

Ormskirk School

Opportunity. Resilience. Respect.

SEND Information Report



Date: 25/09/24

Review date: 26/09/25

Welcome to Ormskirk School!

At Ormskirk School, we are dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students. Our commitment to meeting the needs of every individual is reflected in our whole school approach to special educational needs and disabilities (SEN/D).

Led by our Assistant Headteacher for SEND and Inclusion John Mannion, and supported by the Learning Support team and wider staff team we adhere to the Department for Education (DfE) definitions and guidance. Our SEN/D provision aligns with the statutory duties outlined in the Special Educational Needs and Disability code of practice 2014 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

We believe in recognising and responding to the diverse ways in which students learn, setting appropriate learning challenges, and overcoming barriers to learning. A sensitive attitude is maintained towards all students at all times, fostering an inclusive and nurturing atmosphere.

As a department and as a whole school, we share a common goal: to see every child reach and exceed their potential—socially, emotionally, and academically. To achieve this, we employ a range of strategies, ensuring that each student is given the support they need to thrive.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our SEN/D provision, please feel free to reach out to Mr. John Mannion, Assistant Headteacher for SEND and Inclusion. Together, we are dedicated to the success and well-being of each and every student at Ormskirk Schools

1.The kinds of SEN that are provided for at Ormskirk School

Ormskirk School's aims to provide an inclusive learning environment. We currently support students with:

- Cognition and learning needs, such as dyslexia;
- Communication and interaction needs.
- Sensory needs, such as hearing or sight impairments;
- Physical disabilities;
- Social, emotional and mental health needs, such as anxiety;
- Medical needs which may be considered SEND due to their impact on learning and provision.

The school data which follows is accurate as of September 2024. For information regarding SEND national please click here; [Special educational needs and disability \(SEND\) and high needs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/special-educational-needs-and-disability-sen-and-high-needs)

For information local authorities local offer please click here www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/

At Ormskirk School, 14.9 % of all students are known to have Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities (SEND). 20 students (1.7%) of all students have EHC Plans. These statistics are just below national averages.

Percentages of students with SEND within each category of need are as follows:

Category of Need	SEPT 2024
Cognition and Learning Needs	40.3%
Communication and Interaction Needs	4.3%
Sensory and Physical Disabilities	4.8%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	50.5%

2.How does the school know if my child has a special educational need, What should I do if I think my child may has special educational needs, and how the school identifies students with special educational needs?

Ensuring a smooth transition for your child is a top priority at Ormskirk School. We collaborate closely with your child's primary school to gather comprehensive transition information, allowing us to gain an accurate understanding of your child and any additional needs they may have. For students with additional education needs, we engage in discussions with primary schools about existing provisions and successful strategies, aiming to facilitate a seamless transition to Ormskirk School. This commitment extends to in-year transfers and students joining us from other schools and authorities.

It's important to note that non-SEND students can be added to the SEND register at any point, whether due to changing needs or emerging concerns. Parents are encouraged to raise any concerns by emailing the SEND department at SEND@ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk. Additionally, any member of our staff can express concerns about a student through the school's referral system. The Learning Support Team is readily available to organise monitoring, assessment, and observation as needed. Finally, the school will use a range of data (Assessments, Attendance and Behaviour) to identify potential SEND. If deemed appropriate, further testing or referrals will be arranged. In the event that external agencies' assessments or diagnoses are required, the school will initiate this process following consultation with parents/carers. We value open communication, and parents are encouraged to express any concerns by contacting the SEND team or pastoral team at any time. Together, we are committed to addressing the individual needs of each student and fostering a positive and supportive learning environment at Ormskirk School. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to us. We look forward to working together for the benefit of your child's education and well-being.

3. How will you know how your child is doing?

At Ormskirk School, we are committed to closely monitoring and supporting the progress and well-being of all our students. Our approach involves regular and effective monitoring of student progress, with subject teachers providing frequent reports on both effort and attainment. Parents and carers can expect to receive one comprehensive written report per year, accompanied by a Parents/Carers Evening for each year group. However, we understand that individual needs may arise, and parents and carers are welcome to request additional information at any point during the year.

