



Springcroft Primary School

Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

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Approved	Signature	Date

Our Mission Statement:

**The place to learn, the place to succeed, the place to make friends,
the place to grow.**

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Introduction

Springcroft Primary School is committed to providing a welcoming, attractive and stimulating environment to support the needs and develop the learning of the children and families in the community. Every child and family in our community is valued and diversity is celebrated. The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum in a safe, stimulating and caring environment which allows everyone to achieve, develop, learn and grow. All areas of school life are inclusive and the teaching is tailored towards individual learning providing challenge and support; encouraging everyone to reach their full potential. Staff provide a positive ethos to enable the children to work towards the development of 'life skills' and instil life-long learning aspirations for everyone through a range of activities which are fun and enjoyable.

Our Vision and Values

Values:

- Resilience ~ The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness
- Creativity ~ The use of imagination or original ideas to create something; inventiveness
- Integrity ~ The qualifications of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness
- Collective Responsibility ~ The responsibility borne by all participants to abide by a decision and be responsible for its consequences

These values are quite simply 'The way we do things around here' and they form our foundation and provide the justification of our behaviours in everything we do.

Vision:

Why? We believe in preparing our children for life in the modern world, becoming resilient adults with integrity, radiating creativity, able to take responsibility for their actions, and shape their future.

How? We have a holistic philosophy to each child through providing a truly broad and balanced curriculum, nurturing creativity and one that fosters independence in both learning and thought.

What? In partnership with our parents and the community we serve, we provide high quality teaching of the national curriculum subjects, alongside encouraging children to develop their individual talents and gifts through both curricular and extra-curricular experiences.

All children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are valued, respected and equal members of our school family. As such, provision for pupils with SEN is a matter for the school, as a whole.

"All teachers are teachers of children with special educational needs." SEN Code of Practice (5:2)

Springcroft Primary School provides an inclusive, broad and balanced curriculum for all children. When planning, teachers set differentiated learning challenges and respond to children's diverse learning needs, enabling all pupils to participate effectively in curriculum and assessment activities. Our SEND policy reinforces the need for quality first teaching that is fully

inclusive. The Governing Body will ensure that appropriate provision will be made for all pupils with SEND.

Statement of intent

Springcroft Primary School believes that all pupils are entitled to an education that enables them to achieve their best, become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and make a successful transition into adulthood.

This policy outlines the framework the school will use in meeting its duties, obligations and principal equality values in providing an appropriate high-quality education for pupils with SEND.

Through successful implementation of this policy, the school aims to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities.

The school will work with the LA, or equivalent, in ensuring that the following principles underpin this policy:

- The involvement of pupils and their parents in decision-making.
- The early identification of pupils' needs and early intervention to support them.
- A focus on inclusive practice and removing barriers to learning.
- Collaboration between education, health and social care services to provide support.
- High-quality provision to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
- Greater choice and control for pupils and their parents over their support.
- Successful preparation for adulthood, including independent living and employment.

Under the Equality Act 2010, a disability is a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. For the purposes of this policy, a pupil is defined as having SEND if they have:

- A significantly greater difficulty in learning than most others of the same age.
- A disability or health condition that prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities used by peers of the same age in mainstream settings.
- Special educational provision that is additional to or different from that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream settings.

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Springcroft Primary School provides an inclusive, broad and balanced curriculum for all children. When planning, teachers set differentiated learning challenges and respond to children's diverse learning needs, enabling all pupils to participate effectively in curriculum and assessment activities. Our SEND policy reinforces the need for quality first teaching that is fully inclusive. The Governing Body will ensure that appropriate provision will be made for all pupils with SEND.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Local Government Act 1974
- Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986
- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Equality Act 2010
- The Equality Act 2010 (Disability) Regulations 2010
- Children and Families Act 2014
- The Special Educational Needs (Personal Budgets) Regulations 2014
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability (Amendment) Regulations 2015
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability (Detained Persons) Regulations 2015
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Health and Care Act 2022
- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'
- DfE (2023) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023'
- DfE (2018) 'Mental health and wellbeing provision in schools'

- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2025) 'Keeping children safe in education 2025'

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative Technology

Our goal is to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment while acknowledging the growing role of AI in modern education and society.

Principles

- **Educational Benefit:** We will explore and use AI tools where they offer clear educational benefits, such as personalized learning experiences, creative expression, or support for pupils with special educational needs.
- **Safety and Safeguarding:** The safety of our pupils is our highest priority. We will not use or permit the use of AI tools that pose a safeguarding risk, including those that collect excessive personal data, generate inappropriate content, or facilitate bullying.
- **Academic Integrity:** We will teach pupils about the responsible and ethical use of AI. This includes understanding the importance of using AI as a tool for learning and not as a substitute for their own work, and of acknowledging when AI has been used. Plagiarism using AI will be treated in the same way as any other form of academic dishonesty.
- **Critical Thinking:** Our curriculum will help pupils develop a critical understanding of AI. This includes teaching them to question the information and content generated by AI, to recognize potential biases, and to understand the concept of "hallucinations" (AI-generated false information).

