



**BRUNEL**



# Brunel Primary Academy and Nursery Disability & Special Educational Needs Policy 2020-21

---

**Designated Person responsible for managing the provision for children with DSEN:** Mrs Anna Linsley

**Contact details:** 01752 848900

## **SECTION 1 - COMPLIANCE AND GENERAL STATEMENT**

This policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice 0 – 25 Years (April 2015) and has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: advice for schools DfE Feb 2013
- SEND Code of Practice 0 -25 Years (April 2015)
- Schools SEN Information Report Regulations (2014)
- Statutory Guidance on supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (April 2014)
- Safeguarding Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Teachers' Standards (2012)
- United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child (1991)

This Policy has been created to ensure compliance with the Department of Education's SEND Reforms, which address measures outlined in the Children and Families Act 2014. The Act includes changes to the support and services children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will receive. These changes came into force on 1st September 2014. This policy has been created by Anna Linsley, SENDCo, in liaison with the Headteacher, SEN Governor and Bridge MAT SENDCos, with due regard to the input of parents and pupils with DSEN.

Brunel Primary Academy and Nursery is part of the Bridge MAT group of Schools, from Plymouth and Cornwall. It is a large Primary School, catering for pupils from 2-11. There is a Nursery, on site. We pride ourselves on being a wholly inclusive environment with every teacher being a teacher of every child, including those with DSEN. We treat every child as an individual and all members of staff are committed to providing for the needs of all children.

In compliance with the new SEN Code of Practice and SEND Reforms, there is a graduated approach to the identification, provision and support of all pupils which includes a period of monitoring and targeted provision, prior to the consideration being given to place a child onto the school Record of Need (RoN). Should a pupil require provision that is additional and different, they are placed on the RoN under one single category, namely SEN Support. Their provision will be identified and progress monitored via Individual Provision Mapping and pupil progress meetings.

This policy sets out our commitment to raising the aspirations and expectations for all pupils with DSEN.

## **SECTION 2 - AIM (THE LONGER VIEW)**

The overarching aim of this policy is to ensure that the needs of pupils with DSEN, and the barriers to their learning, are accurately identified and effectively met, so that they are able

to achieve well and develop well, both as individuals and as members of the community, living life with dignity and independence. (UNCRC Article 23)

To this end, we aim to:

- a) Assess pupils accurately, track their progress regularly and adjust provision in the light of ongoing monitoring.
- b) Ensure that lessons are stimulating, enjoyable and well differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils, including those with DSEN.
- c) Ensure that teaching and learning is multi-sensory.
- d) Make sure that additional support is well targeted, using a blend of in-class support and withdrawal.
- e) Use the most appropriate resources to support learning, taking into account individual learning styles and ensuring that the development of pupils' literacy skills has the highest priority.
- f) Continuously monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our provision for all pupils, including those with DSEN, to ensure that we are providing equality of educational opportunity and value for money.

Objectives:

Through the application of this policy we wish to:

- a) Ensure compliance with National SEN Policy, most currently the DfE SEND Reforms, Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice 2015.
- b) Work closely with the LA in developing their Local Offer and complying with locally agreed policies and procedures.
- c) To operate a 'whole pupil, whole school' approach to the management and provision of support for DSEN.
- d) Ensure all staff implement the school's DSEN policy consistently - fully endorsing our belief that every teacher is a teacher of every child including those with DSEN.
- e) Ensure that there is no discrimination or prejudice.
- f) Ensure all pupils have access to an appropriately differentiated curriculum.
- g) Recognise, value and celebrate pupils' achievements at all levels.
- h) Work in partnership with parents/carers in supporting their child's education.
- i) Guide and support all school staff, governors and parents on DSEN issues.
- j) Meet the individual needs of all children irrespective of whether they have physical, sensory, emotional, social, mental health, specific or general learning needs.
- k) Provide appropriate resources and ensure their maximum and proper use.
- l) Involve the pupil in the process of identification, assessment and provision and to ensure that the pupil is aware that his/her wishes are taken into account as part of the process and of the shared responsibility in meeting his/her educational needs.
- m) To provide an appropriately qualified Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO) who will oversee DSEN provision across the School and Nursery.
- n) To provide support and advice for all staff working with pupils who have DSEN.
- o) Support pupils with DSEN to develop their personality, talents and abilities to the full. (UNCRC Article 23)

- p) Encourage all pupils with DSEN to develop a respect for human rights, respect for parents, their own and other cultures and the environment. (UNCRC Article 29)

### **SECTION THREE - IDENTIFYING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

A child has a learning difficulty or disability if he/she:

- greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of his/her age. and/or
- a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities/ provision that is normally available.

