



Special educational needs (SEN) information report

Patchway Community School

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Dear parents and carers,

The aim of this information report is to explain how we implement our SEND policy. In other words, we want to show you how SEND support works in our school right from Primary up to the Secondary and Post 16 provision.

If you want to know more about our arrangements for SEND, please do read our SEND Handbook.

You can find it on our website.

Note: If there are any terms we've used in this information report that you're unsure of, you can look them up in the Glossary at the end of the report.

1. What types of SEN does the school provide for?

Our school provides for learners with the following needs:

AREA OF NEED	CONDITION
Communication and interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Autism spectrum disorder• Speech and language and communication Needs
Cognition and learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specific learning difficulties, including dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia• Moderate learning difficulties
Social, emotional and mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD)• Attention deficit disorder (ADD)• Anxiety• Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs• EBSA
Sensory and/or physical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hearing impairments• Tourette's• Visual impairment• Multi-sensory impairment• Physical impairment

2. Which staff will support my child, and what training have they had?

Our special educational needs co-ordinator, or SENDCO

Our SENDCO is Joseph Prevett.

Joseph completed his NASEN qualification at Bath Spa University and is awaiting final accreditation in November 2024. He has had training in Speech and Language, Working Memory and processing, Emotional Coaching, Autism, ADHD, behaviour management and Emotional Based School Avoidance. He is also a licensed Thrive Practitioner and a mental Health First Aider. Joseph is a deputy designated safeguarding lead.

They are allocated 5 days a week to manage SEND provision

His Email address is: joseph.prevett@olympustrust.co.uk

Assistant SENCO

Our Assistant SENCO is Helen Stentiford

They have 3 years' experience and have had training in Speech and Language, Autism, Manual Handling, Eating disorders, Access Arrangements, Sensory Audits and Behaviour. Helen is also our school's autism champion.

Her Email Address is: Helen.stentiford@olympustrust.co.uk

Subject and Class Teachers

All of our teachers receive internal and external SEN training, and are supported by the SENDCO to meet the needs of learners who have SEND. They have received training in Speech and Language, making classrooms inclusive, the role of the keyworker for SEND students, Adaptive teaching, Metacognition and PACE.

Teaching assistants (TAs)

In addition to our SENDCO and Assistant SENDCO we have the following staff supporting our SEND students.

Wellbeing Hub Lead- Delivering interventions to support students with SEMH needs including Anxiety, Anger and Resilience. She is also a licenced Thrive Practitioner

SEMH TA (Part-time)- Supporting in the running of the wellbeing hub.

HLTA- Delivering additional interventions for Maths/ Literacy as well as Speech Language and Communication.

We have 4.6 Teaching assistants who are trained to deliver interventions in such as Lego Therapy, Talkabout Sessions, Spelling and Grammar.

In the last academic year, TAs have been trained in Behaviour Management, the role of the TA in the classroom, How to successfully run interventions, supporting students with Autism and ADHD.

