



Special Educational Needs Policy

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Contents:

Mission Statement - Page 3

1. Aims and objectives - Page 3

2. Responsibility for the coordination of SEND provision - Page 4

3. Arrangements for coordinating SEND provision - Page 4

4. Admission arrangements - Page 4

5. Specialist SEND provision - Page 5

6. Facilities for pupils with SEND - Page 5

7. Allocation of resources for pupils with SEND -Page 5

8. Identification of pupils' needs - Page 5

9. Access to the curriculum, information and associated services - Page 8

10. Inclusion of pupils with SEND - Page 9

11. Evaluating the success of provision - Page 9

12. Complaints procedure - Page 9

13. In service training (CPD) - Page 9

14. Links to support services - Page 10

15. Working in partnership with parents - Page 10

16. Links with other schools - Page 11

17. Links with other agencies and voluntary organisations - Page 11

Special Educational Needs Policy

The government has reformed the way in which provision and support is made for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in England. New legislation (The Children and Families Act 2014) came into force from the 1st September 2014. A new SEND Code of Practice also accompanies this legislation.

More details about the reforms and the SEND Code of Practice can be found on the Department for Education's website:

www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/SEND

One significant change arising from the reforms is that Statements of Special Educational Needs, for those children with the most complex needs, have now been replaced with a new Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). These plans are supported by a "SEND Support Arrangements" document.

These new SEND Support Arrangements are described in greater detail on the Surrey SEND Local Offer Website:

<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-SEND/our-local-offer-support-and-advice-for-children-and-young-people-with-SEND>

The SEND Local Offer is a resource which is designed to support children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families. It describes the services and provision available to families in Surrey with an Education, Health Care Plan as well as those who do not have a plan, but still experience some form of special educational need.

The SEND Local Offer includes information about public services across education, health and social care, as well as those provided by the private, voluntary and community sectors.

Definitions of special educational needs (SEND) taken from section 20 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

A child or young person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- a) have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- b) have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.

A child under compulsory school age has special educational needs if they fall within the definition at (a) or (b) above or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them.

Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because their home language is different from the language in which they are taught.

Mission statement

Believe Excell Strive Together

At Buckland Primary School we are proud to provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every member of our community is valued and respected.

Our broad, balanced, creative curriculum and enrichment activities provide opportunities for everyone to achieve and succeed.

We achieve this by:

- Treating one another with respect
- Considering the needs of others
- Challenging and surpassing expectations
- Taking pride in what we do
- Encouraging curiosity and asking questions
- Stimulating creative and critical thinking
- Delivering learning through exciting topics
- Inspirational teaching
- Promoting a Growth-Mindset and resilience.

We celebrate our achievements and cultural diversity, irrespective of individual differences within the protected categories of the Equality Act of 2010.

Together we take pride in making a positive contribution to our school and the wider community.

1. Aims and objectives

Aims

We aim to provide every child with access to a broad and balanced education. This includes the National Curriculum in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

Objectives

- **Staff members seek to identify the needs of pupils with SEND as early as possible.** This is most effectively done by gathering information from parents, education, health and care services and early years settings prior to the child's entry into the school.
- **Monitor the progress of all pupils** in order to aid the identification of pupils with SEND. Continuous monitoring of those pupils with SEND by their teachers will help to ensure that they are able to reach their full potential.
- **Make appropriate provision to overcome all barriers to learning and ensure pupils with SEND have full access to the National Curriculum.** This will be co-ordinated by the SENCO and Head teacher and will be carefully monitored and regularly reviewed in order to ensure that individual targets are being met and all pupils' needs are being addressed.
- **Work with parents** to gain a better understanding of their child and involve them in all stages of their child's education. This includes supporting them in terms of understanding SEND procedures and practices and providing regular feedback on their child's progress.
- **Work with and in support of outside agencies** when the pupils' needs cannot be met

by the school alone. Some of these services include the Educational Psychology Service, Speech and Language Therapy, Paediatric Occupational Therapy, Children and Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHS), Learning and Language Support, Behaviour Support and Freemantles ASD Outreach.