School-Managed Use of AI

The school may choose to use or subscribe to educational AI platforms for specific purposes. When we do, we will:

- **Thoroughly Vet Platforms:** Any AI platform used by the school will be carefully vetted to ensure it is age-appropriate, secure, and compliant with data protection regulations such as the UK GDPR.
- **Supervised Access:** Pupils' access to AI tools will be supervised by staff. This ensures that the technology is used effectively and safely.
- **Clear Guidance:** Staff and pupils will receive clear instructions on the intended and acceptable use of any school-approved AI platform.

Personal Devices and AI

The school's existing Electronic Devices Policy applies to AI and generative technologies on personal devices.

- **Pupil Use:** Pupils are not permitted to use any AI or generative technology on personal electronic devices on school grounds during school hours unless specifically authorized and supervised by a member of staff for a learning activity. This includes AI-powered features within apps on mobile phones or smartwatches.
- **Parental Guidance:** We encourage parents to be aware of the AI tools their children may be using at home and to discuss the principles of safe and ethical use with them. We will provide resources and information to support these conversations.

Reporting Misuse

Any misuse of AI, including using it to create content that is harmful, offensive, or used for bullying, must be reported to a member of staff immediately. This will be handled in line with our Anti-Bullying and Online Safety Policies. We also encourage staff to report any instances where they feel an AI tool has generated inappropriate or concerning content.

Aims and Objectives of this Policy

Every school is required to identify and address the SEND of the pupils that they support. Through the implementation of this policy the Springcroft Primary School will:

- Reach high levels of achievement for all
- Be an inclusive school
- Ensure that pupils with SEND engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have SEND
- Ensure the identification of all pupils requiring SEND provision as early as possible in their school career
- Ensure there is high-quality provision to meet the needs of pupils with SEND, with specific focus on inclusive practice and removing barriers to learning.
- Attain high levels of satisfaction and participation from pupils, parent and carers
- Share a common vision and understanding with all stakeholders
- Promote disability equality and equality of opportunity, fulfilling its duties under the Equality Act 2010 towards individual disabled pupils.
- Use their best endeavours to make sure that pupils with SEND get the support they need to access the school's broad and balanced curriculum.
- Work towards inclusion in partnership with other agencies and schools
- Make reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services, to ensure that disabled pupils are not at a substantial disadvantage compared with their peers.
- Designate a teacher to be responsible for coordinating SEND provision, i.e. the SENCO (Grant Rowley).
- Inform parents when they are making special educational provision for their child.
- Review, prepare and publish important information about the school and its implementation of relevant SEND policies, including:
 - Accessibility plans setting out how they plan to increase access to the curriculum and the physical environment for pupils with SEND.
 - Information about the admission arrangements for pupils with SEND and the steps taken to prevent them being treated less favourably than others.
 - A SEN information report about the implementation of the school's policy for pupils with SEND.
- Fulfil its statutory duties towards pupils with SEND in light of the SEND Code of Practice
- To achieve a level of staff expertise to meet pupil need

We recognise that some pupils may have special needs at some time during their school life. In implementing this policy, we believe pupils will be helped to overcome any challenges they face.

Identification and Assessment

We accept the principle that pupils' needs should be identified and met as early as possible and effective provision improves long-term outcomes of pupils. As part of the overall approach to monitoring the progress and development of all pupils, it has a clear approach to identifying and responding to SEND as outlined in the school's SEND Information Report.

There are four areas of need as stated in the SEND Code of Practice, 2014. Whilst these four areas broadly identify the primary need of a pupil, we also consider the needs of the whole child, which may also impact on a pupil's progress

- Communication and Interaction (C and I)
- Cognition and Learning (Cog)
- Social Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH)
- Sensory and/or Physical. (S/P)

Whilst these four areas broadly identify the primary need of a pupil, we also consider the needs of the whole child, which may also impact on a pupil's progress

- Disability
- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Being in receipt of the Pupil Premium. (PP)
- Being a Looked After Child (CLA)
- Being a child of a service woman/man.

With the support of the SLT, classroom teachers will conduct regular progress assessments for all pupils, with aim of identifying pupils who are making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances.

Less than expected progress will be characterised by progress which:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline.
- Does not match or better the pupil's previous rate of progress.
- Fails to close the attainment gap between them and their peers.
- Widens the attainment gap.