External agencies and experts

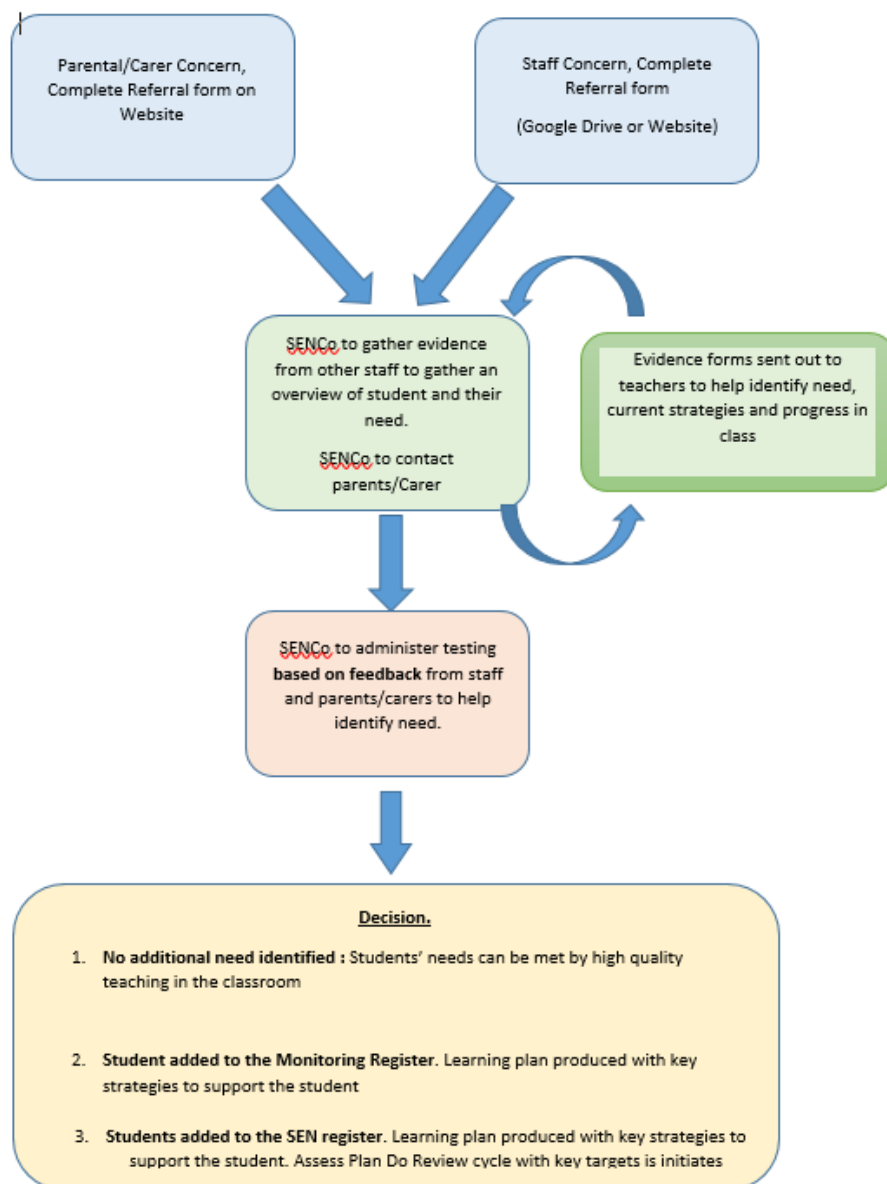
Sometimes we need extra help to offer our learners the support that they need. Whenever necessary we will work with external support services to meet the needs of our learners with SEN and to support their families. These include:

- Speech and language therapists
- Educational psychologists
- Occupational therapists

- GPs or paediatricians
- School nurses
- Mental Health Support Team
- Primary Mental Health Specialist
- Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
- Education welfare officers
- Social care and other LA-provided support services
- Voluntary sector organisations

3.What should I do if I think my child has SEN?

The diagram below outlines the process in which both parents and teachers can raise concerns around the SEND needs of a young person. In certain cases, the SEND team will perform assessments requested in-line with the schools behaviour policy.



4. How will the school know if my child needs SEN support?

All our class teachers are aware of SEND and are on the lookout for any learners who aren't making the expected level of progress in their schoolwork or socially. This might include reading, writing or number work.

If the teacher notices that a learner is falling behind, they will try to find out if the learner has any gaps in their learning. If they can find a gap, they will give them extra tuition to try to fill it. Learners who don't have SEND usually make progress quickly once the gap in their learning has been filled.

If the learner is still struggling to make the expected progress, the teacher will talk to the SENDCO, and will contact you to discuss the possibility that your child has SEND. The teacher will fill in a record of concern and send this to the SENDCO.

The SENDCO may observe the learner in the classroom and social interactions to see what their strengths and difficulties are. They will have discussions with your child's teacher/s, to see if there have been any issues with, or changes in, their progress, attainment or behaviour. They will also compare your child's progress and development with their peers and available national data.

The SENDCO will ask for your opinion and speak to your child to get their input as well. They may also, where appropriate, ask for the opinion of external experts such as a speech and language therapist, an educational psychologist, or a paediatrician.

Based on all of this information, the SENDCO will decide whether your child needs SEN support. You will be told the outcome of the decision in writing.

If your child does need SEN support, their name will be added to the school's SEN register, and the SENDCO will work with you to create a SEN learning plan for them.

5. How will the school measure my child's progress?

We will follow the 'graduated approach' to meeting your child's SEN needs.

The graduated approach is a 4-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.



As a part of the planning stage of the graduated approach, we will set outcomes that we want to see your child achieve.