· **Create a school environment where pupils can contribute to their own learning.**

This means encouraging relationships with adults in school where pupils feel safe to voice their opinions of their own needs as well as carefully monitoring the progress of all pupils at regular intervals. Pupil participation is encouraged through school by wider opportunities such as school council, residential visits, school plays, sports teams, lunch-time clubs and 'buddies' in the playground.

2. Responsibility for the coordination of SEND provision

The person responsible for overseeing the provision for children with SEND and co-ordinating the day to day provision of education for pupils with SEND is Jacqui Tracey (SENCO).

3. Arrangements for coordinating SEND provision

The SENCO will hold details of all SEND records for individual pupils.

All staff can access:

- The Buckland Primary School SEND Policy;
- A copy of the full SEND Register.
- Guidance on identification of SEND in the Code of Practice
- Information on individual pupils' special educational needs, including pupil profiles, targets set and copies of their provision map.
- Practical advice, teaching strategies, and information about types of special educational needs and disabilities
- Information available through Surrey's SEND Local Offer

In this way, every staff member will have complete and up-to-date information about all pupils with special needs and their requirements which will enable them to provide for the individual needs of all pupils.

This policy is made accessible to all staff and parents in order to aid the effective implementation of the school's SEND provision.

4. Admission arrangements

Please refer to the information contained in our school prospectus.

The admission arrangements for all pupils are in accordance with national legislation, including the Equality Act 2010. This includes children with any level of SEND; those with Education, Health and Care Plans and those without.

5. Specialist SEND provision

We are committed to whole school inclusion. In our school we support children with a range of special educational needs. We will seek specialist SEND provision and training from SEND services where necessary.

6. Facilities for pupils with SEND

The school complies with all relevant accessibility requirements, please see the school accessibility plan for more details.

7. Allocation of resources for pupils with SEND

All pupils with SEND will have access to Wave 1 and 2 of a school's budget which equates to £6,000. Some pupils with SEND may access additional funding. For those with the most complex needs, additional funding is retained by the local authority and accessed through individual applications to a multi-agency panel by means of an Education Health Care Plan, which is administered by the Local Authority, who will determine whether the level and complexity of need meets the threshold for this funding. It would then be the responsibility of the SENCO, senior leadership team and governors, in consultation with parents, to agree how the allocation of resources is used.

8. Identification of pupils needs

Identification

See definition of Special Educational Needs at start of policy.

A graduated approach:

Quality First Teaching

- a) Any pupils who are falling significantly outside of the range of expected academic achievement in line with predicted performance indicators and grade boundaries will be monitored.
- b) Once a pupil has been identified as possibly having SEND they will be closely monitored by staff in order to gauge their level of learning and possible difficulties.
- c) The child's class teacher will take steps to provide differentiated learning opportunities that will aid the pupil's academic progression and enable the teacher to better understand the provision and teaching style that needs to be applied.
- d) The SENCO will be consulted as needed for support and advice and may wish to observe the pupil in class.
- e) Through (b) and (d) it can be determined which level of provision the child will need going forward.
- f) If a pupil has recently been removed from the SEND register they may also fall into this category as continued monitoring may be necessary.
- g) Parents will be informed fully of every stage of their child's development and the circumstances under which they are being monitored. They are encouraged to share information and knowledge with the school.

h) The child is recorded by the school as being under observation due to concern by parent or teacher but this does not automatically place the child on the school's SEND register. Any concerns will be discussed with parents informally or during parents' consultation evenings. Parents' consultation evenings are used to keep parents informed of the progress being made by children.

SEND Support

Where it is determined that a pupil does have SEND, parents will be formally advised of the decision to place the child on the SEND register. The aim of formally identifying a pupil with SEND is to help school ensure that effective provision is put in place and so remove barriers to learning. The support provided consists of a four - part process:

- Assess
- Plan
- Do
- Review

This is an ongoing cycle to enable the provision to be refined and revised as the understanding of the needs of the pupil grows. This cycle enables the identification of those interventions which are the most effective in supporting the pupil to achieve good progress and outcomes.