In addition, we identify special educational needs within the context of the usual differentiated curriculum of the school. Pupils are identified as having DSEN if they are not making progress within a curriculum that:

- a) sets suitable learning challenges
- b) responds to pupils' diverse learning needs
- c) aims to help pupils overcome potential barriers to learning

In accordance with the SEND Code of Practice 2015, four broad categories of need are identified:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs
- Social, Mental and Emotional Health.

Whilst it is clear that the purpose of identification is to work out what action the School needs to take, it is not our purpose to fit a pupil into a category and serves solely to identify the needs of each individual pupil by considering the whole child, not just his/her special educational needs.

The school will always take needs that are NOT SEN but that may impact on progress and attainment into account for example:

- Disability
- Attendance and Punctuality
- Health and Welfare
- EAL
- Being in receipt of Pupil Premium
- Being a Looked After Child (LAC)
- Being the child of a Serviceman/woman

The identification of behaviour as a need is no longer an acceptable way of describing DSEN and any concerns relating to a child's behaviour will be described as an underlying response to a need which the School has recognised and identified clearly.

## SECTION 4 – A GRADUATED APPROACH TO SEN SUPPORT

At SEN Support, all teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all pupils in their class including where pupils access support from Specialist Staff and Teaching Assistants. High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have DSEN. 'Quality First' teaching is a priority of the school. It is regularly and rigorously monitored and there is a focus on continual improvement of the teaching of all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils and their knowledge of the DSEN most frequently encountered. Close liaison is maintained with all members of staff, by the SENDCo, to ensure that pupils are only identified as having DSEN if they do not make adequate progress once they have had appropriate interventions/adjustments and good quality personalised teaching. Details of the provision on offer can be found in the School Offer in the DSEN section of the School's Website.

### Levels of Need

Our Graduated Response consists of three levels as follows:

#### Registration of Concern:

This is a concern raised which refers to pupils who may, for any reason, have fallen behind and require some additional input to catch-up. A pupil in this category may have one of more of the following indicators :

- Be at risk of not meeting their targets
- Currently working at a standard below National expectations and their targets will not bring them above this level
- New entrants to the school whose needs are still being assessed
- Currently have barriers to their learning eg:
  - Their behaviour is disruptive
  - There are attendance/lateness issues
  - Concerns over their mental health
  - The family is currently experiencing challenges
  - They have EAL (English as an Additional Language)

All class teachers are required to keep a list of pupils who they are monitoring at Concern level and to identify and implement strategies to address their needs to enable them to catch-up. This will involve conversations between the Class Teacher, SENDCo and Parents which will include problem-solving, planning support and strategies for the individual pupils.

Pupils at this level of need DO NOT form part of the School's RoN and, in line with the Code of Practice, the School ensures that everything is done at an early a stage as possible to avoid the need for SEN Support. However, if after a period of time, an individual does not catch-up, it is at this point that consideration will be given as to whether they need SEN support.

## SEN Support

Pupils are placed on the RoN at this level after assessment and consultation between the SENDCo and Class Teacher when it is established that they have a significant learning difficulty and need provision that is **additional and different**. At this point, parents/carers will be informed of the decision and the School will continue to work in partnership with them, listening to their views and those of the pupil, and involving them proactively in planning and decision making. This will take the form of a Termly 'Assess- Plan-Do -Review Cycle.'

### Assess

- Teacher's high quality, accurate formative assessment and experience of child
- Pupil progress, attainment and behaviour
- Development & attainment in comparison to peers
- Views and experiences of parents
- The child's own views
- If relevant, assessments, views of and advice from external services.

### Plan

A Provision Map will be drawn up by SENDCo & class teacher in consultation with parents and child. It will include:

- The outcomes agreed for the next Term
- The support and interventions to be put in place
- The expected impact on progress, development or behaviour
- A clear date for review
- A copy will be given to the parents

### Do

The class teacher remains responsible for working with the child on a daily basis, and works closely with TAs or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of the interventions. The SENDCo supports the Class Teacher in the further assessment of the child's particular strengths and weaknesses, in problem-solving and advising on the effective implementation of support.

