



# **Foxbridge Primary School**

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy**

**SENDCo: Pam Bridgwood**

<b>Date</b>	<b>March 2023</b>
<b>Review</b>	<b>March 2025</b>
<b>Headteacher</b>	<b>Pam Bridgwood</b>
<b>Chair of Governors</b>	<b>Alex Mcquillan</b>
<b>Signed</b>	<b>Signed copy held centrally</b>

## Introduction

The aims of Foxbridge Primary School are based on the values derived from the Statement of Principles adopted by the Local Authority and guided by the DfE Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). They are underpinned by the Aims Statement of the school.

Foxbridge strives to be an inclusive school, engendering a sense of community and belonging through its:

- Inclusive ethos
- Broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils
- Systems for early identification of barriers for learning and participation
- High expectations and suitable targets for all children

We are committed to maximum integration commensurate with meeting individual needs, the highest quality of education for all pupils and the efficient use of resources. All children are expected to be active participants in their education, in ways appropriate to their age and evolving maturity.

Foxbridge Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy complies with Special Educational Needs and Disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years (January 2015). This is the statutory guidance for all organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities.

The relevant Acts for primary education are:

Children and Families Act 2014

The Equality Act 2010

### Guidance and Curriculum

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021
- School SEND Information Report Regulations 2014
- Statutory Guidance on supporting pupils at school with medical conditions 2016
- The National Curriculum in England Key Stage 1 and 2 framework document 2013
- Working together to safeguard children 2018
- Safeguarding Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Teachers' Standards 2012

The policy of this school; is to make the best possible provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities by:

- Taking advantage of training courses offered by the Local Authority to ensure that, wherever possible, staff (both teaching and learning support) have expertise in the education of children with a variety of special educational needs.
- Offering facilities, where possible, to pupils with physical disabilities. The building is fully accessible to wheelchair users and has designated disabled toilets.

## **What are special educational and disability needs?**

A pupil has SEND where their learning difficulty or disability calls for special educational provision to be made for them, that is provision different from or additional to that which is normally available to pupils of the same age.

For some children, SEND can be identified at an early age. However, for other children and young people difficulties become evident only as they develop.

The identification of SEND is built into the overall approach to monitoring the progress and development of all pupils. Class teachers will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, building on information from previous settings. Class teachers will then make regular assessments of progress for all pupils, identifying in particular where pupils are making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances.

Where a pupil's progress is a cause for concern this may be evidenced by progression which is as follows:

- Significantly slower than that of their peers who started 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
- A widening attainment gap.

It can include progress in areas other than attainment for example where a pupil needs to make additional progress with wider development or social needs.

The 2015 SEND Code of Practice has outlined four broad areas of need. Within each area of need there are categories. Some pupils may not fit into one particular category but may have needs which overlap across a range of categories or areas of need.

### **1. Communication and Interaction**

- SLCN - Speech Language and Communication needs
- ASD- Autistic Spectrum Disorder

### **2. Cognition and Learning**

- MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulties
- SLD - Severe Learning Difficulties
- PMLD - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties
- SpLD -Specific Learning Difficulties

### **3. Social Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties**

### **4. Sensory and/or Physical Needs**

- VI - Visual Impairment
- HI - Hearing Impairment
- MSI - Multisensory Impairment
- PD - Physical Disability

The purpose of identification through the categories is to work out what action the school needs to take. It is the needs of the whole child which will always be considered.

There are other factors that may affect progress and attainment that are not considered SEND:

- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and Welfare
- English as an additional language
- Being in receipt of pupil premium grant
- Being a looked after child
- Being a child of a serviceman or service woman

Any concerns relating to a child's behaviour may be an underlying response to a need which the school would work with parents to address.

### **Identification and Assessment of Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities are identified as early as possible. Foxbridge Primary School aims to develop strong links with pre-school settings in Castle Donington that feed into the school.

Foxbridge has a robust and regular system of review through our pupil progress meetings so that pupils who are not making expected progress or who are working below 'National Expectations' can be recognised.

Class teachers will put in place, if necessary, relevant and timely interventions, appropriate differentiation and in class support, aimed at closing the gap or raising the attainment through quality first teaching. The class teacher will also talk with parents to ensure there is a shared understanding of pupils' needs and to gain parental perspective on any emerging concerns and areas of strength.

Where a pupil's needs are persistent, the class teacher will discuss the initial cause for concern with the SENDCo. At this meeting the requirement for additional assessments will be established. Parents will also be invited to attend a meeting and share their viewpoint. Where appropriate, the child's views will be sought. If, as a result of this process, it is clear that different and additional provision is required to meet the pupil's needs, the pupil will then be placed on the school SEND register as 'SEND Support'. The parents will be informed if the school is making Special Educational Provision for their child.

The class teacher remains responsible and accountable for the progress, development and attainment of all children in their class, even where a child may be receiving support from a teaching assistant. High quality teaching which is differentiated for the individual pupils is always seen as the first step in responding to pupils' who may have SEND.

