



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Context

This policy was developed in consultation with parents/carers, staff and pupils of the school community.

This policy and information report is based on the statutory Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice and the following legislation:

- Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEND coordinators (SENDCOs) and the SEND information report

Governor responsible for SEND: **Christine Candlish**

Headteacher: **Jane Bassett**

SENDCo: **Dawn Matthews**

SENDCo Qualifications: BA (Hons) Primary Teacher Education, The National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination

SENDCo is a member of the SLT

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This policy will be reviewed annually

Reviewed: February, 2021

Governor reviewed:

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy

This policy is in line with our teaching and learning policy and equality of opportunity policy and aims to support inclusion for all of our children. The responsibility for the management of this policy falls to the Head Teacher; the day-to-day operation of the policy is the responsibility of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo). The Governing Body, Head Teacher and the SENDCo will work together closely to ensure that this policy is working effectively.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

High quality teaching is that which is differentiated to meet the needs of the majority of pupils. Some pupils will need something **additional to** and **different from** what is provided for the majority of pupils; this is special educational provision and we will use our best endeavours to ensure that provision is made for those who need it.

Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School will do its best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs or disabilities. We will ensure that all staff in the school are able to identify and provide for those pupils who have special educational needs or disabilities to allow pupils with SEND to join in the activities of the school.

The staff and governors of Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School will also work to ensure that all SEND pupils reach their full potential, are fully included within the school community and are able to make successful transfers between educational establishments. This policy aims to support all members of staff in providing positive whole school approaches towards the learning, progress and achievement of SEND pupils. With this as an underlying principle, we believe that;

All teachers are teachers of Special Educational Needs and Disability. Every teacher is responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all pupils in their class even where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff.

Teaching and supporting pupils with SEND is therefore a whole school responsibility requiring a whole school response. Meeting the needs of pupils with SEND requires partnership working between all those involved – Local Authority (LA), school, parents/carers, pupils, children's services and all other agencies.

Aims and Objectives

Aims

To provide the structure for a pupil-centred process that engages pupil, family, school and other professionals in planning for and implementing high quality, needs led provision that is consistent across the school. This is to ensure all of our pupils are able to access the same opportunities for learning and social development achieving maximum progress, fulfilling their potential and promoting their well-being.

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Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Objectives

The SEND Policy of the Highweek Community Primary School reflects the principles of the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice (2014). The aims of this special educational needs policy are to:

- Ensure the Equality Act 2010 duties for pupils with disabilities are met.
- To ensure a clear process for identifying, assessing, planning, providing and reviewing for SEND pupils with the pupils and their parents/carers at the centre.
- To employ a collaborative approach with learners with a SEND or disability, their families, staff within school, other external agencies including those from Health and Social Care
- To develop effective whole school provision management of support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- To ensure that all students with SEND are offered full access to a broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum that sets high expectations for every student whatever their prior attainment.
- To deliver training and support for all staff working with pupils with SEND in order to develop our practice within the guidance set out in the Code of Practice.
- In conjunction with the policy for Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions and for the Administration of Medicine to arrange support for pupils with medical conditions and to have regard to statutory guidance supporting pupils at school with medical conditions.
- To implement a graduated approach to meeting the needs of pupils using the Assess, Plan, Do, Review process.
- Develop a culture of inclusion valuing high quality teaching for all learners, with teachers using a range of effective differentiation methods.
- Set appropriate individual learning outcomes based on prior achievement, high aspirations and the views of the learner and family.
- Share expertise and good practice across the school and local learning community.
- Make efficient and effective use of school resources.
- Have regard to the Code of Practice (2014) for the identification, assessment, support and review of special educational needs.
- Have regard to guidance detailed by Devon County Council.

Identifying and supporting Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

The identification of SEND is embedded in the whole school process of monitoring the progress and development of all pupils. We recognise the benefits of early identification and making effective provision in improving the long-term outcomes for children with SEND. The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

needs to take, not to fit the pupil into a category. It is also important to identify the full range of needs, not simply the primary need of an individual pupil.

Pupils have special educational needs if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special education provision to be made for him/her namely provision **which is additional to or different from** that normally available in a differentiated curriculum. Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School regards pupils as having a Special Educational Need and/or Disability if they:

- a) Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of pupils of the same age, or;
- b) Have a disability which prevents or hinders him/her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions
- c) A child under compulsory 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 (Section 20 Children and Families Act 2014)

Pupils must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School will have regard to the SEND Code of Practice 2014 when carrying out its duties towards all pupils with SEND and ensure that parents/carers are informed by the school that SEND provision is being made for their child.