### Review

Parents will be invited to contribute to Termly reviews with the SENDCo and their child in order to monitor/ review the effectiveness of the support and the impact on the child's progress. A new Provision Map will then be created and Parents will be given copies of all notes recorded at the review.

### Involving Specialists

If a child continues to make little or no progress over a sustained period, or where they continue to work at levels substantially below age expected, despite SEN Support, the school will involve Specialists including those from outside agencies. The views of parents/carers and the child are considered at all levels of intervention.

### **Education, Health and Care Plan**

Pupils who need more specialist provision, and whose needs cannot be wholly met at SEN Support level, will be the subject of Statutory Assessment. This is completed by the SENDCo who obtains the views and information about the child from all other professionals involved in their education, health and/or care. Parents/Carers views and those of the child are obtained and will be considered in order for a request for an EHCP to be made to the Local Authority. The LA then consider the application and issue an EHCP if deemed appropriate.

There is a statutory requirement to review an EHCP annually. This review meeting is held at the school with parent, child and all professionals involved invited to attend. In addition, pupils with an EHCP (or Statement) are subject to the Termly Assess-Plan-Do-Review Cycle.

### **The SENDCo is responsible for:**

- a) Assessing specific needs of students with SEN, including application for Statutory assessment.
- b) Managing the screening of pupils for Dyslexia.
- c) Line managing the Parent Support Adviser and the Trauma Informed Schools team.
- d) Liaising with other schools to aid transition
- e) Ensuring all relevant information is forwarded on to new school.
- f) Day-to-day operation of the school's DSEN Policy
- g) Liaising and advising Class Teachers and Support Staff.
- h) Maintaining the DSEN Record of Need and the records of all pupils with DSEN.
- i) Liaising with parents/carers of pupils with DSEN.
- j) Liaising with external services including the Educational Psychology Service, Social Care, Early Support etc
- k) Attending/holding review meetings for pupils with DSEN including those with an EHCP.
- l) Supporting the Year 6 team in applying for access arrangements eg additional time for KS2 SATs.
- m) Managing and supporting transition into and out of Brunel Primary Academy and Nursery.
- n) Writing and updating the School Offer
- o) Writing the annual DSEN Information Report

## **SECTION 5 - CRITERIA FOR EXITING THE SEN RECORD OF NEED**

The SENDCo has responsibility for the removal of a pupil from support on the Record of Need. The decision will be dependent upon appropriate progress being made towards set targets and in conjunction with appropriate teaching staff/outside agencies and parents.

## **SECTION 6 - SUPPORTING PUPILS AND FAMILIES**

- Families of pupils with DSEN are guided towards the Cornwall Family Information Service (FIS), [www.cornwallfisdirectory.org.uk/](http://www.cornwallfisdirectory.org.uk/), with regard to the LA Local Offer for SEN in accordance with Regulation 51, Part 4.
- Admission arrangements can be found on the school website.
- Transition meetings between Class Teachers to discuss the needs of individual pupils with DSEN take place in July and will include the passing on of all records and key information.
- We ensure that Y6 pupils with specific DSEN can access KS2 SATS. The SENDCo, in liaison with the Y6 Class Teachers, ensures access arrangements have been made in a timely manner.
- Our Parent Support Adviser, Marissa Richards, works closely with the SENDCo to support pupils and families.

## **SECTION 7 - SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

- The school recognises that pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they can have full access to education, including educational visits and physical education. Some children with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case, the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- Some pupils may also have DSEN and may have an EHCP which brings together Health and Social Care needs, as well as special educational provision and the Code of Practice (2015) is followed.
- The school has a number of members of staff trained in Paediatric and General First Aid and, where appropriate, staff are trained in managing the medication and other treatments of pupils with medical conditions.
- The school follows statutory guidance published by the DfE, 'Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School' Sept 2014. Last updated August 2017. This can be found [www.gov.uk/government/publications/](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/)
- The Teacher in charge of pupils with Medical Needs is Mrs Karen Matthews.

## **SECTION 8 - MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF DSEN**

Please refer to information given in Section 4 of this policy. The quality of provision offered to all pupils with DSEN is continuously monitored through ongoing daily, weekly, termly and annual review, on an individual and cumulative basis, in conjunction with all stakeholders, in line with an active process of continual review and improvement of whole school practice.