This SEND support will take the form of a graduated approach (assess-plan -do - review). Earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupils needs and individual requirements for securing good outcomes. The Graduated Approach draws on more detailed approaches, more

frequent reviews and more specialist expertise in successive cycles in order to match interventions to the child's needs.

The effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed each term. The review process will include an evaluation of the impact and quality of the support and intervention as well as the views of the pupil and their parents. These reviews will then feedback into the review of the pupil's needs. The class teacher, with support from the SENDCo where needed, will revise the support based on the pupil's progress and development, deciding on any changes to the support and outcomes in consultation with the parent and pupil.

The school can involve specialists at any point for advice regarding early identification and effective support. However, where a pupil continues to make less than expected progress, despite evidence based support and interventions that are matched to the pupil's area of need, the school will consider involving specialists, including those affiliated to the school itself or from outside agencies.

Parents will always be involved in any decision to involve specialists along with the pupil's class teacher and in appropriate cases, the child involved.

Specialist agencies will only be contacted where parents agree. It is part of the SENDCo's role to contact any specialist agencies. The SENDCo will also ensure that the involvement of specialists and the recommendations decided upon are recorded, shared and fully understood by parents, teaching staff and the child.

The following are external agencies that could be consulted:

- School nurse
- Educational psychologists
- Autism Outreach
- Specialist teachers for children with hearing and vision impairment, including multi-sensory impairment, and for those with a physical disability
- Speech and language therapists
- Occupational therapist

In some cases, there is a charge for accessing specialist agency support; funding for which will come from the school's notional SEND budget and will be monitored by the SENDCo and Head Teacher. For pupils with an EHC plan, the school will work in close partnership with any specialist agencies named on the Plan to provide support and specialist advice.

## **SEND Support Plan**

The indicators for a pupil to have a SEND Support Plan may be:

- Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period
- Continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age
- Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and numeracy skills

- Have social, emotional and or mental health difficulties which substantially and regularly interfere with the child's own learning or that of a class group, despite having an individualised
- Has sensory or physical needs, and requires additional specialist equipment or advice or visits by a specialist service
- Has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and case substantial barriers to learning.

To inform this decision, the SENDCO will follow the Local Authority's criteria for funding through the SEND Support Plan. The criteria can be found on the local authority's SENA guidance. There is a co-ordinated assessment process that is shared in full with parents to ensure they understand the process and how they are involved in it.

<http://leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs-and-disability>

### **Organisation of support**

At Foxbridge Primary School we make every effort to achieve maximum integration of pupils with special education needs, whilst meeting children's individual needs. Teachers provide learning opportunities for all pupils within this environment, utilising materials appropriate to pupils' interests and abilities. This ensures that all pupils (including those with special educational needs and disabilities) have the opportunity to access the National Curriculum and the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum at an appropriate level. The structures and systems in place are:

- Differentiated planning that incorporates a variety of learning styles to deliver quality first teaching
- Intervention programmes
- Additional classroom support to increase curriculum access and pupil achievement
- Differentiated provision within a mixed ability setting
- A range of clubs/leisure activities for all pupils
- An equal opportunity policy
- Clear guidelines on behaviour

### **Reviews**

All children on the SEND Support Record have a termly review. This review will include progress towards the achievement of layered targets set for their class, intervention targets from SEND support and any personal targets set for pupils with more individual needs. A copy is retained by the class teacher. Copies are given to parents/carers, the SENDCO and any support staff working with the pupil. All targets are reviewed each term in conjunction with pupils, parents, TAs and class teachers.

### **Resources for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

The budget at SEND Support Stage is delegated to the school, and currently includes the budget for all mainstream EHCPs of 15 hours or under. The LA currently provides funding for pupils with EHCPs or Special Educational Need and Disabilities where these are in excess of 15 hours support. Where pupils require a SEND Support Plan and the resources

required to meet their level of need are in excess of the school's allocation of funding, the school can use the Support Plan to bid for additional funding from the LA to support the pupil's needs. Pupils with an EHCP will be allocated a personal budget. The Headteacher/SENDCo and School Management Team manage the SEND budget.

The SEND budget and budgets within other curriculum areas provide the following resources:

- TA support for those children with an EHCP
- TA support in class to increase curriculum access and pupil achievement
- TA support to run intervention programmes
- SENDCo non-contact time for liaison with external agencies, assessment, record keeping, monitoring and review
- Attendance of In Service courses by staff to increase knowledge and development
- Purchasing input from specialist staff for individual or groups of children
- Purchasing specialist assessments for individual children and assessment resources
- Purchasing a range of books, basic skills resources and materials, computer software to suit pupils with a variety of needs.

### **Removing pupils from the SEND register**

In consultation with parents, the pupil will be considered for removal from the SEND register where they have made sustained good progress:

- That improves the previous rate of progress and has sufficiently closed the attainment gap between the child and their peers of the same age
- Where a pupil's wider development and/or social needs have improved and progress in the targeted areas is considered to be sustained
- Where SEND Support is no longer required to ensure this progress is sustained.

### **Support for Parents/Carers of children with SEND**

The school is fully committed to a meaningful partnership with parents of pupils with SEND where they can be as fully involved as possible in decisions and are provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions.

