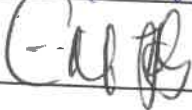


Bewcastle Primary School

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Policy/Information Report

2018-2019

Signed  (Headteacher)

Signed  (SEND Governor)

Review October 2018

Reviewed 18.09.18 ✓

Next review

~~Howard~~ (Senco)
due: Oct; 2019

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 Headteacher; the day-to-day operation of the policy is the responsibility of the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo). The Governing Body, Headteacher and the SENCo will work together closely to ensure that this policy is working effectively.

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.

Bewcastle Primary 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 Bewcastle Primary 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.

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.

School Admissions

No pupil will be refused admission to school on the basis of his or her special educational need. 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.

Identifying and supporting Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Definition of SEN

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. Bewcastle Primary School regards pupils as having a Special Educational Need 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.

Bewcastle Primary 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.

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.

Areas of Special Educational Need

Under the SEND Code of Practice 2014 pupils identified as having a special educational need (SEN) 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.

Communication and Interaction needs include:

- Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)
- Autism (including Asperger Syndrome)

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.

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).

- Has a communication and/or an interaction difficulty that impedes the development of social relationships and cause a substantial barrier to learning.

Plan

- Parents/carers, with their child, will meet with the class teacher / SENCo to decide on the interventions and support to be put in place as well as the expected impact on progress and development. This will be recorded on an IEP with a date to review the plan. The date for review will depend on the level of need present.
- The IEP will clearly identify the areas of needs, the desired outcomes, the support and resources provided, including any teaching strategies or approaches that are required and when the IEP will be reviewed.
- The support and intervention provided will be selected to meet the outcomes identified for the pupil, based on reliable evidence of effectiveness and will be provided by staff with appropriate skills and knowledge.
- The IEP will usually involve a contribution by parents/carers to reinforce learning at home.
- Where appropriate, the IEP will detail the support from other agencies and how this will support the pupil in achieving the desired outcomes.
- Parents/carers will then be notified when it is decided to provide a pupil with SEN support (although parents/carers will have already been involved in the assessment of need).
- **So, if it is agreed that a pupil requires SEN support, all parties meet and develop an IEP detailing the support which will bring about the next part of the cycle –**

Do

- The class teacher remains responsible for working with the pupil on a daily basis and will work closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved, to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching.
- The SENCo will support the class teacher in the further assessment of the pupil's needs, in problem solving and advising on the effective implementation of support.
- **The class teacher is responsible for the daily implementation of the plan and will contribute to –**

Review

- There will be a review of the IEP on the date previously agreed. This review will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions and include the views of the pupil and their parents/carers.
- Parents/carers will be given information about the impact of the support and interventions provided enabling them to be involved with planning the next steps. Where appropriate other agencies will be asked to contribute to this review.
- Where a pupil has complex needs involving more than one agency it will depend on the pupils needs and the frequency of the educational reviews as to whether external agencies attend each educational review, this will be agreed at the initial meeting.
- This review will feedback into the analysis of the pupil's needs, then the class teacher, working with the SENCo, will revise the support in light of the pupil's progress and development, with decisions on any changes made in consultation with the parent and the pupil.
- Where there is a sustained period of insufficient or no progress, the school may decide to gain involvement and advice from a specialist or external agency. The school will consult with parents/carers before involving a specialist or external agency.

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 as requiring SEN Support. At this point, through discussion and agreement with parents/carers the pupil will be removed from the schools SEN register.

Parents/carers of a child with SEN support will have the opportunity to meet with the SENCo at least 2 times a year formally. The SENCo is happy to meet with parents/carers, without prior arrangement. At Bewcastle Primary school we have an open door policy.

Parents/carers are encouraged to seek help and advice from Independent Information Advice and Support services. 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 Cumbria County Council Local Offer website www.cumbria.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:

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. We ask all pupils to contribute to the setting of their own outcomes.

Partnership with External Agencies

The School is supported by a wide range of different agencies and teams, including:-

- Educational Psychologist
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Specialist Advisory Teacher for Physical Medical Difficulties
- CAMHS (Child Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- ACE – Assistive communications

Personal Budgets

Personal Budgets are only available to pupils with an Education, Health and social Care Plan (EHCP) or pupils who are currently under-going a needs assessment for an EHCP. 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 SENCO.

