

# St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Special Educational Needs



## Report to Parents of Children in the Mainstream School

June 2024

This report sets out information about the ways in which St Andrew's CE Primary School meets the provision for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN).

### About our School

#### Our Vision

At St Andrew's CE Primary School, we aim to bring children to a place where they can realise their full potential. Our Christian values are the foundation of all we do and each one is a facet of the central value, love, which 'always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.' (1 Corinthians 13:7)

Our vision for children with SEND is for every child to reach their full potential through an inclusive, friendly and creative environment built on trust, compassion and respect for one another.

St Andrew's CE Primary School provides support for pupils across the four areas of need as laid out in the SEND Code of Practice 2014. These are:

- **Communication and interaction needs;**  
This includes children who have speech language and communication difficulties including autistic spectrum conditions.
- **Cognition and Learning needs;**  
This includes children who have learning difficulties and specific learning difficulties like dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia.
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs:**  
This includes children who may have behavioural difficulties relating to emotion conditions such as anxiety or depression.
- **Sensory and/or Physical needs;** this includes children who have visual or hearing needs, or a physical disability that affects their learning

In the mainstream school we have 412 pupils and 72 children are currently registered as having additional needs.

### About our SEN team

Our SEN team is led by our SENCos, Mrs Phee Garlick and Mrs Katie Collier.

Mrs Katie Collier is our Designated Teacher for Looked After Children and our Pupil Premium and Attendance Lead.

We have a Mrs Lorraine Pijnen, Family Links Worker and Mrs Louise Rolfe, ELSA trained Well Being Assistant, who support families and children across the school.

We also have a HLTA, Mrs Wendy Clissold who works with children across the school to support their Literacy and Phonics skills.

The team work closely with the Headteacher and all staff to monitor the progress of children's learning and they oversee the provision for children with additional needs.

The SEN department can be contacted by calling the school office:

Tel: 01844 351353

Email: [office.3182@st-andrews.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3182@st-andrews.oxon.sch.uk)

Our link Governor for SEN is Mrs Amanda Malins who meets with the SENCOs at least twice a year to review and monitor the SEN provision.

Our SEN policy and our Equality Policy Plan can be located on the School Website [www.st-andrews.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-andrews.oxon.sch.uk)

### How do we identify and give extra help to children and young people with SEN?

Progress is tracked and monitored for all children throughout the school year. Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
- Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
- Widens the attainment gap

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.

St Andrew's CE School uses Oxfordshire County Council's guidance on 'Identifying and supporting Special Educational Needs in Oxfordshire schools and settings'.

Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN. Using this guidance the school will follow a graduated response that assesses and reviews provision in place over two terms. If after these two terms the child is requiring provision that is different from or additional to support offered on a whole school level; the class teacher and SENCo will consider if the child should be placed upon the SEN register in discussion with parents. This approach enables staff to ensure all quality first teaching and inclusive classroom strategies have first been tried before deciding if a child has additional needs.

The Oxfordshire County Council's guidance sets out:

- How to identify if a child or young person has a special educational need.
- How to assess children and plan for their special educational needs, and how we adapt our teaching.
- Ways in which we can adapt our school environment to meet each child's needs.
- How we review progress and agree outcomes and involve you and your child in this.



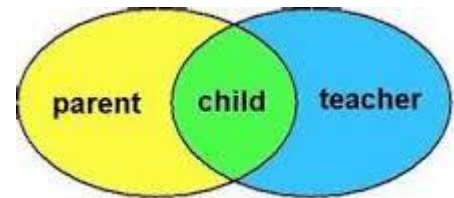
The guidance for Schools and Early Years settings can be found through the link below:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer/guidance-and-policies>

Where, despite the school providing SEN support, a child has not made expected progress, school and parents may consider requesting an Education, Health and Care assessment by the local authority. The Local Authority will expect to see evidence of external agency involvement and the impact of the implementing the recommendations over a period of time while on SEN Support.

### **Working in partnership with parents.**

At St Andrew's CE School we believe that working in partnership with parents towards agreed outcomes and goals is the best way to support our children.



### **How do we do work with and communicate to parents and children?**

We will always contact parents if we have a concern that a child or young person may have a special educational need. We work closely with children and young people with SEN and their parents to agree outcomes and how we will all work towards these, and then to review progress.

We communicate to parents by:

- Completing an SEN Learning Plan. This is written with the parents, child and teacher. It highlights the child's strengths, barriers to learning and how we can make in class adjustments. It also highlights any intervention they need and key learning targets which are reviewed three times a year, towards the end of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms.
- Scheduled telephone calls.
- Parents evening - twice a year.
- Additional meetings if needed.
- Home school communication where appropriate.
- Ensuring parents/carers can speak to the class teacher when needed at the end of the day.

Appointments can be made to speak to a SENCo or class teacher by phoning the school office.

### **Adapting the curriculum**

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all children and young people including those with SEN. The way we adapt this for children with SEN and disabled children is set out in the School Access Plan. You can read it on our school website.

Teachers are responsible for the progress of all children and lessons are differentiated to ensure success and progress for everyone. Teachers encourage and support children to have a 'growth mindset' and to develop skills in independence, resourcefulness and resilience. Resources such as; writing frames, word banks and Numicon help children to increase their confidence and enable them to become independent learners.

## **Interventions:**

In addition to the core curriculum the school offers many different types of interventions. They are matched to meet the needs of the children and the year groups the children are in. Some of the different interventions we use are:

- Early morning interventions (focused on the needs of individual children)
- Well Being Sessions (Spirals, ELSA)
- Zones of Emotional Regulation
- NELI – Early Language Intervention for Foundation Stage pupils.
- Wellcomm Language Intervention
- Forest School
- Speech and Language Support – Where advice has been given by Speech and Language support, programmes will be followed within class.
- Therapeutic Art Sessions

## **What expertise can we offer?**

Phee Garlick completed the National Award in Special Educational Needs Co-Ordination with Bath Spa University in December 2023.