Your child's Form Tutor, supported by a Progress Leader and Pastoral Manager, oversees their pastoral needs and overall well-being. The Inclusion team, Progress Leader, or Pastoral Manager may reach out to you directly to discuss your child's progress and well-being. This information is gathered from various sources, including the Form Tutor, subject teachers, external agencies/professionals, and one-to-one meetings with students themselves.

To enhance communication and collaboration, annual coffee mornings are organised by the Learning Support Department for parents/carers of students with SEND. These informal settings provide an opportunity for discussions with the SEND team and other parents/carers.

We use software/applications accessible to staff, parents, and students, providing an accurate picture of the child's current progress and whether they are on target.

For every SEND student, a Pupil Passport is created, offering information on the child's needs, helpful strategies, interventions, and available provisions. Short-term targets

are set and reviewed termly, with input from both parents and students.

For students with Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCP), annual review meetings are conducted to assess holistic progress. Discussions include the child's needs, provision, outcomes, and any necessary adjustments or applications.

Students with SEND are offered various reviews, including Pupil Passport Reviews, Interim reviews, and informal coffee mornings. Additionally, appointments with the SEND team are available for discussing progress, attainment, assessment, and provision.

We believe in fostering a collaborative and supportive environment, ensuring that each student receives the necessary support and guidance to reach their full potential.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's progress further, please don't hesitate to reach out to us

4.How will the curriculum and assessment systems be matched to my child's needs?

At Ormskirk School, we provide a comprehensive and individualized approach to education for students at both Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

Key Stage 3:

During Key Stage 3, students engage in a full range of subjects, ensuring a well-rounded education. Regular assessments in these subjects help monitor and support each student's progress.

Key Stage 4:

At Key Stage 4, students focus on core subjects such as English, Maths, and Science. Additionally, they have the opportunity to opt for other subjects based on their interests and career aspirations. At the conclusion of Key Stage 4, students sit exams and have the chance to attain qualifications such as GCSEs, Cambridge Nationals, and BTEC.

Key Stage 5:

At Key Stage 5 we offer a broad range of subjects including A-Levels and vocational qualifications. A smaller environment and links to the school allow to have a true understanding of your child's needs.

Individualised Curriculum:

Throughout all Key Stages, we recognise the importance of catering to individual needs. Our school is dedicated to making modifications and adaptations to the curriculum when necessary, ensuring that each student receives a tailored and effective education.

Access Arrangements for Exams:

We understand that some students may require additional support during exams, and we take a proactive approach to accommodate their needs. Access Arrangements are made at the earliest possible point, becoming the student's normal way of working during exams. These arrangements may include:

- Additional time
- A reader
- A scribe
- A laptop
- Rest breaks

Our commitment is to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed. If you have any specific concerns or questions regarding your child's education or access arrangements, please feel free to reach out to us.

5.How will school staff support my child?

- Teaching staff at Ormskirk School are supported to use Quality First Teaching throughout the curriculum which creates an environment that is not only best for students with SEN but for all students.
- Staff are use evidence informed approach to adapt their teaching
- Many classes have class teachers supported by LSAs
- Where necessary students will follow a bespoke timetable.
- School will always make reasonable adjustments to support your child.
- The school has a highly staffed and robust pastoral team.

Intervention take place in small groups and 1:1 basis.

6.How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?

The school uses a graduated approach to supporting students. Students with SEND will access an increasingly supportive package dependent on their need;



Wave 3: Highly personalised curriculum with a range of support and intervention

Wave 2: Additional intervention which makes modifications, adjustments and provides in class support and greater access to the pastoral team to allow students to access the curriculum

Wave 1: Quality First Teaching which is differentiated to allow all students to access the curriculum fully.

7. How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including physical activities and school trips?

At Ormskirk School, fostering an inclusive environment is a top priority, and we are committed to ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We strongly encourage every student to get involved, and where necessary, we provide support to ensure their active participation. Adjustments, such as scheduling clubs during lunchtime or providing additional staff and Learning Support Assistants (LSAs), are made to ensure that all students can access and enjoy extra-curricular clubs.