There may be times in a pupil's school career when they are identified as having a Special Educational Need and/or Disability. These pupils will be provided with intervention and/or support that is 'additional to or different from' the normal differentiated curriculum. This may be on an ongoing basis or for a limited time. Many pupils with sensory and/or physical disabilities may require adaptations, made as reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010.

It may be appropriate for a child to have SEND Support, which is the additional help that children with SEND but without an Educational Health Care (EHC) plan received in nurseries and schools. SEND support encourages educational settings to respond quickly and flexibly to pupils' needs.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Areas of Special Educational Need and/or Disability

Under the SEND Code of Practice 2014 pupils identified as having a special educational need (SEND) will be considered within one or more of the following categories of need:

Cognition and Learning;

Children with learning needs may learn at a slower pace than other children and may have difficulty developing literacy or numeracy skills or understanding new concepts. Learning needs may be in addition to or as a result of other special educational needs.

Children with a specific learning difficulty (SpLD) will have difficulties related to one or more of dyslexia (reading and spelling), dyscalculia (maths), dyspraxia (co-ordination) and dysgraphia (writing).

Learning difficulties cover a wide range of needs, including moderate learning difficulties (MLD), severe learning difficulties (SLD), where children are likely to need support in all areas of the curriculum and associated difficulties with mobility and communication, through to profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD), where children are likely to have severe and complex learning difficulties as well as a physical disability or sensory impairment.

Cognition and Learning needs include:

- Specific learning difficulties (SpLD)
- Moderate learning difficulties (MLD)
- Severe learning difficulties (SLD), and
- Profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD)

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties

Children may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance misuse, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Other children may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties include:

- ADD
- ADHD
- Attachment Disorder
- Anxiety
- Trauma

Communication and Interaction needs

Children with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) have difficulty in communicating with others. This may be because they have difficulty saying what they want to, understanding what is being said to them or because they do not understand or use social rules of communication.

The profile for every child with SLCN is different and their needs may change over time. They may have difficulty with one, some or all of the different aspects of speech, language or social communication at different times of their lives. Children with autism, could have particular difficulties with social interaction. They may also experience difficulties with language, communication and imagination, which can impact on how they relate to others.

Communication and Interaction needs include:

- Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)
- Autism

Sensory and/or Physical needs

Some children require special educational provision because they have a disability and this prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided. These difficulties can be age related and may fluctuate over time.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Many children with vision impairment (VI), hearing impairment (HI) or a multi-sensory impairment (MSI) will require specialist support and/or equipment to access their learning. Children with an MSI have a combination of vision and hearing difficulties. Some children with a physical disability (PD) require additional ongoing support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.

Sensory and/or physical needs include:

- Visual impairment (VI)
- Hearing impairment (HI – including Deaf and hearing impairment)
- Multi-sensory impairment (MSI - sometimes referred to as Deafblind)
- Physical disability (PD).

A Graduated Response to SEND

Early Concerns

The progress made by all pupils is regularly monitored and reviewed. Initially, concerns registered by teachers, parents/carers or other agencies are addressed by appropriate differentiation within the classroom and a record is kept of strategies used. This can be then used in later discussions if concerns persist.

How we identify and support pupils with SEN

All pupils' attainment and achievements are monitored by their teacher who is required to provide high quality teaching and learning opportunities differentiated for individual pupils. Where a pupil is making inadequate progress or falls behind their peers, additional support will be provided under the guidance of the class teacher. Adequate progress could:

- Be similar to that of peers;
- Match or better the pupils' previous rate of progress;
- Close the attainment gap between the pupil and their peers;
- Prevent the attainment gap growing wider.

Where pupils continue to make inadequate progress despite support and high quality teaching, the class teacher will work with the school's Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo) to assess if a pupil has a significant learning difficulty

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

and agree appropriate support. This will be done using the Graduated Response Documents (GRD) to support for the appropriate age group.

In some cases it may be necessary to seek assessment by or advice from an external professional such as a Specialist Teacher or Educational Psychologist. This will always involve discussion and agreement with the pupil's parents/carers.

