

## **GLODWICK INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) POLICY**

### **Introduction**

At Glodwick Infant and Nursery school we believe that all of our learners have an equal right to a full and rounded education which will enable them to achieve their full potential and 'be the best that they can be'. We recognise that some children will require provision that is additional to and different from that provided within the differentiated curriculum.

Glodwick Infant and Nursery school has two named SENCos (Miss D Preece and Mrs J Lomax) and a named governor responsible for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (Mrs B. Entwistle). They work with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the Special Educational Needs and Disability policy works within the guidelines and inclusion policies of the Code of Practice (2015), in line with the Local Authority and other policies current within the school.

At Glodwick we will respond to children's special educational needs under the four areas identified in the Code of Practice (2015). These are:

- Communication and interaction difficulties
- Cognition and learning difficulties
- Social mental and emotional health difficulties
- Sensory / physical difficulties.

### **What are Special Educational Needs?**

"A child has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A learning difficulty or disability is a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age. Special educational provision means educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from that made generally for others of the same age in a mainstream setting in England.... Health care provision or social care provision which educates or trains a child is to be treated as special educational provision. "(Code of Practice 2015)

This SEND policy details how, at Glodwick, we will do our best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any learner who has special educational needs and that those needs are known to all who are likely to work with them. We will ensure that teachers are able to identify and provide for those learners with special educational needs, allowing them to join in all school activities together with learners who do not have special educational needs.

At Glodwick the definition of SEND support is: Extra or different help is given from that provided as part of the school's usual curriculum. The Class Teacher and SENCO may receive advice or support from outside specialists. The SEND variable indicates whether a pupil has learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than most children of the same age. A pupil has an EHC plan when a formal assessment has been made. (DfE document: Quality and Methodology information, pupil characteristic and geographical information 2016)

### **Aims and Objectives**

The aims of this policy are

- Through reasonable adjustments, to create an environment that meets the special educational needs of each child in order that they can achieve their learning potential and engage in activities alongside pupils who do not have SEND
- To request, monitor and respond to parents or carers' and children's views in order to continue our high levels of confidence and partnership
- To make clear the expectations of all partners in the process
- To ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet learners' needs, through well targeted continuing professional development and in-school training.
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of all staff in providing for children's special educational needs
- To work in cooperation and productive partnerships with the Local Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all learners.
- To ensure that learners with medical conditions are fully included in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals

### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

At Glodwick Infant and Nursery school, we ensure that we meet the needs of all learners, taking account of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, language, sexual orientation, age, ability, disability and social circumstances. It is important that we ensure inclusion for all and that all learners are prepared for full participation in a multi-cultural society within modern Britain, at an age-appropriate level.

Our appropriate curricular provision, respects the fact that children:

- Have different educational, social and emotional needs and aspirations
- Require different strategies for learning
- Acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates
- Need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences

Teachers respond to children's needs by:

- Providing support for learners who need help with communication, language and literacy
- Planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all available senses and experiences
- Planning for children's full participation in learning and in physical and practical activities
- Helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning effectively and safely.

### **Identification, Assessment and Provision**

"All teachers are teachers of children with special educational needs." (Code of Practice 2015)

Provision for children with special educational needs and /or disabilities is an aspect of education for the whole school. The Governing Body, the Head Teacher, the SENCo and all other members of staff, particularly class teachers and teaching assistants, have important day-to-day responsibilities.

At Glodwick we will assess each child's current levels of attainment on entry in order to ensure that learners build on patterns of learning and experience already

established during their pre-school years. If the child already has an identified special educational need or disability, this information may be transferred from other partners in the Early Years or previous school setting and the class teacher and SENCo will use this information to:

- Provide starting points for the development of an appropriate curriculum
- Identify and plan action to support the child within the class

The identification and assessment of the special educational needs of children whose first language is not English requires particular care. Where there is uncertainty about a particular child, a teacher will look carefully at all aspects of the child's performance in different subjects to establish whether the problems are due to limitations in their command of English or arise from a special educational need.

