

**SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND  
DISABILITIES (SEND)**

**TODWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
LOCAL OFFER**

**September 2019**

# Introduction

All Rotherham Local Authority (LA) maintained schools have a similar approach to meeting the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and are supported by the LA to ensure that all pupils, regardless of their specific needs, make the best possible progress in school.

All schools are supported to be as inclusive as possible, with the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities being met in a mainstream setting wherever possible.

## What is the Local Offer?

### **The LA Local Offer**

The Children and Families Bill will become enacted in 2014. From this date Local Authorities (LA) and schools are required to publish and keep under review information about services they expect to be available for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) aged 0-25. This is the 'SEN Information Report'.

The intention of the Local Offer is to improve choice and transparency for families. It will also be an important resource for parents in understanding the range of services and provision in the local area.

### **The School Local Offer**

This utilises the LA Local Offer to meet the needs of SEND pupils as determined by school policy and the provision that the school is able to provide.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Question 1

**Who are the best people to talk to in this school about my child's difficulties with learning/ Special Educational Needs or disability (SEND)?**

#### **The Class teacher**

Responsible for:

- Checking on the progress of your child and identifying, planning and delivering any additional help your child may need (this could be things like targeted work, additional support) and letting the Special Education Needs/Disabilities Coordinator (Inclusion Manager) know as necessary.
- Writing Individual Education Plans (IEPs), and sharing and reviewing these with parents once each term and planning for the next term.
- Personalised teaching and learning for your child as identified within the school's provision.

- Ensuring that the school's SEND Policy is followed in their classroom and for all the pupils they teach with any SEND.

### **The Inclusion Manager (SENDCo) - Mrs Sally Wordsworth**

Responsible for:

- Developing and reviewing the school's SEND policy
- Coordinating all the support for children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)
- Ensuring that you are:
  - i) Involved in supporting your child's learning.
  - ii) Kept informed about the support your child is getting.
  - iii) Involved in reviewing how they are doing.
- Liaising with all the other people who may be coming in to school to help support your child's learning e.g. Learning Support Service, Speech and Language Therapy, Educational Psychology etc.
- Updating the school's SEND register (a system for ensuring that all the SEND needs of pupils in this school are known) and making sure that records of your child's progress and needs are kept.
- Providing specialist support for teachers and support staff in the school so that they can help children with SEND in the school to achieve the best progress possible.

### **The Headteacher - Mrs S Oakes**

Responsible for:

- The day to day management of all aspects of the school, this includes the support for children with SEND.

The Headteacher will give responsibility to the Inclusion manager and class teachers, but is still responsible for ensuring that your child's needs are met.

The Headteacher must make sure that the Governing Body is kept up to date about issues relating to SEND.

### **The SEND Governor - Mrs V Chapman**

Responsible for:

- Making sure that the necessary support is given for any child who attends the school, who has SEND.

## Question 2

What are the different types of support available for children with SEND in our school?

**a) Class teacher input via excellent targeted classroom teaching (Quality First Teaching).**

For your child this would mean:

- That the teacher has the highest possible expectations for your child and all pupils in their class.
- That all teaching is built on what your child already knows, can do and can understand.
- Different approaches to teaching are in place, such as practical learning, so that your child is fully involved in learning.
- Specific strategies (which may be suggested by the Inclusion Manager or outside agencies) are in place to support your child to learn.

Your child's teacher will have carefully checked on your child's progress and will have decided that your child has a gap or gaps in their understanding/learning and needs some extra support to help them make the best possible progress.

**b) Specific group work**

Intervention which may be:

- Run in the classroom or in an alternative area of the school.
- Run by a teacher or a Teaching Assistant (TA).

**c) Specialist groups run by outside agencies** e.g. Learning Support Service, Speech and Language therapy This means they have been identified by the Inclusion manager /class teacher as needing some extra specialist support in school from a professional outside the school. This may be from:

- Local Authority central services such as the ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) Outreach Team or Sensory Service ( for students with a hearing or visual need)
- Outside agencies such as the Education Psychology Service (EPS).