Through analysis and assessment of children's needs, and by monitoring the quality of teaching and standards of pupils' achievements and setting targets, the SENCo develops effective ways of overcoming barriers to learning and sustaining effective teaching.

The SENCo liaises and collaborates with class teachers so that learning for all children is given equal priority.

The principle responsibilities for the SENCo include:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the SEND policy
- Co-ordinating provision for SEND pupils and reporting on progress
- Advising on the graduated approach to providing SEN support – Assess, Plan, Do, Review
- Advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- Monitoring relevant SEN CPD for all staff
- Overseeing the records of all children with special educational needs and ensuring they are up to date
- Liaising with parents/carers of children with special educational needs
- Contributing to the in-service training of staff
- Being a point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- Liaising with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals and independent or voluntary bodies
- Liaising with potential next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents/carers are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- Monitoring the impact of interventions provided for pupils with SEND
- Working with the Headteacher and the school governors to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements

All Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff:

- All staff are aware of the school's SEND policy and the procedures for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with special educational needs.
- Class teachers are fully involved in providing high quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, their understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered.
- Class teachers are responsible for setting suitable learning challenges and facilitating effective special educational provision in response to pupils' diverse needs in order to remove potential barriers to learning. This process should include working with the SENCo to carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs, drawing on the teacher's assessment and experience of the pupil as well as previous progress and attainment.

SEND Information Report

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 SEN. The information published will be updated annually and any changes to the information occurring during the year will be updated as soon as possible.

Bewcastle Primary School Information Report

At Bewcastle Primary School, we believe in a holistic education that enables every child to move forward with confidence and enthusiasm. Our aim is to provide all pupils with a caring, secure and stimulating educational environment in which they feel valued, their needs and abilities recognised and their achievements celebrated.

We work closely with parents and carers in order to enable all children to achieve their potential. Identifying and making appropriate provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) always involves working with the child's voice or views in mind and through discussions with parents/carers.

High quality teaching with appropriate differentiation is key but there are times when additional support and resources are needed to help all of our children reach their potential and to be the best that they can be.

The SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) is Jane Howard .

The nominated SEND governors are Emma James and Ann Armstrong

How does Bewcastle Primary School know if children need extra help?

We know that pupils may need extra help if;

- concerns are raised by parents/carers, teachers or the child

and

- little or no progress is being made

or

- a child's behaviour or progress begins to change

What should I do if I think my child may have Special Educational Needs and/or a disability?

At first, you should discuss any concerns that you may have with your child's class teacher.

If you still have any concerns then you should discuss your concern with the SENCO or Ms Harland.

How will school staff support my child?

What specialist services and expertise are available or accessed by Bewcastle Primary School?

There is a wealth of expertise and experience amongst school staff. At Bewcastle Primary School we are proud of the positive partnerships we have built with agencies such as;

- Educational Psychologist
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Specialist Advisory Teacher for Physical Medical Difficulties
- CAMHS (Child Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- ACE – Assistive communications

What training do Bewcastle Primary School staff have in order to support children with SEND?

Staff share expertise through discussion and collaboration. Individual staff development needs are identified and met as part of the formal appraisal process. Training is also responsive to the needs of the individual pupil.

How accessible is Bewcastle Primary School?

The school is on one level and has wheelchair access via a ramp into the school hall. The large outside play area is accessible to all. The school has a toilet specifically with disabled access.

How will the school prepare or support my child when joining Bewcastle Primary School or transferring to a new school?

At Bewcastle School we are aware that transferring schools can be a stressful time for children. We therefore ensure that any transition is carefully planned.

Some of the strategies in place include:

- "Taster" visits for Nursery and Reception children
- Carefully assessing new children so teachers can begin to plan for their individual needs immediately
- Taster visits for Y5 and Y6 children at their local secondary school.
- A separate meeting for children with SEND may be arranged with Jane Howard, (school SENCO) and the Secondary School SENCO.

How are the schools resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?