

Information required to co-operate with Hampshire's Local Offer

Part 1: Please provide the following contact details for your Education Setting

Full Name of Education Setting :

Saxon Wood School

Address:

1st Line Address

Rooksdown

2nd Line Address

Barron Place

Town

Basingstoke

Postcode

RG24 9NH

District

Basingstoke and Deane

Telephone Number

01256 356635

Email address

adminoffice@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk

Website address

<http://www.saxonwood.hants.sch.uk/>

Overview of your Education Setting (30 words)

Saxon Wood is a special primary school and nursery for children with physical, medical and associated learning difficulties.

Part 2: Please Complete the following questions which will make up your education settings Local Offer. (please refer to the guidance notes for more information about what to include under each of the questions)

How does your education setting know if children/young people need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs? (250 Words)

If your child comes to Saxon Wood they will already have been identified as having Special Educational Needs. They will already be known to health professionals, portage or the Local Authority because of their special needs and medical conditions or receiving support from any of these professionals they may recommend us to you.

The children who come to Saxon Wood have a range of physical difficulties and we have children who have additional needs such as a visual impairment and the majority have communication difficulties. We have considerable expertise in meeting these needs. Over recent years we have seen an increase in the number of children who have complex medical needs and profound learning difficulties.

All referrals and admissions are dealt with by the Local Authority special needs team.

If your child comes to us in the nursery we will assess their physical and academic needs and request a statutory assessment. If your child is coming from another setting they will already have an Education Health Plan (EHCP).

How will the education setting staff support my child / young person? (250 words)

At Saxon Wood we follow the same curriculum as mainstream schools across the country.

If your child comes to Saxon Wood they will benefit from a highly experienced staff team and dedicated teachers. Our staff ratios are high and your child will be in a class with a teacher, senior assistant and two support assistants. Class sizes vary depending upon the children's needs. Academic work is broken down into achievable but challenging tasks and the curriculum is designed to provide different levels of challenge and learning which is tailored to your child through an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

At Saxon Wood your child will also benefit from a multi professional approach to meet their needs. We have a NHS physiotherapist and occupational therapist in school three days a week. We also have a Speech and Language Therapist who visits on a needs basis.

These professionals devise therapy programmes which our experienced class staff deliver. We also have a full time NHS Associate Practitioner to meet any of the medical needs your child may have.

If your child has an additional need such as a hearing or visual impairment we will arrange the Hampshire teacher advisers to visit, assess their needs and provide advice to the school.

If your child has a communication difficulty their needs will be met by the schools experienced staff and our visiting speech and language therapists.

**How will the curriculum at your education setting be matched to my child / young person's needs?
(250 words)**

We are a fully inclusive school and offer a wide and varied curriculum which will be tailored to your child's needs through Individual Education Plan (IEP) targets.

Class teaching, small group teaching and individual work ensures a flexible approach in meeting your child's needs.

If your child needs additional support they can be withdrawn for concentrated communication or speech and language work. These sessions are used to teach new skills which are then practised in the classroom. Whenever possible all therapies and communication work is carried out in class and if you visit you may see children being taught whilst in standing frames or using other equipment.

Staff are experienced in working with children who have a range of physical and learning needs.

We use ICT equipment such as touch screen computers and Eye Gaze equipment in each class to support learning. We will match the approach and equipment to meet your child's learning needs.

We believe in praise and building self-esteem by celebrating achievement. Your child's learning will be monitored by the class teacher and staff, their progress celebrated within class through praise and in school assemblies in which we present achievement certificates and stickers.

How will both you and I know how my child / young person is doing and how will you help me to support my child / young person's learning? (250 words)

We encourage regular contact with parents and recognise the expertise they have with regard to their children. We use a daily contact book and phone calls to ensure parents are aware of their child's day to day progress. You are welcome to contact the class teacher to discuss your child's progress.

In addition to monitoring your child's progress we will write individual education plans and share them with you. We have regular multi professional team meetings and our end of year school reports, Parents Evening will tell you about your child's academic, physical and independence skills progress. In addition your child's progress will be discussed in their Annual Review of the EHCP.

What support will there be for my child / young person's overall wellbeing? (250 words)

We pride ourselves on being a caring and friendly school. Children at Saxon Wood are happy and they feel safe. We are a small school and staff know and enjoy being with the children.

This good rapport with children creates a nurturing environment which is positive and fun. As a school we will encourage your child to develop their self-help skills and independence.

We have a high adult to child ratio and so there is always a friendly ear or observant member of staff to address any of your child's concerns.