Equal Access to School Trips:

We believe that all students should have equal access to enriching experiences, including school trips, regardless of their ability or needs. In instances where parental input is required to ensure the well-being and safety of a child, open communication with the trip leader takes place in advance of the trip.

Safety and Well-being:

The safety and well-being of every student involved in extra-curricular activities and school trips are paramount. We conduct thorough risk assessments to address potential hazards, and individual considerations are taken into account for students with special educational needs and disabilities. Trained staff members accompany pupils with specific needs during these activities, ensuring that their unique requirements are met.

At Ormskirk School, we are dedicated to creating an inclusive and supportive community where every student can thrive both academically and personally. If you have any specific concerns or if you would like to discuss your child's participation in extra-curricular activities or school trips, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to collaborate with parents and guardians to provide the best possible experiences for our students

8. What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

At Ormskirk School, we have structured our school community to provide comprehensive support and resources for all students:

Organisation and Support Structure:

The school is organised into five-year groups (7-11). Every student is assigned an individual Assistant Head of Year for pastoral support and a head of year to provide dedicated support throughout their academic journey. The collaborative efforts of the SEN team and pastoral teams ensure that the diverse needs of all are effectively addressed. Students are encouraged to communicate any concerns or issues with their form tutor, Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year or a member of the SEND team.

Sixth Form:

In addition to the five year groups, there is a separate sixth form to cater to the unique needs and aspirations of students in this stage of their education.

Attendance and Well-being:

The school places a strong emphasis on regular attendance, and robust systems are in place to ensure that all students are registered promptly upon arrival. Any absence triggers a swift response from our support staff, and an attendance officer is dedicated to supporting and monitoring attendance.

Medical Support:

For students requiring medication, the school has a comprehensive medical policy in place to ensure the well-being and support of students with medical needs.

Break and Lunch Clubs:

To enhance the well-being of our students, we provide break and lunch clubs, offering care and support during these free times. These clubs contribute to creating a positive and inclusive school environment.

At Ormskirk School, our commitment is to create a nurturing and supportive atmosphere where every student feels valued and has the resources they need to succeed.

9. What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

We can make referrals to a range of external agencies including but not limited to:

- a. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) including the Complex Needs Team
- b. SEND Team at Lancashire County Council
- c. National Careers Service
- d. SENDIASS Team formerly known as Parent Partnership
- e. School Nurse and School Doctor/Community Paediatrician
- f. Speech and Language Therapy
- g. Occupational Therapy
- h. Physiotherapy
- i. Audiology
- j. Children's Social Care
- k. Early Intervention (including Barnardo's, Child Action North West)
- l. Police Early Action Team
- m. Alternative and Complimentary Education and Residential Service
- n. Learning Support Services at local post 16 colleges
- o. LCC – Legal Services and Child Protection Teams
- p. Specialist Nurses – including Diabetes, Epilepsy and Stoma Nurses
- q. Independent Translators

10. What training have the staff supporting children/young people with SEND had?

At Ormskirk School, we prioritise ongoing professional development to ensure that our staff is well-equipped to address the diverse needs of our students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Our commitment to staff training is reflected in the following initiatives:

- **Staff Continued Professional Development (CPD) Programme:**

Relevant SEND training is integrated into our Staff Continued Professional Development Programme. This ensures that all staff members have the knowledge and skills required to effectively adapt their practice to support and meet the needs of students with SEND.

- **Safeguarding and Child Protection Training:**

All staff at Ormskirk School participate in training on Safeguarding and Child Protection, emphasising the importance of creating a safe and secure environment for every student.

- **SEND Identification and Support Training:**

Staff members have received specific training on how to identify students with SEND and how to provide support tailored to their needs. This training, led by the Assistant Headteacher for SEND and other specialists, focuses on developing classroom practices that promote an inclusive and supportive learning environment.

- **Accessing Specialist Support Services:**

To address individual needs on a case-by-case basis, we access training from specialist support services. This approach ensures that our staff has the expertise and knowledge to provide targeted support for students with unique requirements.

Our commitment to ongoing training and collaboration with specialists is aimed at creating an inclusive educational environment where every student can thrive.