Whenever we run an intervention with your child, we will assess them before the intervention begins. This is known as a 'baseline assessment'. We do this so we can see how much impact the intervention has on your child's progress.

We will track your child's progress towards the outcomes we set over time and improve our offer as we learn what your child responds to best.

This process will be continual. If the review shows a learner has made progress, they may no longer need the additional provision made through SEN support. For others, the cycle will continue, and the school's targets, strategies and provisions will be revisited and refined.

6. How will I be involved in decisions made about my child's education?

We will provide reports on your child's learning plan 3 times a year into your child's progress alongside any school reports.

We will contact you three times a year either face-to face or over the phone to:

- Set clear outcomes for your child's progress
- Review progress towards those outcomes
- Discuss the support we will put in place to help your child make that progress
- Identify what we will do, what we will ask you to do, and what we will ask your child to do

The SENCO may also attend these meetings to provide extra support.

We know that you're the expert when it comes to your child's needs and aspirations. So we want to make sure you have a full understanding of how we're trying to meet your child's needs, so that you can provide insight into what you think would work best for your child.

We also want to hear from you as much as possible so that we can build a better picture of how the SEND support we are providing is impacting your child outside of school.

If your child's needs or aspirations change at any time, please let us know right away so we can keep our provision as relevant as possible.

After any discussion we will make a record of any outcomes, actions and support that have been agreed. This record will be shared with all relevant staff, and you will be given a copy.

If you have concerns that arise between these meetings, please contact us straight away using the main school number to ask for the SENCo.

7. How will my child be involved in decisions made about their education?

The level of involvement will depend on your child's age, and level of competence. We recognise that no 2 children are the same, so we will decide on a case-by-case basis, with your input.

We may seek your child's views by asking them to:

- Attend meetings to discuss their progress and outcomes
- Prepare a presentation, written statement, video, drawing, etc.
- Discuss their views with a member of staff who can act as a representative during the meeting
- Complete a survey

8. How will the school adapt its teaching for my child?

Your child's teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the learners in their class.

High-quality teaching is our first step in responding to your child's needs. We will make sure that your child has access to a broad and balanced curriculum in every year they are at our school.

Please refer to our Universal Offer document which outlines how we support students with SEND.

9. How will the school evaluate whether the support in place is helping my child?

We will evaluate the effectiveness of provision for your child by some of these means:

- Reviewing their progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions delivered
- Using learner questionnaires
- Monitoring by the SENDCO, Assistant SENDCO, TA and class teacher
- Using provision maps to measure progress
- Holding an annual review (if they have an education, health and care (EHC) plan)

10. How will the school resources be secured for my child?

If your child has an EHCP, it may be that their needs mean we need to secure:

- Extra equipment or facilities
- More teaching assistant hours
- Further training for our staff
- External specialist expertise

If that's the case, we will consult with external agencies to get recommendations on what will best help your child access their learning.

For learners with an EHCP, the school will cover up to £6,000 of any necessary costs. If funding is needed beyond this, we will seek it from our local authority as the Local Authority are responsible for ensuring that the school has the funds required to deliver the provision in Section F of the EHCP.

For learners on SEND K, without an EHCP, the school will also work with external agencies to secure provision that will help them to learn, achieve and enjoy school.

11. How will the school make sure my child is included in activities alongside learners who don't have SEND?

All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our learners including before and after school clubs

All learners are encouraged to go on our school trips, including our residential trips

All learners are encouraged to take part in sports days, drama productions and music events.

No learner is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEND or disability and we will make whatever reasonable adjustments are needed to make sure that they can be included.

12. How does the school make sure the admissions process is fair for learners with SEN or a disability?

- › Children with EHCPs are admitted through different arrangements set out in the SEN and the SEN and Disability Code of Practice managed by their home Local Authority (LA)

13. How does the school support learners with disabilities?

Our Accessibility Policy can be found on the school website.

14. How will the school support my child's mental health and emotional and social development?

We provide support for learners to progress in their emotional and social development in the following ways:

- › The wellbeing Hub provides support for student's SEMH by providing interventions around anxiety, resilience and Anger
 - › The school uses the mental health support team to provide Low intensity CBT in short intervention cycles.
 - › Referrals can be made to the School councillor
 - › We provide extra pastoral support for listening to the views of learners with SEN by providing check ins in the Hive or with the pastoral team.
 - › We run a nurture club for learners who need extra support with social or emotional development
- We have a 'zero tolerance' approach to bullying.