We have a school council which gives children a say in the activities we do. They meet regularly and are made up of voted members from each class.

Many of our children have intimate care needs and we ensure that these are met sensitively in toilets that provide privacy and the equipment necessary to ensure children are safe. We have an intimate care policy. We understand that toileting is an important part of school life and ensure the children's dignity is maintained at all times.

Class staff take pastoral responsibility for your child along with the school's Associate Practitioner. Staff will always contact you if there are any concerns. The school has a designated Child Protection Liaison Officer to ensure any welfare concerns are monitored and appropriate action taken.

How does your education setting know if children/young people need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs? (250 words)

All the children at Saxon Wood have physical, learning and communication needs. Your child's needs should have already been identified. Other professionals and the Local Authority will help advise you on what school will best meet your child's needs. They may recommend that you visit us to find out more about the school.

The size of the school and the ratio of staff to children ensure that all children are monitored closely. When any issues or concerns are identified they are dealt with quickly. Parents are informed and involved in any concerns.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by your education setting? (250 words)

We have a number of professionals working at the school to support school staff and your child.

The medical needs of children are met by our full time NHS Associate Practitioner and we have regular orthotic, dietician clinics run at the school. If your child has a visual or hearing impairment they will be visited by the appropriate Special Teacher Advisor to ensure that the school has in place what your child needs.

The NHS Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist are in school on a regular basis to support class teams in delivering therapy programmes and carry out assessments.

We have a NHS and Hampshire County Council Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). They cover aspects such as feeding and dysphagia along with speech development work. They visit on a review and appointment basis as need requires and will assess your child's SLT needs.

The Educational Psychologist (EP) carries out assessments for the EHCP process.

What training are the staff supporting children and young people with SEN and Disabilities had or are having? (250 words)

All the staff at Saxon Wood are experienced in working with children who have special needs and physical difficulties. Regular training is carried out and additional training is provided if a need is identified e.g. recent RNIB visual Impairment and sensory needs training.

All staff receive core training in child protection, moving and handling, Team Teach (strategies for managing behaviour), emergency medication and therapy programmes. We provide on-going training in communication and staff are involved in curriculum development and school improvement priorities.

How will my child / young person be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips? (250 words)

We have two adapted minibuses and the staff who drive them are trained under a Hampshire approved driving scheme (MIDAS). We include all children on school and class trips. The activities we plan will take into consideration your child's learning and physical difficulties.

Although we pride ourselves on being inclusive outside providers may not have the equipment or expertise needed and we tailor some activities to the children. In such cases we look closely at what alternative can be provided for your child to ensure they have an enriched curriculum.

Key Stage 2 children (7-11 year olds) access a local swimming pool however for some of our children the temperature of the water and their physical needs may require them to attend hydro sessions. We do not have an onsite hydro pool but if your child requires hydro we will try to arrange sessions dependent upon the availability of a local hydro pool.

Some of our children access horse riding through the Riding for the Disabled Association.

How accessible is the education setting? (250 words)

If your child uses a wheel chair, manual or powered or a walker they will find the school building fully accessible.

If your child requires positional changes and opportunities to get out of their wheel chair this will be facilitated by trained staff in classes. The sensory room and other areas of the school have either overhead hoists or the use of a mobile hoist.

Each classroom has access to adapted toilets with overhead hoists and changing beds. Additional equipment will be provided if these facilities need adapting for your child's needs e.g. a toilet support frame for weight bearing children.

The grounds are fully accessible for children in wheel chairs and for those using walkers.

How will the education setting prepare and support my child / young person to join the education setting, transfer to a new education setting or the next education stage and life? (250 words)

If you are looking for a nursery place we would ask you to attend our pre nursery sessions with your child. This provides an invaluable opportunity for you to meet us and for us to find out all the information we need to make the placement a success.

If your child is in the nursery we will involve you in applying for an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). Once this has been completed your child may stay on with us in Year R and continue through the school unless a different setting is agreed. By this time the school will be well known to you.

If your child leaves to go to a mainstream provision we will put a transition programme in place. This is negotiated with the host school and we will provide interim classroom assistant support. The Teacher Adviser for physical difficulties (PD) will also be involved in ensuring a mainstream provision, if not resourced, has suitable access.

If your child stays with us we will arrange a transition programmes at the end of Year 6 for their senior school placement. We will support you and your child through the process of transitioning to another school.

