



SEND Policy

Policy Lead:	Assistant Headteacher (HH)
Last Review Date:	September 2023
Next Review Date:	September 2024
Approval needed by:	Governing Body



At The Oaks Academy the named personnel with designated responsibility for Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) are:

Designated SEND Lead	SEND Governor
Mrs Helen Holland	Lisa Hodgkison

POLICY STATEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This policy has been formulated with regard to the 2014 SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years, the Equality Act 2010 and the Children and Families Act 2014.

At **The Oaks Academy**, we have high expectations and set suitable targets for all students. At this school, a special educational need is defined in accordance with the 2014 SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years. A student is defined as having SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. At school age, this means he or she has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others the same age, or has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream school (**Taken from 2014 SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years – introduction xiii and xiv**).

There are 4 broad areas of SEND:

Communication and interaction, including:

- SLCN (Speech, Language and Communication Needs)
- ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder)

Cognition and Learning;

- When children learn at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation.

Social, Emotional and Mental Difficulties: They include:

- A wide range of difficulties that manifest themselves in many ways e.g.: becoming isolated, withdrawn, displaying challenging, disruptive behaviour. They may reflect underlying mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, self-harming, misuse, eating disorders or other physical symptoms that are medically unexplained.

Sensory and /or Physical Needs, including:

- Vision Impairment
- Hearing Impairment

- Multi-Sensory Impairment
- Physical Disability

All students are entitled to access the full school curriculum and to take part in every aspect of school life, unless there is a specified reason outlined in the student's EHCP(Education, Health and Care Plan).

TERMS

- SEND refers to a Special Educational Need and Disability.

The Learning Partnership has five SEND strategic priorities (2022-2024)

- Priority 1: Top quality first line classroom practice.
- Priority 2: Effectively identifying SEND needs.
- Priority 3: Delivering high quality SEND support in the classroom.
- Priority 4: Supporting young people effectively through EHCPs.
- Priority 5: Ensuring effective SEND administration and school-level organisation.

At The Oaks Academy we have the following objectives:

- To identify, at the earliest possible opportunity, barriers to learning and participation for students with SEND.
- To ensure that every student experiences success in his / her learning and achieves to the highest possible standard.
- To enable students to participate in lessons fully and effectively.
- To value and encourage the contribution of all students to take part in the life of the school.
- To work in partnership with parents / carers.
- To communicate with the Governing Body to enable them to fulfil their monitoring role with regard to the Policy Statement for SEND.
- To work closely with external support agencies, where appropriate, to support the needs of individual students.
- To ensure that all staff have access to training and advice to support quality teaching and learning for all students.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCES

The Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCo), in collaboration with the Headteacher and Governing Body, takes responsibility for the operation of the SEND policy and co-ordination of special needs provision, working closely with staff, parents and carers, and other agencies. The SENDCo also provides professional guidance to colleagues to secure high quality teaching for students with SEND. The Headteacher has responsibility for the day-to-day management of all aspects of the school's work, including provision for children with SEND. The Headteacher works closely with the SENDCo and keeps the Governing Body fully informed of SEND issues, providing an annual SEND Information Report.

The content of the report is specified at section 6.79 of the Code of Practice 2014: 0 to 25 years. The Governing Body: the duties of the Governing Body are set out in the SEND Code of Practice, November 2001, section 1:21. The SEN Governor for this school Mrs L Hodkinson.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS AND FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The school is a building over three floors and with three sets of stairs. There is, disabled access at the front of the building and a lift that provides access to parts of the school. Access to some specialist facilities is provided by rooming on the ground floor. There are easy access toilets on the ground floor and a disabled toilet in the Fame Suite which is a separate one floor building, accessible through two routes via the main school. See the school's Accessibility Policy for further details. The school will have regard to the Equality Act 2010, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Code of Practice 2014: 0 to 25 years in terms of admitting Students with disabilities. All members of the school community, including students, are invited to inform the school of any disability they have. The school works with the Medical Team to ensure that appropriate support is in place for pupils who have significant health issues that impact upon their attendance.

RESOURCES

Delegated funding for students with an EHCP is used to pay the salaries of dedicated staff to meet the needs of those students together with any resources / provisions that are deemed appropriate to enable a student to access their learning. These resources will have been identified as such in their EHCP. Other devolved funding is allocated to support the needs of students with additional Needs where /and as required. Pupil Premium money is carefully allocated to support the children for whom it is targeted. Additional school funds support the management of SEND provision by purchasing resources and training staff to meet the changing needs of the students' profiles.

IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW

The Oaks Academy follows the SEND Code of Practice 2014: 0 to 25 years graduated approach with regard to the identification, assessment and review of students with special educational needs. The process, practices and paperwork are those identified by Cheshire East and follows the Toolkit procedure.as established from April 2018

Students will be identified in the following way:

First Concerns – Students are identified as First Concerns if a needs / concern has been identified by staff or parents. As a result of a meeting a short-term intervention package will be put in place. This will be reviewed after a term or as appropriate. The plan will be shared with all concerned. When the intervention is reviewed a decision will be made as to whether:

- The intervention has been successful and the student can be removed from the First Concerns list.