Both SENCos are also Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Katie Collier is our Designated Teacher for Looked After Children and completed her Designated Safeguarding Lead training in June 2022.

Last year St. Andrew's C of E Primary school was one of 30 Oxfordshire schools taking part in the Whole Education SEND project developing self-improving SEND systems through structured collaboration and peer review.

Staff are trained to support Early Help Assessments and Team Around the Family meetings. Staff training is undertaken in various aspects of SEN according to the needs to ensure that the provision made and support given to pupils is appropriate and effective. Training needs are reviewed as part of staff CPD and may take the form of attendance at an external course on particular conditions. Recent training includes:

- Communication and Language support in the Early Years
- Early Help Assessment
- Early Years Emotional Regulation
- Inclusive Classrooms
- TeamTeach
- Zones of Emotional Regulation

Staff have basic awareness level training in high incidence special educational needs. We have staff who have received enhanced training in team teach, which support children and staff in de-escalation strategies. Teaching assistants are trained to support the individual needs of the children they work with.

Individualised training is also given to staff working with children with specific needs from external professionals such as Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists and Advisory Teachers.

## **Specialist and External Support**

We also have access to a range of specialist support services including:

- Educational Psychology
- SENSS, who support children with communication and language, sensory needs and physical needs
- Downs and Complex Needs Service
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- School Nurse Service
- Oxfordshire School Inclusion Team
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy services
- Play Therapy
- Early Intervention Support from Early Intervention Hubs
- Children's social care
- Speech and Language Therapy

Information about these services and what they can offer can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council Local Offer web pages using the link below:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer>

We always discuss the involvement of specialist SEN services with parents first. We also work with other services and organisations that are involved with a family, with the family's permission.

### How do we know if SEN provision is effective?

The progress of all children/young people is tracked throughout the school through ongoing assessments as well as formal assessments three times a year. There are Pupil Progress meetings within school held at least four times a year where all children's progress is discussed and interventions or support is planned.

In addition, for children/young people with SEN we regularly review progress towards the agreed outcomes on their learning plans. Following the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review** we will assess whether support in place has made a difference and to agree next steps. We evaluate this progress against age related expectations and standardised scores. For all children/young people with SEN a provision map outlines the support and costs being used to enable the child to meet their agreed outcomes. This support is reviewed at least 3 times a year alongside the reviews of outcomes on their learning plans.

When we run special intervention programmes for groups of children we assess how successful they have been and use that information to decide on how best to run them in the future. Information about how the governing body evaluate the success of the education that is provided for pupils with SEN is contained within the governors' annual report.

### How are children and young people with SEN helped to access activities outside of the classroom?

All children and young people are included in activities and trips following risk assessments where needed and in accordance with duties under the Equalities Act 2010. We talk to parents and young people when planning trips so that everyone is clear about what will happen.

There is information about activities and events for disabled children and those with SEN in Oxfordshire in the Family Information Service:

<http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities>

Oxfordshire's accessibility strategy can be read at:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/special-educational-needs/schoolsaccessibilitystrategy.pdf>

## **What do we do to support the wellbeing of children/young people with SEN?**

All children have the opportunity to share their views through their school council. We encourage all children to talk to their class teacher if they have a problem. The SEN department works closely with children with emotional or behavioural difficulties to enable them to feel safe and supported in school. We support in a range of ways either in small group or 1 to 1. This could be through a nurture group, gardening, drawing and talking.

We take bullying very seriously and it is not tolerated. We help to prevent bullying of children/young people with SEN by following our Positive Behaviour Policy and celebrating all success and adapting the environment and activity to ensure successes. Where appropriate the needs of individuals are discussed with the class, (with appropriate permission) in a sensitive manner. We have three teachers trained as anti-bullying ambassadors in school; Phee Garlick (EYFS); Kayleigh Churchman (KS1) and Kendra Gerrish (KS2).

## **Joining the school and moving on**

We encourage all new children to visit the school before starting. For children/young people with SEN we have additional visits for parents and children both in our setting, their setting and at their homes. For children with SEN a meeting with the SENCo is recommended.

We begin to prepare young people for transition into the next stage of their education or training by a transition programme run by Lord Williams School called Pioneers which is adapted to meet the needs of vulnerable pupils. They receive either small group additional visits or 1:1 where appropriate.

## **Who to contact**

If you are concerned about your child please talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you'd like to feedback about SEN provision please contact the school. In the event of a formal complaint concerning SEN provision, parents/guardians are advised to contact the Headteacher and follow the Oxfordshire LA procedure in the first instance. Parents may also contact the Governing Body. Government publications regarding parents' rights are available in school.

If you'd like impartial advice from SENDIASS contact (previously Oxfordshire's Parent Partnership Service)

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer/information-advice-and-support-parents-and-children-about-sen/sendiaass-oxfordshire>

If you'd like to know more about opportunities for children and young people with SEN and their families, support groups or information about SEN these are listed in the Family Information Service: <http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities.page>

Oxfordshire's Local Offer contains lots of information for parents:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer>

## **In Summary**

The governors and staff at St Andrew's CE Primary School recognise percentages of pupils with SEN making expected progress can vary for each subject within each cohort and where the actual number of pupils with SEN in a particular cohort is small the data may not be statistically valid. Whilst mindful of the use of data for future strategic planning, at St. Andrew's we focus on each individual pupil and target support specifically for their needs to enable them to make the most progress they can.

***Phee Garlick***

***Katie Collier***

***SENCo***

***SENCo***