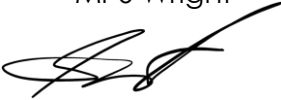
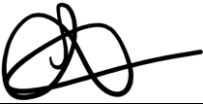


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Aspiration. Inspiration. Motivation.

SEND Policy

Policy written & updated	October 2020 June 2025
Agreed by Governors	October 2023 July 2025
Next Review	September 2026
Head teacher	Mr S Wright 
Chair of Governors	Mrs E Scorer 

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy

Whitby Heath is a two-form entry primary school, dedicated to delivering inclusive education. Children with special educational needs with or without an EHC (Education, Health and Care Plan) are admitted on the same basis as any other pupil. A child has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which requires for special educational provision to be made.

Special educational provision refers to 'what is additional to, or different from, the educational provision made generally for children of their age in mainstream schools'. Children must not be regarded as having learning difficulties solely because the language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught. Not all children with a disability will necessarily have SEND but may require reasonable adjustments.

This policy reflects the guidance in the SEND 2014 Code of Practice (updated 2020), 0-25 which identifies 4 main categories of need (Appendix 1):

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties
- Sensory and/or Physical needs

Aims

At Whitby Heath, our vision is that all children are given equal opportunities to reach their full potential and become confident learners. We ensure all our children regardless of their ability or level of need have access to our broad and balanced curriculum to develop a range of skills as well as have a positive feeling of self-worth. We have high expectations of all children at Whitby Heath Primary school and support them in reaching their full potential by removing any barriers to their learning having identified their needs early.

At Whitby Heath Primary School, we will ensure that:

- The SEND Code of Practice 2014 is implemented effectively throughout the school
- All pupils have equal opportunity to access a broad and balanced curriculum which is adapted appropriately to their needs and ability.
- Pupils requiring special provision are identified as early as possible and provided with appropriate intervention and support. All children with SEND are supported through cycles of assess, plan, do, review as part of their SEND profile with termly targets.
- This process is supported and monitored by termly meetings with the SENCO to ensure that additional support is appropriate and effective.
- A variety of teaching strategies are used in line with Quality First Teaching to help all pupils aspire to achieve and progress as well as they can, despite any difficulty or disability they may have.
- We provide opportunities for narrowing the gap between SEN and non-SEN children and ensure they reach their full potential, making good progress from their starting points.
- Pupils identified with special needs take as full a part as possible in all school activities including residential trips and after-school clubs; promoting the highest levels of engagement.
- Parents of pupils with special needs are kept fully informed of their child's progress and attainment.
- Pupils are involved, where possible, in decisions affecting their provision

Legislation and Guidance

This policy and the annual SEND information report complies with the statutory requirements as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice (2014). It has also been written with reference to the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Schools SEND Information Report Regulations 2014
- Children and Families Act 2014.
- Education Act 2011
- Teachers Standards 2012
- Keeping Children Safe in Education

Our SEND policy also links to other school policies, including our Inclusion and Accessibility Policies, as well as the Equality Statement.

This policy was created by the School's SENCO following the reforms in the SEN Code of Practice 0 – 25 (July 2014). The SENCO at Whitby Heath Primary School is Mrs C Ellison (Mrs G Beach covering Maternity Leave from September 2025- May 2026). The SENCo has completed the National Award for SEN Coordination and holds accreditation as a Senior Mental Health Leader. The SENCo is a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team.

Governor responsible for SEND: **Emma Scorer**

Identification, Assessment and Provision.

All teachers are responsible for identifying pupils with SEN and, in collaboration with the SEN Coordinator (SENCo), will ensure that those pupils requiring different or additional support are identified at an early stage.

Early Identification.

The school will use appropriate screening and assessment tools, and ascertain pupil progress through:

- Evidence obtained by regular teacher observations/assessments
- Pupil progress information
- Records from previous settings/schools
- Information from parents
- Standardised screening or assessment tools

Quality First Teaching is the provision that all children receive in class (Wave 1). If children are not making adequate progress, working below age related expectations or not on track for their end of key stage targets, then staff will identify difficulties in learning and put in place a range of measures to help bring children 'back on track'. This is known as Wave 2.