What could happen?

You will be asked to give your permission for the school to refer your child to a specialist professional e.g. Learning Support Service or Educational Psychologist. This will help the school and yourself understand your child's particular needs better and be able to support them better in school.

The specialist professional will work with your child to understand their needs and make recommendations as to the ways your child is given support:

**d) Specified Individual support**

This type of support is available for children whose learning needs are, severe, complex and lifelong.

This is usually provided via an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This means your child will have been identified by professionals as needing a particularly high level of individual or small group teaching.

This type of support is available for children with specific barriers to learning that cannot be overcome through Quality First Teaching and intervention groups ("Including All Children" documentation from LA).

Your child may also need specialist support in school from a professional outside the school. This may be from:

- Local Authority central services such as the ASD Outreach (autism) LSS Team (learning support), or Sensory Service (for students with a hearing or visual need)
- Outside agencies such as the Speech and Language therapy (SALT) Service

For your child this would mean:

- The school (or you) can request that Local Authority Services carry out a statutory assessment of your child's needs. This is a legal process which sets out the amount of support that will be provided for your child.
- After the request has been made to the 'Panel of Professionals' (with a lot of information about your child, including some from you), they will decide whether they think your child's needs (as described in the paperwork provided), seem complex enough to need a statutory assessment. If this is the case they will ask you and all professionals involved with your child to write a report outlining your child's needs. If they do not think your child needs this, they will ask the school to continue with the current support.
- After the reports have all been sent in, the 'Panel of Professionals' will decide if your child's needs are severe, complex and lifelong. If this is the case they will write a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). If this is not the case, they will ask the school to continue with the current level of support and also set up a meeting in school to ensure a plan is in place to ensure your child makes as much progress as possible.
- The Statement or EHC Plan will outline the support your child will receive from the LA and how the support should be used and what strategies must be put in place. It will also have long and short term goals for your child.
- An additional adult may be used to support your child with whole class learning, run individual programmes or run small groups that include your child.

## Question 3

**How can I let the school know I am concerned about my child's progress in school?**

If you have concerns about your child's progress you should speak to your child's class teacher initially.

If you continue to be concerned that your child is not making progress, you may speak to the Inclusion Manager (SENDCo)

If you continue to be concerned following this discussion you may speak to the Headteacher.

The school SEND Governor can also be contacted for support.

School telephone number: 01909 771138.

## Question 4

**How will the school let me know if they have any concerns about my child's learning in school?**

If your child is identified as not making progress, the school will discuss this with you in more detail and:

- listen to any concerns you may have
- plan any additional support your child may need
- discuss with you any referrals to outside professionals to support your child's learning

## Question 5

**How is additional support allocated to children and how do they progress in their learning?**

The school budget, received from Rotherham LA, includes money for supporting children with SEND.

The Head Teacher decides on the deployment of resources for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in consultation with the school governors, on the basis of needs in the school.

The Head Teacher and the Inclusion Manager discuss all the information they have about SEND in the school, including:

- the children getting additional support already
- the children needing additional support
- the children who have been identified as not making as much progress as would be expected

They will then decide what resources/training and support is needed to best support the pupils.

Schools identify the needs of their pupils on a school provision map. This identifies all resources/training and support that is currently available and is reviewed regularly and changes made as required to reflect pupil need.

## Question 6

Who are the other people providing services to children with SEND in this school?

- **School provision**

Higher Level Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistants

Attendance Officer

- **Local Authority Provision delivered in school**

Learning Support service

Autism Outreach Service

Educational Psychology Service

Behaviour Support Teams

Sensory Service for children with visual or hearing needs

- **Health Provision delivered in school**

Additional Speech and Language Therapy input

School Nurse

## Question 7

How are the teachers in school helped to work with children SEND and what training do they have?

- The Inclusion Manager's job is to support the class teacher in developing provision for children with SEND and in providing additional support and advice for class teachers.
- The school provides training and support to enable all staff to improve the teaching and learning of children, including those with SEND. This includes whole school training on SEND issues such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), behavioural difficulties and Speech and Language difficulties.
- Individual teachers and support staff attend training courses run by outside agencies that are relevant to the needs of specific children in their class e.g. from the Autism Outreach Team (AOT) service and the Learning support Service.