### **The Role of the SENCo and Provision at Glodwick Infant and Nursery School**

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator's (SENCo's) responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND policy
- Co-ordinating provision for children with SEND
- Liaising with and advising fellow teachers
- Overseeing the records of all children with SEND
- Liaising with parents of children with SEND
- Contributing to the in-service training of staff
- Liaising with local feeder schools so that support is provided for children at transition
- Liaising with external agencies including the Local Authority's support and educational psychology services, health and social services and voluntary bodies
- Co-ordinating and developing school based strategies for the identification and review of children with SEND
- Making regular visits to classrooms to monitor the progress of children who require / receive SEND support

### **Monitoring Children's Progress**

The School's system for observing and assessing the progress of individual children will provide information about areas in which a child is not progressing satisfactorily. Under these circumstances, teachers may need to consult the SENCo to consider what else might be done. This review of progress may lead to the conclusion that the child requires help over and above that which is normally available.

The key test of the need for action is that current rates of progress are inadequate. Adequate progress can be identified as that which:

- Prevents the attainment gap between the child and his peers from widening
- Closes the attainment gap between the child and his peers
- Better the child's previous rate of progress
- Ensures access to the full curriculum
- Demonstrates an improvement in self-help, social or personal skills
- Demonstrates improvements in the child's behaviour and/or social, emotional and mental health.

In order to help children with special educational needs and disabilities, Glodwick Infant and Nursery school uses the graduated response. This is an 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle and starts with high quality teaching. We may use specialist expertise if we feel that our interventions are not having sufficient impact on the progress of a child. We will record the steps taken to meet the needs of individual learners through the use of assessment, planning, review and record keeping. The SENCo will work in partnership with teachers to ensure that sufficient records are kept. If a child needs to

be referred for an Education and Health Care Plan, we will provide the Local Authority with a record of our work with a child, following the appropriate guidelines.

When a teacher has a concern with a child's progress it is the responsibility of the class teacher to address the issue initially. Parents will be consulted and specific interventions put in place and monitored. If progress remains inadequate the child may require SEND support from outside agencies and specialist teachers. We will always liaise with parents throughout this process. These children are identified on our SEND register.

The class teacher, following discussion with the SENCo and outside agencies as appropriate, will provide additional interventions which will be tailored carefully to the individual child and will be additional to and different from those in our core offer. At this point, targets will also be discussed and decided and recorded on a SEND Support plan. The SEND Support plan will be monitored by the teacher and those working with the child and reviewed formally with the SENCo, parents and the child where appropriate, at least termly.

A child may need SEND support, if he/she:

- Makes little or no progress, even with targeted teaching approaches particularly in a child's identified area of weakness
- Shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematics skills which results in poor attainment in some curriculum areas.
- Presents persistent emotional difficulties which are not improved by the social and emotional health programs available in school
- Has sensory or physical problems, and continues to make little or no progress despite the provision of specialist equipment
- Has communication and / or interaction difficulties, and continues to make little or no progress.

### **Partnership with parents**

Partnership plays a key role in enabling children with SEND to achieve their full potential. At Glodwick we use a person-centred approach to ensure all children are able to fulfil their full potential. Parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of a child's needs. All parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities will be treated as partners, given support to play an active and valued role in their child's education.

Children with special educational needs and disabilities often have a unique knowledge of their own needs and their views about what sort of help they would like. They will be encouraged to contribute to the assessment of their needs, the review and transition process in an age appropriate way.

The school website contains details of all of our policies including this one and our Special educational needs information report.

At all stages of the identification process we will keep parents fully informed and involved. We will take account of the wishes, feelings and knowledge of parents at all stages.

We invite parents to make an active contribution to their child's education and have regular meetings each term to share the progress of special needs children with their parents. We inform the parents of any outside intervention and share the process of decision making by providing clear information relating to the education of their child.

## **The Types of intervention**

The SENCo and the child's class teacher will decide on the action needed to help the child progress in the light of earlier assessments. This may include:

- Different learning materials or specialist equipment
- Some group or individual support, which may involve small groups of children working with the SENCo or with TA support or with a teacher
- Extra adult time to devise/ administer planned intervention and monitor its effectiveness
- Staff development and training to introduce effective strategies.

After initial discussions with the SENCo, the child's class teacher will be responsible for working with the child on a daily basis and ensuring delivery of any individualised programme in the classroom. School works in partnership with parents and progress is carefully monitored and discussed with parents. Parents are invited to be a key part of the provision planning for their child.

The SENCo will support further assessment of the child where necessary, assisting in planning for their future needs in discussion with colleagues and parents.