Assess

This involves clearly analysing the pupil's needs using the class teacher's assessment and experience of working with the pupil, details of previous progress and attainment, comparisons with peers and national data, as well as the views and experience of parents. The pupil's views and where relevant, advice from external support services will also be considered. Any parental concerns will be noted and compared with the school's information and assessment data on how the pupil is progressing.

This analysis will require regular review to ensure that support and intervention is matched to need, that barriers to learning are clearly identified and being overcome and that the interventions being used are developing and evolving as required. Where external support staff are already involved, their work will help inform the assessment of need. Where they are not involved they may be contacted, if this is felt to be appropriate, following discussion and agreement from parents.

Plan

Planning will involve consultation between the teacher, SENCO and parents to agree the adjustments, interventions and support that are required; the impact on progress, development and or behaviour that is expected and a clear date for review. Parental involvement may be sought, where appropriate, to reinforce or contribute to progress at home.

All those working with the pupil, including support staff will be informed of their individual needs, the support that is being provided, any particular teaching strategies/approaches that are being employed and the outcomes that are being sought.

Do

The class teacher remains responsible for working with the child on a day-to-day basis. They will retain responsibility even where the interventions may involve group or one-to-one teaching away from the main class teacher. They will work closely with teaching assistants and to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and links with classroom teaching. Support with further assessment of the pupil's strengths and weaknesses, problem solving and advice on the implementation of effective support will be provided by the SENCO.

Review

Reviews of a child's progress will be made regularly. The review process will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions. It will also take account of the views of the pupil and where necessary their parents. The class teacher, in consultation with the SENCO, will revise the support and outcomes based on the pupil's progress and development making any necessary amendments going forward, in consultation with parents and the pupil.

Referral for an Education, Health and Care Plan

If a child has lifelong or significant difficulties they may undergo a Statutory Assessment Process which is usually requested by the school, but can be requested by a parent. This will occur where the complexity of need or a lack of clarity around the needs of the child are such that a multi-agency approach to assessing that need, to planning provision and identifying resources, is required. The decision to make a referral for an Education, Health Care Plan will be taken at a progress review. The application for an Education, Health Care Plan will combine information from a variety of sources including:

- Parents
- Teachers
- SENCO
- Education professionals
- Social Care
- Health professionals

Information will be gathered relating to the current provision provided, action points that have been taken, and the preliminary outcomes of targets set. A decision will be made by a number of people from education, health and social care about whether or the child is eligible for an EHCP. Parents have the right to appeal against a decision not to initiate a statutory assessment leading to an EHCP.

Further information about EHC Plans can found via the SEND Local Offer:

https://new.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/16850/Guide-to-Surrey-SEND.pdf

or by speaking to an Education, Health and Care Plan Co-ordinator on:

0115 9774012 or 0115 9773323

or by contacting the Parent Partnership Service on:

0115 948 2888

Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)

- a. Following Statutory Assessment, an EHC Plan will be provided by Surrey County Council, if it is decided that the child's needs are not being met by the support that is ordinarily available. The school and the child's parents will be involved developing and producing the plan.
- b. Parents have the right to appeal against the content of the EHC Plan. They may also appeal against the school named in the Plan if it differs from their preferred choice.
- c. Once the EHCP has been completed and agreed, it will be kept as part of the pupil's formal record and reviewed annually by staff, parents and the pupil. The annual review enables provision for the pupil to be evaluated and, where appropriate, for changes to be put in place, for example, reducing or increasing levels of support.

9. Access to the curriculum, information and associated services

Pupils with SEND will be given access to the curriculum through the specialist SEND provision provided by the school as is necessary, as far as possible, taking into account the wishes of their parents and the needs of the individual. Every effort will be made to educate pupils with SEND alongside their peers in a mainstream classroom setting. Where this is not possible, the SENCO will consult with the child's parents for other flexible arrangements to be made.

Regular training and learning opportunities for staff on the subject of SEND and SEND teaching are provided both in school and across the confederation of schools. Staff members are kept up to date with teaching methods which will aid the progress of all pupils including those with SEND.