11. How accessible is the school environment?

At Ormskirk School, our commitment to inclusivity extends to making reasonable adjustments to ensure the admission and equitable treatment of disabled pupils. We take proactive steps to prevent any form of less favorable treatment. Here are some key aspects of our approach:

- **Accessibility in Classrooms:**

In nearly all cases classrooms are accessible for wheelchair users. In the cases classrooms may not be fully wheelchair accessible, we make alternative arrangements to ensure that disabled pupils have access to an appropriate learning environment. Access to Learning Support rooms is facilitated to provide additional support when needed.

- **Accessible Facilities:**

We acknowledge the importance of accessible facilities, and efforts are made to ensure that some changing and toilet facilities are accessible to meet the needs of disabled pupils. In addition, we have disability toilets that are used by disabled and vulnerable students only. We also have two toilets/ changing facilities that have hoists.

- **Specialist Equipment and Facilities:**

For pupils who require the use of specialist equipment and facilities to support their Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), we encourage open communication with the SEND team. Arrangements can be made to provide the necessary support and resources.

- **Communication and Language Support:**

We understand the importance of effective communication, and our school is equipped to communicate with families whose first language is not English. If necessary, we have access to translators to facilitate clear and meaningful communication. Further details on language support services are available upon request

12. How are the parents/careers and students themselves involved in the School?

At Ormskirk School, we highly value the involvement of parents in their child's education, recognising the positive impact it can have on a student's academic journey. Here are some ways we encourage and facilitate parent engagement:

- **Formal Meetings**

Various formal meetings are organised to keep parents informed and involved. These include parent's evenings, option evenings, Year 6 welcome evening, and Pupil Passport reviews. These events provide opportunities for parents to discuss their child's progress, address any concerns, and make informed decisions about their education.

- **Communication Channels:**

We understand the importance of effective communication, and parents have access to a range of communication methods, including phone, email, and text. The school employs multiple communication channels, such as text messages, phone calls, emails, letters, and social media, to share important information and updates with parents.

- **Parental Engagement Opportunities:**

Parents are encouraged to actively engage in their child's education by participating in various school activities and events. They can also become school Governors, playing a crucial role in shaping the direction of the school and contributing to decision-making processes.

- **Student Involvement:**

Students are actively involved in shaping their educational experience through pupil

voice and the school council. Regular meetings provide a platform for students to express their opinions, share ideas, and contribute to decision-making processes within the school.

Members of staff you may wish to contact:

- Your child's Form Tutor.
- Your child's Progress Leader or Pastoral Behaviour Manager.
- Any member of the SEND team (Assistant to the SENDCo/ Nurture Teacher/ LSAs)
- Mr John Mannion (Assistant Headteacher SEND).

13. How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, transfer to a new school or the next stage of education and life?

At Ormskirk School, we prioritise a smooth and well-supported transition for students as they move from Key Stage 3 (KS3) to Key Stage 4 (KS4) and beyond to Key Stage 5 (KS5). Here are some key aspects of our transition process:

Transition from KS3 to KS4:

Pupils will be placed on a pathway with options tailored to suit their individual needs and aspirations.

An options evening is organised, providing all pupils with the opportunity to discuss their options with class teachers.

Meetings are arranged for pupils and parents to speak with a member of staff regarding their options. Guidance and advice are provided to help make informed decisions.

Careers and Options Advice in KS4:

Throughout Key Stage 4, students receive ongoing careers and options advice to support their academic and career choices. This guidance helps students make informed decisions about their educational pathways.

Support for Students with SEND in KS5:

For students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) transitioning to Key Stage 5, we provide comprehensive support, including:

- Transition visits to the new educational setting.
- Transition meetings with college SEND team
- Transfer of necessary paperwork to ensure continuity of support.
- Transfer of Access Arrangements to accommodate individual needs.
- Our commitment is to ensure that all students, including those with SEND, have the support and guidance needed for a successful transition to the next stage of their education.

14. What other support is available?

Parents can gain a range of support and Independent advice from IASS (Information, Advice and Support Services) at Lancashire County Council

<https://lancssendas.org.uk/about-us/>