15. What support will be available for my child as they transition between classes or settings or in preparing for adulthood?

Between schools

When your child is moving on from our school, we will ask you and your child what information you want us to share with the new setting.

Transition

Our SENCo/ Assistant SENCo will meet with the learning support teams of the Primary School. They will discuss the needs of all the children who are receiving SEND support. Within PCS, we work closely across phases to prepare our learners with SEND.

Learners will be prepared for the transition by:

- › Practising with a secondary school timetable
- › Learning how to get organised independently
- › Plugging any gaps in knowledge

The Learning Support Team within our secondary school meets with the SENCO and members of the primary school to discuss the needs of the incoming learners near the end of the summer term.

We will always arrange meetings with the parents of learners to discuss how we can best support them as they move into secondary school.

Post 16

We provide all our learners with appropriate advice on paths into work or further education.

We work with the learner to help them achieve their ambitions, which can include goals in higher education, employment, independent living and participation in society.

16. What support is in place for looked-after and previously looked-after children with SEN?

Gemma Mills is currently the designated looked after teacher and SENDCo. She will work to make sure that all teachers understand how a looked-after or previously looked-after learner's circumstances and their SEN might interact, and what the implications are for teaching and learning.

Children who are looked-after or previously looked-after will be supported much in the same way as any other child who has SEND. However, looked-after learners will also have a personal education plan (PEP). We will make sure that the PEP and any SEN support plans or EHC plans are consistent and complement one another.

17. What should I do if I have a complaint about my child's SEN support?

Complaints about SEN provision in our school should be made to the SENDCo in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

If you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 246 and 247 of the [SEN Code of Practice](#).

18. What support is available for me and my family?

If you have questions about SEND, or are struggling to cope, please get in touch to let us know. We want to support you, your child and your family.

To see what support is available to you locally, have a look at South Gloucestershire's local offer who publish information about the local offer on their website: [SEND updates | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

Our local special educational needs and disabilities information advice and support services (SENDIASS) organisations are:

[South Gloucestershire \(councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk\)](#)

Local charities that offer information and support to families of children with SEND are:

National charities that offer information and support to families of children with SEND are:

- [IPSEA](#)
- [SEND family support](#)
- [NSPCC](#)

- › [Family Action](#)
- › [Special Needs Jungle](#)

19. Glossary

- › **Access arrangements** – special arrangements to allow learners with SEND to access assessments or exams
- › **Annual review** – an annual meeting to review the provision in a pupil's EHC plan
- › **Area of need** – the 4 areas of need describe different types of needs a pupil with SEND can have. The 4 areas are communication and interaction; cognition and learning; physical and/or sensory; and social, emotional and mental health needs.
- › **CAMHS** – child and adolescent mental health services
- › **Differentiation** – When teachers adapt how they teach in response to a pupil's needs
- › **EHC needs assessment** – the needs assessment is the first step on the way to securing an EHC plan. The local authority will do an assessment to decide whether a child needs an EHC plan.
- › **EHC plan** – an education, health and care plan is a legally-binding document that sets out a child's needs and the provision that will be put in place to meet their needs.
- › **Graduated approach** – an approach to providing SEN support in which the school provides support in successive cycles of assessing the pupil's needs, planning the provision, implementing the plan, and reviewing the impact of the action on the pupil
- › **Intervention** – a short-term, targeted approach to teaching a pupil with a specific outcome in mind
- › **Local offer** – information provided by the local authority which explains what services and support are on offer for learners with SEN in the local area
- › **Outcome** – target for improvement for learners with SEND. These targets don't necessarily have to be related to academic attainment
- › **Reasonable adjustments** – changes that the school must make to remove or reduce any disadvantages caused by a child's disability
- › **SENDCO** – the special educational needs co-ordinator
- › **SEN** – special educational needs
- › **SEND** – special educational needs and disabilities
- › **SEND Code of Practice** – the statutory guidance that schools must follow to support children with SEND
- › **SEN information report** – a report that schools must publish on their website, that explains how the school supports learners with SEN
- › **SEN support** – special educational provision which meets the needs of learners with SEN
- › **Transition** – when a learner moves between years, phases, schools or institutions or life stages