When considering whether a pupil has a special educational need any of the following may be evident:

- Makes little or no progress even when teaching approaches are targeted particularly in a pupil's identified area of weakness;
- Shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematics skills which result in poor attainment in some curriculum areas;
- Persistent emotional or behavioural difficulties which are not ameliorated by appropriate behaviour management strategies;
- 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 despite the provision of an appropriate differentiated curriculum.
- Has emotional or behavioural difficulties which substantially and regularly interfere with the pupil's own learning or that of the class groups, despite having an individualised behaviour support programme;
- Has SEND or physical needs that require additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service;
- Has a communication and/or an interaction difficulty that impedes the development of social relationships and cause a substantial barrier to learning.

Assess, Plan, Do and Review

Where a pupil is identified as having SEND, we will take action to support effective learning by removing barriers to learning and put effective special educational provision in place. This **SEND support** will take the form of a four-part cycle through which earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupil's needs and of what supports the pupil in making good progress and securing good outcomes. This is known as **the graduated approach – assess, plan, do, review**.

For pupils with low level special educational needs the cycle of **Assess, Plan, Do and Review** will fit into the regular termly assessment and planning cycle for all pupils.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

These are known as Pupil Progress Meetings. For those pupils with more complex needs or for who a more frequent cycle needs to be employed and a GRD will be created for the child and reviewed at regular periods throughout the year. Additional meeting dates will be set and will include provision mapping staff meetings, termly Pupil Progress Meetings and SEND surgeries.

Following the Graduated Response:

Assess: We will ensure that we regularly assess all pupils' needs so that each child's progress and development is carefully tracked compared to their peers and national expectations. We will listen to the views and experience of parents/carers and the pupil. In some cases we will draw on assessments and guidance from other education professionals e.g. Educational Psychologists (EP) and from health and social services.

Plan: Where SEND Support is required the teacher will put together a plan outlining the adjustments, interventions and support which will be put in place for the pupil as well as the expected impact on progress and outcomes, including a date when this will be reviewed. Targets for the pupil will be identified after completing/reviewing the GRD, these will then be shared with her/him using child friendly language and with parents/carers. All staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of the plan.

Do: The class teacher remains responsible for working with the pupil on a daily basis. She/he will also liaise closely with TAs or specialists who provide support set out in the plan and monitor the progress being made. The SENDCo will provide support, guidance and advice for the teacher.

Review: The plan including the impact of the support and interventions will be reviewed each term. This will inform the planning of next steps for a further period or, where successful, the removal of the pupil from SEND Support.

This four part cycle through which earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupil's needs and what supports the pupil in making good progress is known as the graduated approach.

Exit Criteria

When a pupil has made sufficient progress in their area of need that they no longer require any provision that is different from or additional to that which is normally available as part of high quality and differentiated teaching they will no longer be seen



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

as requiring SEND Support. At this point, through discussion and agreement with parents/carers the pupil will be removed from the school's SEND register.

Parents/carers and pupil involvement in the process

We believe in a person centred approach to information gathering and the cycle of assess, plan, do, review. Termly reviews and target setting meetings are planned to coincide with parents' evenings where possible. Targets are shared with pupils and successes are celebrated.

School Admissions

No pupil will be refused admission to school on the basis of his or her special educational need and/or disability. In line with the Equality Act 2010 we will not discriminate against disabled children in respect of admissions for a reason related to their disability. We will use our best endeavours to provide effective educational provision.

Statutory Assessment of Needs (EHC)

Where, despite the school having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities of the pupil, the child has not made expected progress, the school or parents/carers should consider requesting an Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessment. The evidence gathered through the regular review of the GRD will help the Local Authority (LA) in determining when this statutory assessment of needs is required. Where a pupil has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), the Local Authority must review the plan every twelve months as a minimum. Schools have a duty to cooperate so Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School will hold annual review meetings on behalf of Devon LA and complete the appropriate paperwork for this process.

Monitoring and Evaluation of SEND

Regular monitoring of the quality of provision for all pupils including those with SEND follows the schools assessment and monitoring calendar. In addition the cycle of Assess, Plan, Do and Review ensures that pupils with SEND have their individual provision reviewed regularly, and at least termly. Additional training, advice and support will be provided to teaching staff where necessary in order to facilitate pupil progress and to meet pupil needs. Pupil progress is tracked half-termly and where



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

pupils are not making sufficient progress additional information is sought and appropriate action taken.

Supporting Pupils and Families

We value and accept the positive role and contribution parents/carers can make. We make every effort to work in full co-operation with parents/carers, recognising and respecting their roles and responsibilities. Parents/carers are encouraged to work with the school and other professionals to ensure that their child's needs are identified properly and met as early as possible. In order that they play an active part in their child's development, the school endeavours to provide parents/carers with the relevant information so they can reinforce learning in the home.

