy **(KPA).**

# 2.0 AIMS OF THE POLICY

* To provide a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum
* To identify and address special educational needs within KPA and to create a consistent support structure
* To develop a support system based on the “Code of Practice” for SEN
* To promote a positive learning environment to offer the maximum opportunity for all children to achieve their full potential
* To provide equality of opportunity regardless of race, gender, creed, class or sexual orientation
* To deploy a range of teaching strategies suited to age, ability and aptitude
* To offer a range of relevant learning experiences and a variety of teaching resources to meet a variety of needs
* To ensure those with SEN are appropriately integrated into the life of KPA
* To ensure all staff recognise their responsibilities to those with SEN
* To involve parents and carers fully in the education of their children
* To promote a partnership with parents
* To promote a partnership with specialist support services e.g. Educational

Psychology, Speech and Language Therapists, Integrated Therapists, Social Care and Health Professionals

* To monitor, evaluate and review this policy

* 1. **IDENTIFICATION OF SEN and ADMISSIONS**

* 1. If a child is referred to KPA, either by Local Authorities or by a school, they are then considered to have special educational needs and they are placed on the KPA SEN register.

* 1. The Local Authority may occasionally refer a child with an EHCP to KPA, or a child will be placed with us on an assessment placement basis.

* 1. Any pupil who has been dual-registered or is in full-time attendance at KPA as a result of social, emotional, mental health difficulties will *usually* be considered to have Special Educational Needs. A pupil will be deemed to have learning difficulties if he/she had a plan target for a learning difficulty at his/her mainstream school, or, if during initial assessment at KPA, he/she is found to have greater significant difficulty in any aspect of learning compared to his or her peers in mainstream school.

* 1. KPA follows the current model of consultation, assessment and support as advised by the revised Code of Practice (2015).

# 4.0 PLANNING FOR SEN

**4.1** KPA is committed to addressing the social, emotional and behavioural needs of all our pupils. Class teams working closely with each student assess individuals weekly on the Social Independence Scales (SIS). The areas assessed on SIS are:

* **Managing my emotions**
* **Communication**
* **Resilience**

**4.2** Whether a student can meet the objectives on the SIS is considered crucial in getting the pupils back into mainstream or special education. Where a student shows a high area of need in a particular area, support is offered in the form of integrated or Speech and Language therapy. The SIS area is worked on with a therapist and reflected on throughout the process to ensure progress in the area of need. Assessment at the end of therapeutic intervention determines if the support can be withdrawn or whether further intervention is required. If insufficient progress is made in these targeted areas, even after therapeutic support, then SEN Support cycles are compiled to evidence the targets focussed on. These cycles are reviewed every term based on SIS data and academic data sourced from Go4schools assessments. Once three cycles have been completed, these form the basis of evidence for an EHCP assessment. If a pupil already has an Education, Health Care Plan, the SIS targets will be reflected in the EHCP outcomes.

**4.3** We understand that all of our pupils have emotional needs, whether or not they have or need an EHCP. Our ethos and curriculum aims to support the individual emotional needs of all of our pupils.

**4.4** The records of pupils are kept up-to-date. This includes information relating to the pupil’s behavioural and academic achievement. We regularly communicate pupil information to schools through reports, review meetings and Leavers Reports.

**4.5** Differentiated teaching and learning strategies are employed to ensure that individuals make progress. This may include: individual/small group tuition by a staff member, access to electronic devices, external therapeutic support, bespoke resources, including kinaesthetic learning, the use if headphones to block out noise, the reduction or increase of stimulus, movement breaks and short-term targeted intervention packages.

# 5.0 THE ROLE OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR (SENDCO)

* To liaise regularly with all members of staff
* To collaborate with members of staff
* To disseminate information to staff members
* To keep staff up to date with SEN developments and initiatives
* To maintain good working relationships with outside agencies
* To refer pupils for statutory assessment and be responsible for coordinating the necessary information needed for initiating statutory assessment
* To ensure that outcomes from EHCPs are being worked towards and met
* To analyse data from SIS and allocate relevant therapy and support
* To coordinate Annual Reviews
* To monitor the implementation of the policy
* To maintain and implement the publication of the Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
* To attend and contribute to the Lambeth SENCO Network

# 6.0 ASSESSMENT OF SEN

**6.1** Various forms of assessment are used within KPA to identify areas of educational need (see assessment policy). The SENCO works closely with the Behaviour Lead, in-house Speech and Language Therapist and Integrated Therapist to assess the needs of the students. Detailed advice is sought where necessary from other agencies, such as Educational Psychology and other specialist support teams.

**6.2** Information and assessments from previous and current schools are used to place pupils within the SEN register and to assist with the holding of annual reviews and requests for Statutory Assessment.