Wave 2 provision could be:

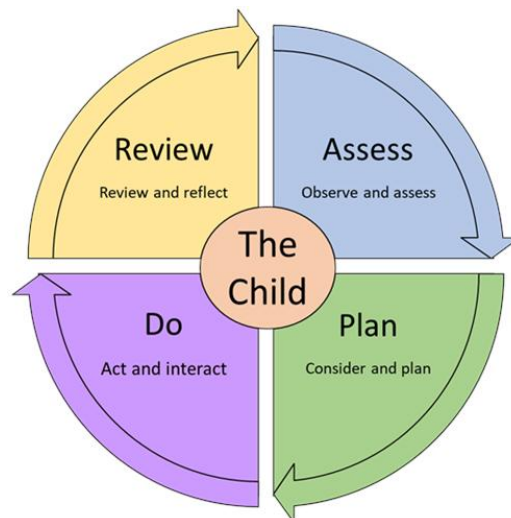
- Additional support in class from teacher, providing an adapted curriculum
- In class support for groups of pupils from an additional teacher or Teaching Assistant

- Planned, purposeful periods of withdrawal to work with a TA using a support programme
- Additional in class activities/ resources as required
- Increased use of technology (computer programmes)
- Peer support/buddy systems
- Adapted homework and support advice for parents/carers

At this stage, pupils may be placed on our 'Concern' list. This is a stage prior to the SEN register where short-term targets are made and interventions such as those listed above are considered. Children become a high focus and the assess, plan, do, review cycle begins. With short-term, wave 2 interventions, children may reach these targets and be removed from the concerns list. If not, further intervention may be required.

Graduated response

The SEN Code of Practice advocates a gradual response to meeting pupils' needs using an assess, plan, do and review cycle. If teachers or parents continue to have concerns following Wave 2 support, parents/carers are informed that the child will be placed on SEN Register and receive SEN School Support



School Support (Wave 3)

School support intervention is triggered when despite receiving adaptive, quality first teaching and support, pupils:

- Make little or no progress
- Demonstrate on-going difficulty in developing literacy/numeracy skills
- Show persistent social, emotional and/or mental health difficulties which are not affected by the school's support strategies
- Have sensory/physical problems, and make little progress despite the provision of specialist equipment
- Experience communication and/or interaction problems and make little or no progress

Children accessing SEN Support, Wave 3, will have a SEND profile which will include the following information:

- Strengths and Weaknesses

- 2-3 short term SMART target which will set termly unless met earlier.
- Teaching strategies, resources and provision to be implemented

Waves of intervention model



The SEND profiles will be reviewed regularly to ensure they are appropriate and reflect the needs of the child. The SENCO maintains an accurate list of children with SEND and this is updated on a termly basis. The SENCO will use this to track progress and achievements against their individual SMART targets. If children have made sufficient progress and narrowed the gap to their peers, they can be removed from the SEND register after consultation with parents.

To support teachers in following this process, class teachers have termly meetings with the SENCO where their class SEN registers (including children on the concerns list) are discussed in detail. This ensures teachers are equipped to make adequate and appropriate provisions within class to support children. It also provides opportunity for a professional dialogue to facilitate further, external support if needed. Ensuring that additional intervention is sought in a timely manner if needed.

External Support Services

The SENCO may refer to outside agencies for additional advice or guidance. This can include Community Paediatricians, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language therapist, CAMHS or the Autism Team. All information will be shared with parents. Further information about Cheshire West Support Services can be found [here](#).