How are the education settings resources allocated and matched to children and young people's Special Educational Needs and disabilities? (250 words)

Our most valuable resource is our skilled staff and we maintain a high staff ratio to ensure all children make the best possible progress in a happy, safe and positive environment.

Your child will benefit from small class sizes and resources such as our soft play room, sensory room and sensory garden. We also have a therapy room and two small rooms which are used for communication support. The school has a range of communication equipment which can be used with your child.

We are equipment rich and regularly review the therapy equipment we have in school to ensure it meets individual need. If your child requires equipment our Occupational Therapist will assess their needs and look to how this will be funded. We have regular orthotic clinics and Whizz Kids visit annually to run wheelchair skills sessions for children.

Through regular internal class reviews and progress meetings with therapists, the Associate Practitioner class and communication team we will monitor your child's communication and physical targets. Where targets are not being met or we have concerns we will revise their individual education plan and re assess their needs.

We welcome an open dialogue with parents and will meet or contact you if we need further information. We also appreciate parents keeping in touch with us to ensure a dialogue is on-going regarding meeting needs.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child / young person will receive? (250 words)

These decisions are based on continuous monitoring and assessment. Regular meetings ensure unmet needs are identified and we then take steps to address these needs. If you have concerns regarding your child we would encourage you to contact us at the earliest possible time to ensure we address them.

Our approach to support is based on small classes and high staff ratios. On entry occupational therapy and physiotherapy needs are assessed and equipment and support arranged as required. The majority of therapy input happens in class and is managed by the class teams. This means children continue to be involved in class activities and enjoy joint therapy sessions with their friends.

In addition for pupils who require additional communication we run individual sessions and speech and language groups.

How are parents currently involved in your education setting? How can I be involved?

(250 words)

You will be involved through the Annual Review process, and daily contact through the school home book. Your child's teacher will contact you if there are any aspects of the child's day they need to discuss. We will also encourage you to contact us with your concerns and to pass on any information that the class may need.

You will be welcome to come to our school plays, sports days, Harvest Festival and the occasional tea party or school picnic.

We have a Saxon Wood Association which fund raises for us and you will be welcome to join this. We also have a governing body that sometimes has vacancies for parent governors.

We send home a half termly newsletter with information and photographs of class and school events and activities.

Who can I contact for further information? (250 words)

You are welcome to visit the school. Visits can be arranged via the school office.

Our website contains further information <http://www.saxonwood.hants.sch.uk/>

You can contact the school office via email or telephone. The office will put you in touch with the most relevant member of staff depending upon your inquiry.

Part 3: In order to make searching for your Education Setting more accessible to users, Please tick any that apply from the lists below

Do you need to have any of the following in place to attend your education setting?

Education Health and Care Plan

Yes

Statement of Special Educational needs

Yes

S139A/Learning Difficulties Assessment

Which of the following best describes your education setting (tick all that apply)?

Mainstream

Special

Yes

Mainstream with resourced provision

Academy

Community

Foundation

Free School

Education Centre

Residential (48/52 weeks)

Hospital School

Faith School

Independent

Pre-school

SEN Hub (Early Years)

Early Years SEN provision

Yes

Opportunity Group

Nursery

Yes

Childminder (Early Years Education EYE)

Type of Education Setting?

Preschool aged 0-2

Preschool aged 3-5

Yes

Infant school

Junior School

Primary School

Yes

Middle School

Secondary School

Post 16 provision

Other

Please specify:

What communication Methods are you experienced with?

Makaton

Yes

AAC (e.g. PECS, speech aids)

Yes

British Sign Language

Braille

What facilities does your education setting have?

Hydrotherapy Pool

Sensory room or area

Yes

Wheelchair Access

Yes

Accessible Changing Area

Yes

Accessible Toilets

Yes

Low Stimulus Environment

Secure Environment

Yes

Soft Play Facility

Yes

Physical adaptations (such as hand rails)

Yes

Disabled Parking

Does your education setting provide any of the following?

Needs Led School Nurse (Associate Practitioner)

Yes

Needs led Speech and Language (SALT)

Yes

Needs led Occupational Therapy (O/T)

Yes

Needs led Physiotherapy

Yes

Personal Care

Do you have experience of, or specialise in any of the following?

Speech and Language Needs

Yes

Moderate Learning Difficulties

Yes

Severe Learning Difficulties

Yes

Autistic Spectrum Conditions

Social Communication Disorder

Social, Mental and Emotional Health

Hearing Impairment

Yes

Visual Impairment

Yes

Physical Disability

Yes

Specific Learning Difficulties

Yes

Complex Health Needs

Yes

PMLD