**7.0 INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION**

# 7.1 KPA Aims

**At Kennington Park Academy we aim to:**

* Seek timely and well planned reintegration into mainstream schooling
* Enable children to reach their full potential in all aspects of the curriculum
* Develop an awareness and a tolerance that will help them to live together in a community and to show sensitivity to the differences between one another
* Develop a positive sense of moral responsibility and self-discipline
* Develop a love of learning and a desire to continue to expand their knowledge and skills throughout life
* Help the children develop physically by encouraging participation in physical activity at all playtimes and during P.E lessons
* Encourage children to be responsible for looking after their own health and fitness across the whole curriculum but specifically in PSHE and PE lessons
* Arouse their interest in their history and cultural heritage and to help them appreciate and respect their environment
* Involve parents as active participants in their children’s education
* To actively promote fundamental British Values

* 1. Where a child has an Education Health Care Plan which identifies special schooling, we aim to integrate the child into an appropriate setting as identified in the SEN statement. This placement would normally be identified by the local authority’s SEN personnel. We will do this in liaison with parents or carer’s wishes and with the advice of professionals and outside agencies.

* 1. The curriculum will be delivered within our classroom context and will offer pupils the opportunity to develop at an appropriate pace and in relation to their age, ability and aptitude.

* 1. Every effort will be made to include all pupils in the many aspects of life at KPA, which offers the individual the best possible opportunity to succeed.

# 8.0 PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS

**8.1** Regular contact is maintained with parents/carers. Parents/carers are encouraged to take part in the behaviour management of pupils in KPA and to share strategies for behaviour and learning at home.

**8.2** Staff ensure that necessary information is passed onto parents/carers. For example, if a pupil achieves a particular target or shows significant improvement. Staff also ensure that parents/ carers are kept informed of any lack or improvement or significant deterioration of their child’s progress. In the first instance this is done through the child’s Home/School Book.

**8.3** Parents/ carers are invited to KPA regularly to discuss their child’s progress, to see work that has been carried out and to be encouraged to see that education is a partnership in which they have an important supporting role.

**8.4** Pupil attendance is monitored daily and issues in regard to non-attendance are rigorously addressed to ensure that children are attending regularly. Poor attendance, disrupted lessons and exclusions have usually played a part in the difficulties which pupils at KPA are trying to overcome. Parents/ carers are encouraged to share the belief that consistent attendance and punctuality will contribute to address their child’s special educational needs.

**8.5** Parents are also invited to regular informal meetings where information about SEN issues and the availability of support services is given.

# 9.0 OUTSIDE AGENCIES

**9.1** In addition to the support given to KPA by the Advisory teachers and Reintegration Officers, KPA has continuous liaison with many agencies, including:

* The Lambeth SEN department and other SEN departments where necessary
* The EP assigned to KPA and the EP assigned to a school which has referred the pupil on a dual-registered basis
* EPs assigned to mainstream schools
* School Attendance Services
* Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
* Children’s Services;
* Multi-Agency Teams
* The School Health teams
* The Mary Sheridan Centre;
* Speech and Language Therapists
* Chance UK Mentoring Services
* Youth Offending Service
* Integrated psychotherapists

KPA also invests a substantial amount of time with schools that are reintegrating pupils into their settings.

# 10.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SEND

**10.1** This policy is to be read and implemented with reference to the KPA’s Single Equality Policy Equality Statement.

The focus of these documents is to ensure that all pupils irrespective of gender, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability should have access to all areas of the curriculum.

**10.2** We aim to develop the potential of all our children including those with additional needs by:

* Addressing and managing their social, emotional and mental health needs and presenting behaviour needs
* Targeting their areas of academic difficulty
* Helping them to have more confidence by seeing themselves as successful learners
* Supporting them as individuals who have the ability to change their own behaviour
* Teaching them to feel that they are stakeholders in a society in which they are valued and should value others

# 11.0 ACCESS STATEMENT

**11.1** Our intention is that full and equal access to education will be provided for all pupils, regardless of their disability or special educational needs. This is in line with legislation and recommendations in the Special Needs and Disability Act 2001.

**11.2** The short, medium and long term priorities towards which KPA will be working will be laid out in our Access Plan and Disability Equality Scheme. This will be produced in conjunction with KPA Management Committee and will also refer to the ‘extension to schools’ now linked to the Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

# 12.0 COMPLAINTS

If parents/carers have a complaint, this should be managed by the processes set out in our Complaints Policy. A copy is on the website and a copy can be printed /emailed to parents/carers.

Where parents/carers have specific complaints about the Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) procedure or about the content of their child’s EHC plan –this needs to be taken up with Lambeth SEN department. This is in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice.

For independent advice, parents/carers can contact Chris White or Anita Bey at the *Lambeth Information, Advice and Support Service* on 020 7926 9805 / 1831 or email lambethiass@lambeth.gov.uk

Bernadette Maybanks March 2021