At Highweek Community Primary and Nursery School we endeavour to support parents/carers so that they are able to:

- Feel fully supported and taken seriously should they raise a concern about their child.
- Recognise and fulfil their responsibilities and play an active and valued role in their child's education.
- Understand procedures and documentation.
- Make their views known about how their child is educated.

- Have access to information, advice and support during assessment and any related decision making process about special educational provision.

Parents/carers of a child with SEND support will have the opportunity to meet with the SENDCo if required. The SENDCo is happy to meet with parents/carers, without prior arrangement, whenever possible.

Parents/carers are encouraged to seek help and advice from Independent Information Advice and Support services, including Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS). These are able to provide impartial and independent advice, support and information on special educational needs and disabilities. Parents/carers are also encouraged to visit the Devon County Council Local Offer website www.devon.gov.uk/send This website provides valuable information about different agencies, services and resources for children, young people with SEND and their families in addition to school resources and information.

Children in Care:

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Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

When a child is in care, the carers are accorded the same rights and responsibilities as parents. The school has both an appointed member of staff and a Governor for Looked after Children.

Pupil Voice

We hold the views of pupils highly and recognise the importance of gaining genuine pupil views in promoting the best pupil outcomes. Pupils are able to share their views in a number of different ways (appropriate to age and ability).

These views are welcome at any time but are specifically sought as part of their annual review, as part of their Pupil Progress Meetings and at the end of a targeted intervention.

Transition

A change of school, class and staff can be an exciting, yet anxious time for all pupils. We recognise that this can be very challenging for some pupils with SEND. We endeavour to make sure these periods of change are carefully managed in a sensitive way to provide continuity of high quality provision and reassurance to pupils and families.

Training and Resources

Allocation of resources

- Resources are allocated to support children with identified needs as identified previously.
- Each year we map our provision to show how we allocate human resources to each year group; this is reviewed regularly and can change during the academic year, responding to the changing needs within our classes.
- This support may take the form of differentiated work in class, support from a Teaching Assistant (TA) in focused intervention in groups, or for individuals.
- Specialist equipment, books or other resources that may help the pupil are purchased as required.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Special Educational Needs

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

- All teaching staff at the school engage in training sessions.
- The SENDCo and other SLT members provide regular CPD to other staff in school in specific aspects of meeting the needs of pupils with SEND – a programme covering a variety of SEN is offered to all staff which best meet their CPD needs and the needs of the school.
- All staff have regular CPD meetings. The progress of all pupils including those with SEND is a core aspect of the appraisal process and appraisal targets will look at how to develop staff skills in meeting individual pupil needs as necessary.
- Teaching assistants are engaged in an ongoing training whereby the role of the teaching assistant is developed.
- External trainers are brought in periodically to address more specialist training needs such as dealing with specific medical conditions (e.g. Epilepsy) or to train staff in the use of specific interventions.
- Peer support and guidance is available daily for all staff in school and some of the best training development occurs through professional dialogue with colleagues looking at meeting the specific needs of a pupil.

Funding

Funding for SEND in mainstream schools is mainly delegated to the schools' budget. It is the expectation that schools provide support to their pupils with SEND from their SEND budget. Where a pupil requires an exceptionally high level of support that incurs a greater expense, the school can make a request for additional resource by applying for an Educational Health and Care Assessment (EHCA).

The school will need to be able to demonstrate how it has spent the funding to date and the impact of this as well as demonstrating why further additional funding is required and how it would be used. This additional 'top-up' funding is then paid from the local authority's high needs block into the schools budget.

Personal Budgets

Personal Budgets are only available to pupils with an Education, Health and Social Care (EHC) plan or pupils who are currently under-going a needs assessment for an EHC. Funding can be made available to parents/carers as a personal budget for them to commission their own provision for their child under certain conditions.

Parents/carers who would like to enquire further about using the personal budget should speak in the first instance to the SENDCo.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Roles and Responsibilities

Provision for pupils with special educational needs is a matter for the school as a whole. In addition to the Governing Board, Head Teacher and SENDCo, all members of staff have important responsibilities.