## **SECTION 9 - TRAINING AND RESOURCES**

- All professional development needs are identified through the school's appraisal system, self-evaluation and quality assurance processes and feed into the School Development Plan.
- The Headteacher oversees the professional development of all teaching staff. Training occurs during whole school training days and by attending courses. Colleagues attending courses are expected to disseminate and share relevant knowledge with other staff within the school.

- The SENDCo undertakes an annual Audit of Staff Skills and DSEN Knowledge in order to recognise and address gaps within the school and for individuals.
- Newly appointed Teaching and Support Staff undertake an induction meeting, where systems and structures in place are explained.
- A representative SENDCo, from the Bridge MAT attends DSEN network meetings in order to keep up to date with Local and National developments. Information is then disseminated across the MAT SENDCo team. Where appropriate, the SENDCo MAT team supports the LA through involvement in work strands to address ongoing developments in DSEN Reforms.
- The SENDCo is a Specialist Teacher and holds the NASCO award for SEN.

## **SECTION 10 - ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Role of the DSEN governor/Governing Body**

There is a named DSEN Governor: Helen Casson, who meets termly with the SENDCo. The Governing body has regard to the SEN code of Practice (2015) when carrying out duties towards all pupils with DSEN consequently it is their responsibility to:

- Ensure the necessary provision is made for pupils with DSEN.
- Determine the school's general policy and approach to pupils with DSEN in co-operation with the Headteacher and SENDCo.
- Ensure that the teachers are aware of the importance of identifying and providing for those pupils with DSEN.
- Ensure that the policy and information about identification, assessment, provision, monitoring and record keeping and use of outside agencies and services are available for parents.
- Ensure that the school's progress in implementing the policy and its impact on pupils are regularly reported to the Governing Body.
- Ensure that parents are notified of a decision by the school to make DSEN provision for their child.
- Ensure that pupils with DSEN are included as far as possible into the activities of the school.
- Consult with the LA and the Governing bodies of other schools, when appropriate, in the interests of coordinated DSEN provision in the area.

### **Role of the Teaching Assistants**

Teaching Assistants and Higher Level Teaching Assistants are recruited to work within the classroom and/or with targeted groups or individuals outside the classroom as directed by the Senior Leaders and Class Teachers. The learning of **all pupils** remain the responsibility of the Class Teacher at all times. Teaching Assistants are line managed by members of the Senior Leadership Team.

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs Suzanne Cooper

### **Deputy Safeguarding Leads**

Mrs Lorraine Cabello, Mrs Anna Linsley, Mr Paul Arnold

### **Designated Teacher for Looked After Children**

Mrs Anna Linsley

### **Designated Member of Staff responsible for PPG/LAC Funding**

Senior Leadership Team

### **Designated Member of Staff responsible for managing the School's responsibility for meeting the medical needs of pupils**

Mrs Karen Matthews

## **SECTION 11 - STORING AND MANAGING INFORMATION**

The school complies with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – March 2018.

- Staff have received GDPR training and are aware of confidentiality requirements with regard information about pupils and families.
- The SENDCo understands that elements of special educational needs data are sensitive and explicit consent is always sought from parents/carers for the involvement of outside professionals to observe/assess or work with their child eg Educational Psychologist; Speech & Language Therapist; DSEN Specialists.
- The SENDCo ensures that all sensitive personal information, about individual pupils and/or their families, eg their DSEN file, is stored securely and is not freely accessible.
- When a pupil with DSEN moves to another school, their DSEN files are, wherever possible, delivered to the receiving school by hand and a signed file transfer receipt is required from the school. If this is not possible, the files are sent by recorded delivery post.
- The SENDCo ensures that no sensitive, personal data about individual pupils with DSEN is visible anywhere in the school including , offices; staffroom; classrooms, unless it is required for Safeguarding eg medical needs such as allergies, in which case, explicit consent is gained.

## **SECTION 12 - REVIEWING THE DSEN POLICY**

The Policy will be reviewed annually to comply with requirements for DSEN

## **SECTION 13 - ACCESSIBILITY**

Please refer to the Accessibility Plan. This can be seen on the school website.

## **SECTION 14 - DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS**

The school's standard complaints system applies. More information can be found on the school website.