- The student needs to remain on First Concerns and further intervention is needed.
- If the intervention does not reduce/ remove the area of need / concern, then a student will be placed on the SEND register as SEND Support (K) and a Support plan will be initiated. This plan will be reviewed termly to ensure that the provisions allow the student to access their learning. If progress is not made external help will be sort and acted upon. If there is no significant progress after a minimum of 3 reviews then a Needs Assessment will be made to the Local Authority.

In the school, we use a range of assessment data e.g. relevant family/medical history, Teacher Assessments, Screening Tests, SATs results, reading/spelling tests, Wide Range Achievement Tests (WRAT) and behaviour observations to determine where support is needed.

FOUR CATEGORIES OF SEND – BROAD AREAS OF NEED

1. Cognition and Learning
2. Communication and Interaction
3. Social Emotional and Mental Health
4. Physical and/or Sensory Needs

REVIEW MEETINGS

Regular Plan Do Review meetings will be held for all students on the SEND register. This may be in person, on the telephone or online. Parents/carers and students are invited to attend. Decisions made at the meeting will form the basis of the next Plan Do Review cycle. For students with an EHCP, regular reviews will also be held. An Interim Review will be held if felt to be appropriate or if it is felt that the EHCP no longer meets need. An Annual Review is also held to review progress towards objectives/outcomes outlined in the EHCP. A copy of the review report is sent to all invitees, including parents/carers, and the SEND Team.

THE SEND REGISTER

The registers are updated termly to take into the First concerns that have been raised and the success or otherwise of prescribed interventions.

CURRICULUM

To enable access to the curriculum for students with SEND, the school may provide:

- Adapted work
- Specialist teachers
- Learning Support Assistant
- Individual/Bespoke timetables
- Intervention resources
- Specialist equipment
- Emotional Literacy/ Social Skills
- Speech and Language Intervention

- Counselling
- Anger Management Support
- Literacy Intervention
- Numeracy Intervention
- Mentoring
- Dyslexic Support

The above forms part of the school's offer.

COMPLAINTS

The school works, wherever possible, in partnership with parents / carers to ensure a collaborative approach to meeting students' needs. All complaints are taken seriously and are heard according to the school's [complaints policy and procedure](#).

EXTERNAL SUPPORT

The school will seek support from external agencies when a pupil has a barrier to learning or where it is identified in their EHCP or Statement of Special Educational Needs.

Agencies include:

- The Educational Psychology Service
- SALT (Speech and Language Team)
- Paediatric Therapy Services (Occupational Therapy)
- Behaviour Support Service
- CEAT (Cheshire East Autistic Team)
- Cheshire East SEN Team
- The School Nurse/ Medical Needs Team
- Education Welfare Service/ Family Liaison Officer
- Hearing Support Service.
- Specialist Inclusion Services (e.g. ASD Team)
- Social Care /CHECS
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- CEAIS (Cheshire East Advisory and Information Service)
- Virtual Schools: to determine the arrangements to support children who are looked after by the Local Authority and have SEND

The school will also seek support from voluntary and private or external agencies as required.

THE LOCAL OFFER

The purpose of the local offer is to enable parents / carers and young people to see more clearly the services that are available in their area and how to access them. It

includes provision from birth to 25, across education, health and social care. Cheshire East's Local offer can be currently found [here](#)

LIAISON WITH PARENTS/CARERS

The school works in partnership with parents / carers where concerns are raised and in accordance with the 2014 SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years.

- Should a parent have a concern about their child they should, in the first instance, discuss this with their child's form tutor.
- If the class teacher has an initial concern about a student's progress, parents/carers will be invited to discuss this with the teacher at the earliest opportunity and be told of strategies in place to help their child. The child will then be identified as a First Concern and placed on a register.
- If a decision is being considered to move a pupil on to the SEND register, then parents / carers will be fully informed. At this stage parents / carers will be told about CEAIS. Parents views will be incorporated into the SEND Support Plan
- Parents / carers are invited to each review and their comments are taken into consideration when deciding upon future action.

In terms of an Annual Review, parents' / carers' comments are sought either prior to the review or at the review and these views will be included in the paperwork sent to County.

CONSULTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND

Children's views will be sought and considered during the review process and at other key times throughout the year. Their review will be recorded in the SEND Support Plan. For pupils with EHCPs their views will also be included in the Annual Review paperwork sent to County.

TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

Transition reviews for Year 6 students are held, once a pupil has been given a place at the school. Where possible, the SENDCo or member of the team will attend the Annual Reviews for pupils who are hoping/ intending to attend The Oaks Academy. Additional transition arrangements may be made at these reviews e.g. extra visits to help ensure a positive transition.

Students with SEND who are moving between key stages will have transition arrangements in place either prior to joining the school or, in the case of post 16, prior to leaving.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The school is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, faith, gender or capability in all aspects of school life. We promote self and mutual respect and a caring and non-judgmental attitude throughout all areas.

REVIEW FRAMEWORK

The policy will be reviewed annually.