In class provision and support are deployed effectively to ensure the curriculum is differentiated where necessary. We make sure that individual or group tuition is available where it is felt pupils would benefit from this provision. We set appropriate individual targets that motivate pupils to do their best, and celebrating achievements at all levels.

10. Inclusion of pupils with SEND

The Head teacher and SENCO oversee the school's policy for inclusion and are responsible for ensuring that it is implemented effectively throughout the school.

The school curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure that it promotes the inclusion of all pupils. This includes learning outside the classroom. Regular classroom observations by senior leaders ensure that lessons are inclusive and all pupils are considered in the planning and teaching of lessons.

The school will seek advice, as appropriate, around individual pupils, from external support services. Advice will be sought from the Behaviour Support Service for children who have behavioural concerns. Where a behavioural incident warrants exclusion, the school will consult this service in an attempt to avoid further exclusions.

11. Evaluating the success of provision

In order to make consistent continuous progress in relation to SEND provision, the school encourages feedback from staff, parents and pupils throughout the year. This is done in through progress meetings, discussions with parents, as well as parent and pupil questionnaires.

Pupil progress will be monitored on a termly basis in line with the SEND Code of Practice. SEND provision and interventions are recorded on an individual provision map, which are updated when the intervention is changed. These are updated by the class teacher and are monitored by the SENCO. These reflect information passed on by the previous teacher and the SENCO at the beginning of an academic year and are adapted following assessments. These interventions are monitored and evaluated termly by the SENCO and information is fed back to the staff, parents and governors. This helps to identify whether provision is effective.

12. Complaints procedure

If a parent or carer has any concerns or complaints regarding the care or welfare of their child, an appointment can be made by them to speak to the Head teacher or SENCO, who will be able to advise or make any necessary amendments to the current provision.

13. In service training (CPD)

We aim to keep all school staff up to date with relevant training and developments in teaching practice in relation to the needs of pupils with SEND. The SENCO attends relevant SEND courses, Family SEND meetings and facilitates/signposts relevant SEND focused external training opportunities for all staff.

We recognise the need to train all our staff on SEND issues and we regularly have opportunities for this professional development. The SENCO, with the senior leadership team, ensures that training opportunities are matched to school development priorities and those identified through the use of provision management (see Section 11).

14. Links to support services

The school continues to build strong working relationships and links with external support

services in order to fully support our SEND pupils and aid school inclusion. Sharing knowledge and information with our support services is key to the effective and successful SEND provision within our school. Any one of the support services may raise concerns about a pupil. This will then be brought to the attention of the SENCO and the child's parents who meet after the assessment to discuss findings and future targets to support the child's learning.

15. Working in partnerships with parents

Buckland Primary School believes that a close working relationship with parents is vital in order to ensure

- a) early and accurate identification and assessment of SEND leading to appropriate intervention and provision
- b) continuing social and academic progress of children with SEND
- c) personal and academic targets are set and met effectively

In cases where more frequent regular contact with parents is necessary, this will be arranged based on the individual pupil's needs. The SENCO may also signpost parents of pupils with SEND to the local authority Parent Partnership service where specific advice, guidance and support may be required.

If an assessment or referral indicates that a pupil has additional learning needs the parents and the pupil will always be consulted with regards to future provision. Parents are invited to attend meetings with external agencies regarding their child, and are kept up to date and consulted on any points of action drawn up regarding the provision for their child. The school's SEND governor may be contacted at any time in relation to SEND matters.

16. Links with other schools

The school works in partnership with the other schools in the Spelthorne Confederation of Schools. This enables the schools to build a bank of joint resources and to share advice, training and development activities and expertise.

17. Links with other agencies and voluntary organisations

Buckland Primary School invites and seeks advice and support from external agencies in the identification and assessment of, and provision for, SEND. The SENCO is the designated person responsible for liaising with the following:

- Surrey's Education Psychology Service
- Behaviour Support Service
- Social Services
- Speech and Language Service
- Language and Learning Support Service
- Specialist Outreach Services

In cases where a child is under observation or a cause for concern, focused meetings will be arranged with the appropriate agency.