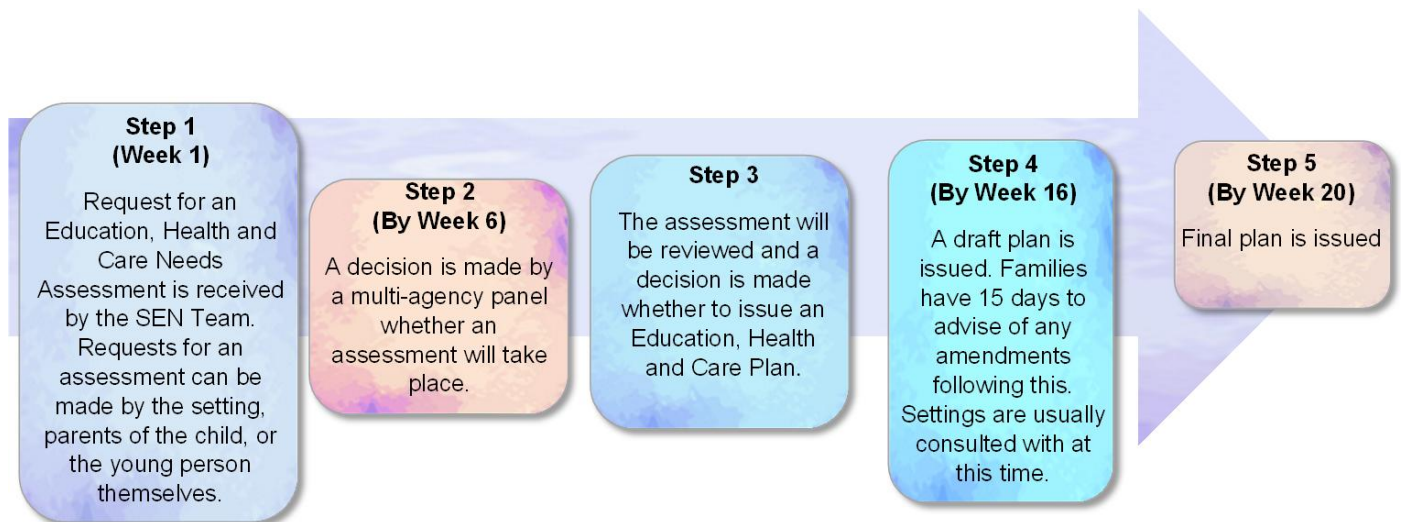
Parental consent will always be sought when the school seeks external support. External support services will require access to pupils' records in order to understand the strategies employed by the school. The specialist may work directly with the pupil and may provide or ask for further assessments. Advice from external support will be incorporated in the child's targets. Strategies advised may be implemented by the class teacher, teaching assistant or involve other adults. Where appropriate, the school may request direct support/intervention from a specialist teacher.

Additional Funding

Some pupils with SEN require additional funding in order to provide them with the level of support required to make progress. If this is the case, the SENCO, with the class teacher and parents, will complete the relevant paperwork for Additional Pupil Funding known as Element 3 Top Up Funding. The Local Authority will decide whether Additional Funding is needed. Where Top Up funding is allocated, the school must meet the requirements set by the Local Authority. This is typically given on a one-year basis. Further information about Cheshire West funding can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

EHCP Assessments

The school can request an Education, Health and Care Assessment from the Local Authority when, despite an individual programme of sustained intervention, there remains a significant cause for concern. This will be based on the graduated response of assess, plan, do, review and typically must have taken place over a period of at least two terms. The process of an EHC Application is around 20 weeks. [Parents can also put in an EHC Application](#). The SENCO can provide guidance for a parental request which is made using the CWAC electronic platform 'The Hub'. If an EHC request is successful and an EHCP is granted, an annual review will be held to monitor and report on progress towards short- and long-term outcomes based on the child's individual needs.



Partnership with Parents and Pupils

Whitby Heath Primary School believes in developing strong partnerships with parents and recognises that by working together, home and school can help children with SEN achieve their potential. We encourage an active working relationship through an on-going dialogue with parents/carers. The school will keep parents fully informed and seek their views at every stage. Whitby Heath school signpost additional support for families outside of school where possible including through the [Live Well Website](#).