## Question 8

**How will the teaching be adapted for my child with SEND?**

- Class Teachers plan lessons according to the specific needs of all groups of children in their class, and will ensure that your child's needs are met.
- Support staff, under the direction of the class teacher, can adapt planning to support the needs of your child where necessary.
- Specific resources and strategies will be used to support your child individually and in groups.
- Planning and teaching will be adapted on a daily basis if needed to meet your child's learning needs.

## Question 9

**How will we measure the progress of your child in school?**

- Your child's progress is continually monitored by his/her class teacher. The class teacher and Inclusion Manager will also check that your child is making good progress within any individual work and in any group that they take part in.
- His/her progress is reviewed every half term in reading, writing and mathematics at pupil progress meetings.
- At the end of EYFS all children are assessed against the Early Learning Goals and this is reported to parents.
- At the end of key stage one (i.e. at the end of year 2) all children are required to be formally assessed using Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). This is something the government requires all schools to do and these are the results that are published nationally.

If your child is in Year 1 or above, a more sensitive assessment tool (PIVATS) can be used, which shows their attainment in more detail if this is required.

Children may have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which will be reviewed every term, following which, a future plan will be made to follow on from previous outcomes.

The progress of children with a statement of SEND/ EHC Plan is formally reviewed at an Annual Review, with all adults involved with the child's education.

## Question 10

**What support do we have for you as a parent of a child with a SEND?**

- The class teacher is regularly available to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you may have and to share information about what is working well at home and school so similar strategies can be used.
- The Inclusion Manager will be available to meet with you to discuss your child's progress or any concerns/worries you may have.

- All information from outside professionals will be discussed with you with the person involved directly, or where this is not possible, in a report.
- Personal progress targets/IEPs will be reviewed with your involvement.
- Homework will be adjusted as needed to your child's individual needs.
- A home/school contact book may be used to support communication with you, when this has been agreed to be useful for you and your child.

## Question 11

**How is Todwick Primary School accessible to children with SEND?**

- The building is a double storey building with outside access points from both levels and an inside chair lift to get between the levels.
- On the steps, both inside and outside the school, there is high visibility paint edging them to give added safety to any visually impaired child.
- Within the building we have a disabled toilet.
- We ensure, where ever possible, that equipment used is accessible to all children regardless of their needs.
- After school and extra-curricular provision is accessible to all children including those with SEND.

## Question 12

**How will we support your child when they are leaving this school or moving on to another class?**

- We recognise that transitions can be difficult for a child with SEND and take steps to ensure that any transition is as smooth as possible.

**If your child is moving to another school:**

- We will contact the school SENDCo/Inclusion Manager and ensure he/she knows about any special arrangements or support that need to be made for your child.
- Transition visits will be arranged for the new Inclusion Manager to meet the child and / or for the child to visit their new school
- We will make sure that all records about your child are passed on as soon as possible.

**When moving classes in school:**

- Information will be passed on to the new class teacher in advance and a planning meeting will take place between the new teacher and current class teacher. IEP s will be shared with the new teacher.
- Children will spend time in their new classrooms with their new teachers/assistants to familiarise themselves before they move classes.
- Your child will be supported through transition to develop their understanding of the changes ahead.

## Question 13

**What Emotional and Social Development support we have for a child with a SEND?**

- We recognise that pupils with SEND may well have Emotional and Social Development needs that will require support in school.
- The emotional health and well-being of all our pupils is very important to us. Class teachers and all staff continually monitor the emotional health and well-being of all our pupils.
- We run nurture groups for pupils who we feel need additional social and emotional support and a Learning Mentor can be appointed to support them.
- We have a robust Safeguarding Policy in place and we follow National & LA Guidelines.
- We have robust Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies in place that are reviewed regularly.

**For further information on any of the above or to arrange a visit to the school please contact the school office on 01909 771138.**