## **The use of outside agencies**

These services may become involved if a child continues to make little or no progress despite considerable input and adaptations. They will consult with teachers and the SENCo and look at what has already been tried. They may observe the child in the classroom setting. The external specialist may act in an advisory capacity to provide additional specialist assessment or be involved in supporting the child directly. The child's SEND Support plan will set out strategies for supporting progress. These will be implemented as far as possible within the normal classroom setting. The delivery of the interventions recorded in the SEND Support plan continue to be the responsibility of the class teacher.

Outside agencies may become involved if the child:

- Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period of time.
- Continues working at a level substantially below that expected of children of a similar age
- Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematical skills
- Has emotional, mental health and or social difficulties which regularly and substantially interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class or group
- Has sensory or physical needs and requires additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service
- Has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and cause substantial barriers to learning.
- Despite having received intervention, the gap between the child's attainment and that of his peers continues to widen.

## **School request for an Education Health Care Plan**

A request will be made by the school to the local authority if the child has demonstrated a significant and ongoing complex need. The local authority will be given information about the child's progress over time and will also receive documentation in relation to the child's special educational needs and any other action taken to deal with those needs, including any resources or special arrangements put in place.

Evidence will include:

- Previous SEND Support plans and targets for the pupil
- Records of regular reviews and their outcomes
- Records of the child's health and medical history where appropriate
- Attainment levels in literacy and numeracy
- Education and other assessments , e.g from an advisory specialist support teacher or educational psychologist
- Views of parents

The parents of any child who is referred for an Education and Health Care assessment will be kept fully informed of the progress of the referral. Children with an Education and Health Care plan will be reviewed each term in addition to the statutory annual assessment. When this coincides with a transition to another school, the SENCo from the new school will be invited to the review.

### **SEND Support Plans**

Strategies employed to enable the child to progress will be recorded within a SEND Support plan which will include information about:

- Short term targets set for the child
- The teaching strategies to be used
- The provision to be put in place
- How the targets will help the child in their learning
- Who is responsible for carrying out the actions to support the targets
- How the child can be successful
- The review date
- The child's own views will be sought and taken into account, as will those of the parents whose support is vital if progress is to be achieved and maintained.

### **Access to the Curriculum**

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum which is differentiated to enable children to understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities and experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.

Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs. Lessons have clear learning objectives and staff differentiate work appropriately, and use assessment to inform the next stage of learning. By breaking down the existing levels of attainment into finely graded steps and targets, we ensure that children experience success.

Communication and interaction is an important part of the curriculum at Glodwick Infant and Nursery School . Staff have been Early Years Ekklan trained to ensure that SLCN strategies are included throughout school in all areas of learning, and in the classroom environments. Staff assess children using the Wellcomm Toolkit on entry to Nursery and Reception. As all staff are Ekklan trained they are able to act promptly and give accurate information about a child's speech difficulties when they have to refer a child on to the speech and language service in Oldham. Speech and Language interventions in school include Wellcom, Blast, Black Sheep resources and Ekklan strategies

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom situation. There are times though when to

maximise learning, we ask the children to work in a small group or one to one situation in a quieter area which may be out of the classroom.

### **Allocation of Resources**

The Headteacher and SENCo are responsible for the operational management of the specified and agreed resourcing for special needs provision within the school, including the provision for children with statements of special educational needs and Education and Health Care plans.

The Head Teacher informs the governing body of how the funding to support special educational needs has been allocated. At Glodwick the funding is deployed within each teaching team enabling interventions to take place within the classroom with familiar trained teachers and support staff.

### **The role of the Governing Body**

The Governing Body challenges the school and its members to secure necessary provision for any pupil identified as requiring SEND support. They ask probing questions to ensure all teachers are aware of the importance of providing for these children and ensure that funds and resources are used effectively.

The Governing Body agrees that children with special educational needs will be admitted to the school in line with the school's agreed admissions policy.

The Governing Body reviews this policy annually.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The SENCo monitors the movement of children within the SEND system in school and provides staff and governors with regular summaries of the impact of the policy on the practice of the school. The SENCo supports teachers in drawing up SEND Support plans for children. The SENCo reports back regularly to senior leaders, the Head Teacher and the SEND Governor to inform about and review work around SEND.

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