Pupils' views are sought and they are a part of the target setting process where appropriate. Pupils receiving additional funding are included in the annual review process to the best of their ability.

We endeavour to ensure that all pupils are dealt with fairly by:

- Teaching for a variety of learning styles (multi-sensory teaching, mind friendly learning)
- Respecting the needs of every child: - academic, gender, social and cultural
- Following a broad and balanced curriculum
- Delivering Quality First Teaching.
- Regular monitoring of the quality of both teaching and learning.
- Providing additional support at key transition points such as moving to High School

Pupils are encouraged to play an active part in planning their education by:

- Understanding their targets

- Being aware of progress in achieving them, or towards achieving them
- Discussing next steps with their teacher as appropriate
- Being encouraged to reflect at the end of lessons on their understanding of the learning objective.

Admissions

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 an Education, Health and Care plan and those without. If the child is making a transition from another school, a meeting may be set up between the feeder school and the receiving school's SENCOs to aid the smooth transition of the pupil, and discuss arrangements to be made as well as any other important information relating to that child's needs. The school will do its best to ensure that the necessary provisions and preparations are made prior (where possible) to the start of the child's school year. The child will be closely monitored from the start of the new school year to ensure that all the appropriate provisions are in place.

Staff Training and Development

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 Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will review the needs of the teaching and support staff and provide training and support where needed. The needs of pupils will also be taken into account when planning INSET and this will be linked to the objectives along with SEND Action Plan and the Strategic School Development Plan. The SENCO regularly attends SENCO Cluster groups through the local authority in order to keep up to date with local and national trends in SEND.

Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the Class Teacher

Class teachers will:

- Adopt Quality First Teaching Strategies
- Adapt teaching to include all pupils
- Assess and monitor progress of all pupils
- Identify pupils with SEN and gather supporting evidence
- Ensure additional provision for pupils with SEN is planned and implemented and offer guidance to additional staff supporting children with SEN.
- Ensure paperwork is kept up to date (Insight, SEND profiles)
- Liaise with the SENCO when needed
- Develop strong, supportive relationships with parents/carers
- Set and review SMART targets termly, setting new ones if met early
- Gather the views of pupils with SEN
- Engage with the termly SENCO meetings as part of the assess, plan, do review cycle

Role of the SENCO

The SENCO works with the Headteacher to determine the strategic development of this policy, and works closely with staff to ensure the school fulfils the aims in the policy. Responsibilities include:

- Coordinating provision for pupils with SEN and recording this on school tracking systems
- Liaising with and giving advice to teachers and teaching assistants
- Overseeing pupil records
- Liaising with parents
- Contributing to INSET and supporting CPD
- Filing all advice, test results and observations from other agencies for each child and ensuring that the class teacher has copies.
- Liaising with external agencies and support services
- Reporting to the Headteacher and Governor responsible for SEN

The Governing Body

The Governing body, with regard to the SEN Code of Practice, will ensure that:

- Provision of a high standard is made for SEN pupils
- SEN pupils are fully involved in school activities
- They are involved in developing and reviewing the SEN Policy
- There is an appointed SEN Governor
- The SEN Report is updated annually and available on the school's website

Appendix One – Areas of Need Definitions

Communication and Interaction

Children may have speech and language delay, impairments or disorders, specific learning difficulties e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, hearing impairments or autistic spectrum disorder.

Cognition and Learning

Children may experience general or specific learning difficulties and require systematic programmes to aid progression. Specific learning difficulties include, for example, dyslexia and dyspraxia, moderate learning difficulties or global developmental delay.

Behaviour, Emotional and Social Development

Children may be displaying traits associated with attention, deficit and hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attachment disorder, emotional difficulties or mental health difficulties.

Sensory and Physical

Children may have hearing or visual impairments. They may have physical impairments arising from physical and/or neurological causes and require access to specific facilities or equipment. Children may have sensory processing disorder.