The **Class Teacher** is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every pupil in their class
- Identifying on class planning the provision they are making for pupils with SEND ensuring that strategies are implemented in the classroom
- Working with the SENDCO to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision
- Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- Liaising with parents and carers regarding the progress and provision made.
- Involving the child and discussing the targets and ensuring that the child's voice is captured.
- Ensuring they follow this SEND policy

Teaching Assistants are responsible for:

- Ensuring that day to day provision is in place for the pupils they support
- Implementing agreed strategies and programmes, and advice from specialists.
- Record keeping
- Resources
- Maintaining specialist equipment
- Regular communication with class teacher and SENDCo

The **SENDCo** is responsible for:

- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the coordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEND, including those who have EHC plans
- Ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date
- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEND are identified, receive appropriate support and high quality teaching

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- Line managing TAs with responsibility for SEND and the inclusion team
- Work with the head teacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school. This ensures that the school is meeting its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure pupils and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned

The **Head Teacher** has responsible for:

- The day-to-day management of all aspects of the school's work, including provision for children with special educational needs.
- Keeping the Governing Board fully informed on Special Educational Needs and Disability issues.
- Working closely with the SENDCo and the Governor with responsibility for SEND.

The **SEND governor** will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND provision within the school and update the governing board on this
- Work with the Head Teacher and SENDCO to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school

The **Governing Board** endeavours to follow the guidelines as laid down in the SEND Code of Practice (2014) to:

- Use their best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEND gets the support they need – this means doing everything they can to meet children and young people's Special Educational Needs and/or Disability
- Ensure that children and young people with SEND engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have SEND
- Designate a teacher to be responsible for co-ordinating SEND provision – the SEND coordinator, or SENDCo

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

- Inform parents/carers when they are making special educational provision for a child
- Prepare an SEND information report and their arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps being taken to prevent disabled children from being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to enable access to the school for disabled children and their accessibility plan showing how they plan to improve access progressively over time.

Meeting Medical Needs

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHP) will normally specify the type and level of support required to meet the medical needs of such pupils.

Where children and young people also have SEND, their provision should be planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way using the Right for Children paperwork. For those pupils with an EHCP this will be used as it brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision.

The school recognises that pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips 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. ***Please see the schools Policy for Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions and for the Administration of Medicine for further details.***

Children in Hospital

The member of staff responsible for ensuring that pupils with health needs have proper access to education will liaise with other agencies and professionals*, as well as parents/carers, to ensure good communication and effective sharing of information. This will enable optimum opportunities for educational progress and achievement. * E.g. *Medical Agencies, Hospital School*

SEND Information Report



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

The school will ensure that the SEND information is assessable on the school website. Governors have a legal duty to publish information on their websites about the implementation of the policy for pupils with SEND. The information published will be updated annually and any changes to the information occurring during the year will be updated as soon as possible.

Monitoring and Accountability

The Head Teacher and the SLT regularly monitor and evaluate the quality of provision for all pupils. The school aims to use interventions in school that have proven outcomes and are evidence based. The impact of SEND provision on the progress and outcomes for children on the SEND register is measured through:

- Analysis of pupil tracking data and test results at pupil progress meetings and data surgeries
- Progress against national data and based on their age and starting points.
- Interventions entry and exit data
- Progress against individual targets
- Pupils' work and interviews

Provision maps are reviewed regularly at staff meetings where the progress children are making are matched to their specific requirements. The allocation of staff is flexible to meet the requirements of all children within the phase utilising resources to best match the needs of the children.

Accessibility

The school is compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and Accessibility legislation. It is fully accessible for wheelchair users as the school is either on a ground floor level or has lift access between levels. It also has disabled toilet facilities. Highweek Community Primary School works hard to develop their accessibility and the schools' accessibility plan detailing how this is being developed can be accessed from the school website.

Storing and Managing Information

Pupil SEND records will be kept in accordance to the DfE guidance contained in "Statutory Policies for schools" (February 2014)



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy 2021

Responding to Complaints

In the first instance, parent complaints about the provision or organisation of SEND are dealt with through the procedures outlined in the School's Complaints Policy. If there continues to be disagreement with regard to SEND provision the Local Authority should make arrangements that include the appointment of independent persons with a view to avoiding or resolving disagreements between the parents/carers and the school. This includes access to mediation before tribunal. Parents/carers have a right to appeal to a SEND tribunal at any stage.

Equality Statement

This policy is compliant with the Equality and Cohesion Policy. This Policy is based on best practice to ensure a consistent and effective approach. The Governing Board and the Head Teacher have a particular responsibility to ensure that the processes are managed fairly, equitably, objectively and must not discriminate either directly or indirectly on the grounds of a person's race, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, disability, age, pregnancy and maternity or religion or belief.

Signed:.....Chair of Committee

Date of review and adoption by Governing Board February 2021: _____

Date for next review: February 2022