The school achieves this by:

- Welcoming parent's views and listening to any concerns about their child's attainment or progress
- Providing all information in an accessible and timely manner
- Providing meetings with SENDCo by appointment
- Having a school SEND policy on the school website
- By following the information set out in the SEND information regulations (2015) and as part of the school's contribution to the Local Offer.
- Meetings with their child's class teacher in addition to the parent evenings
- Class teacher (with SENDCo) will review the outcomes of support, discuss the activities and support that will help the pupil with SEND achieve and identify the responsibilities of the parent, the pupil and the school

- The school will support and guide parents in ways that they can help with their child's learning and development at home
- A record is kept of the outcomes, action and support that is agreed
- Parents are directed to wider support, information and services pertinent to their child's SEND by ensuring they know how to access the Local Offer and the LA's Independent Advice and Support Services
- Consulting with a representative group of parents of pupils with SEND when reviewing the school's SEND Information Report and the SEND policy
- Planning in additional support for parents at key times, for example, when considering and making a referral for a coordinated assessment for an EHC plan and to ensure smooth and successful transition into the school or to a pupil's next phase of education
- Seeking parents' views through periodic questionnaires and considering adjustments to practice in the light of analysis

### **Links with other schools**

Foxbridge will liaise closely with feeder schools to ensure that transition is smooth.

- The SENDCo (transfer school) is invited to the Annual Review of a child with an EHCP in the Autumn Term, which precedes transfer.
- In the term before transfer the secondary school SENDCo meets with the teachers, children with SEND and Foxbridge SENDCo to discuss and prepare for transition.

### **Complaints**

Parents are encouraged to discuss any problems or concerns with school. These should be raised initially with the pupil's class teacher or the SENDCo. Most problems can be resolved in this way but if this does not happen parents may wish to take their concerns to the head teacher or may find it helpful to seek advice from the LA's Parent Partnership Officer or an Independent Parental Supporter. If necessary, parents may complain to the Chair of Governors. Where informal discussions or the formal complaints procedure have been exhausted without resolving matters, the then LA's statutory SEN disagreement resolution process may offer a way forward.

### **Governors responsibility for SEND provision**

This policy has been drawn up in accordance with the 2015 Code of Practice and in consultation with the staff and governors. It will be monitored through discussion with the governor responsible for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The following criteria will help the governors, head teacher and SENDCo evaluate the success of the education we provide.

There is a nominated governor for Special Educational Needs. The governing body evaluates the success of the education we provide, using the following criteria:

- The existence of accurate, up to date record keeping
- The number as % attendance by parents at Annual Review meetings
- Number of pupils remaining at a stage of assessment or reverting to the previous one
- The number as % of pupils for whom an Education and Health Care Plan is no longer necessary

- The amount as % of the budget allocated to pupils without a Special Educational Needs Plan
- Adjustments in budget allocation to reflect changing needs
- Amount of school budget spent on equipment/building modifications
- Pupil achievement through termly progress reviews
- Pupil attainment e.g. increases in reading ages over time
- Annual Special Educational Needs policy review
- Senior management involvement in Special Educational Needs issues
- OFSTED inspection reports and the Local Educational Authority Review Process
- Inclusion of Special Educational Needs issues in development planning
- Time allocated to planning for pupils with special educational needs
- Feedback from pupils and parents
- Routine examination by the Governors of individual but anonymous case studies of students with Special Educational Needs
- Attendance at/involvement/leadership of INSET courses by all staff

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

This policy has been drawn up in accordance with the 2015 Code of Practice and in consultation with the staff and governors. It will be monitored through discussion with the governor responsible for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The following criteria will help the governors, head teacher and SENDCo evaluate the success of the education we provide:

- The existence of accurate, up to date record keeping
- The percentage of attendance by parents at review meetings
- Feedback from parent, pupil and staff questionnaires
- Parental requests for the school to be named on the pupil's EHCP
- The number of pupils for whom EHCP of SEND is no longer necessary, or the number of pupils remaining at a stage of assessment or reverting to the previous one
- OFSTED inspection reports and LA SEND audit processes
- Inclusion of SEND issues in development planning
- Feedback from pupils and parents
- Attendance/involvement/leadership of INSET courses by all staff
- Analysis of pupil attainment (e.g. progress over time tracking progress)
- Evaluations of monitoring carried out as part of a Monitoring and Evaluation Action Plan
- Classroom observations by SENDCo/Headteacher
- Adjustments in budget allocation to reflect changing needs

## **Training**

In order to maintain and develop the quality of teaching and provision to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils, all staff are encouraged to undertake training and development.

Training needs of staff are identified through the school's self-evaluation process. All teachers and support staff undertake an induction process on taking up a post and this

includes a meeting with the SENDCo to explain the systems and structures in place around the school's SEND provision and practice and to discuss the needs of individual pupils.

The school's SENDCo regularly attends SENDCo network meetings in order to keep up to date with local and national updates in SEND.

### **Reviewing this Policy**

This policy will be formally reviewed annually and published on the school's website.