The SENCO works closely within the senior leadership team, using whole school tracking data as an early identification indicator. We use a number of additional indicators of special educational needs:

- the analysis of data, including entry profiles at FS2 baseline and end of FS data, SATs, reading ages, annual and termly pupil assessments
- the use of our local authority SEN criteria
- the following up of teacher concerns
- following up parental concerns
- tracking individual pupil progress over time
- information from previous schools on transfer
- information from other services

The SENCO maintains a list of pupils identified through the procedures listed; this is called the SEND Support list. This list is reviewed each term when a detailed analysis of the list takes place. For some pupils a more in-depth individual assessment may be undertaken by the school or other educational or health professionals.

Identification of pupils with SEND will be continuous through children's time at Springcroft Primary School. Staff will be expected to remain alert to events that can lead to learning difficulties, such as bereavement or bullying.

Safeguarding

The school recognises that evidence shows pupils with SEND are at a greater risk of abuse and maltreatment, so will ensure that staff are aware that pupils with SEND:

- Have the potential to be disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying.
- May face additional risks online, e.g. from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation.
- Are at greater risk of abuse, including child-on-child abuse, neglect, and sexual violence and harassment.

The school recognises that there are additional barriers to recognising abuse and neglect in this group of pupils. These barriers can include, but are not limited to:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the pupil's condition without further exploration.
- These pupils being more prone to peer group isolation or bullying (including prejudice-based bullying) than other pupils.
- The potential for pupils with SEND or certain medical conditions being disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs.
- Communication barriers and difficulties in managing or reporting these challenges.
- A different cognitive understanding and being unable to understand the difference between fact or fiction in online content.

The headteacher and governing board will ensure that the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy reflects the fact that these additional barriers can exist when identifying abuse. When using physical intervention and reasonable force in response to risks presented by incidents involving pupils with SEND, staff will have due regard for the procedures outlined in the school's Physical Intervention Policy.

Care will be taken by all staff, particularly those who work closely with pupils with SEND, to notice any changes behaviour or mood, or any injuries, and these indicators will be investigated by the DSL (Stephen Drew) in collaboration with the SENCO.

School staff will be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for pupils with SEND and additional needs.

The governing board and headteacher will ensure that pupils with SEND are taught about how to keep themselves and others safe including online. The school will ensure that teaching of safeguarding is tailored to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of pupils with SEND.

Any reports of abuse involving pupils with SEND will involve close liaison between the DSL and the SENCO.

SEND Support

The school is aware of its statutory duty to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and recognise that high quality teaching, which is differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEND.

Teachers at the school will:

- Set high expectations for every pupil.
- Plan stretching work for pupils whose attainment is significantly above the expected standard.
- Plan lessons for pupils who have low levels of prior attainment or come from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Use appropriate assessment to set targets which are deliberately ambitious.
- Plan lessons to ensure that there are no barriers to every pupil achieving.
- Be responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class, including where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff.

Decisions on whether to make special educational provision for pupils will be based upon:

- Discussions between the teacher and SENCO.
- Analysis of the pupil's progress – using internal formative and summative assessments, alongside national data and expectations of progress.
- Discussion with the pupil and their parent.

Once a pupil has been identified with SEND, the school will employ a graduated approach to meeting the pupil's needs. This will be through the adoption of a four-part cycle – **assess, plan, do, review** – whereby 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. The process is as follows:

- **Assess:** establishing a clear assessment of the pupil's needs
- **Plan:** agreeing the adjustments, interventions and support to be put in place, as well as the expected impact on progress, development or behaviour, along with a clear date for review
- **Do:** implementing the agreed interventions and support
- **Review:** analysing the effectiveness of the interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress in line with the agreed review date

A referral for assessment can be made by a member of staff or parent, or a pupil may self-refer. The views and targets of the parent and the pupil will be sought.

The implementation stage will last the duration of a term, and more commonly two terms. Specialist staff and teaching assistants will work closely with classroom teachers to link interventions and classroom teaching.

The school will uphold the review date. If the pupil has achieved the outcomes and the intervention has been successful, the pupil's name will be moved from the SEND register to the monitoring list.

Where the pupil has not achieved the outcomes, the results of the intervention will feed back into the analysis of the pupil's needs and changes to the intervention or the outcomes will be discussed. The pupil 'assess, plan, do and review' cycle may continue. This will build a history and a better understanding of the pupil's difficulties.

Where higher levels of need are identified, the school will access specialised assessments from external agencies and professionals.

Where, despite the school having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEN of a pupil, they have not made expected progress, the school, in consultation with parents, will consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment.

The school will consider whether additional pastoral support and attention for pupils with SEND is required, alongside ensuring that any appropriate support for communication is in place.

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

The school is aware that there may be pupils at the school for whom English is not their first language and appreciates that having EAL is not equated to having learning difficulties. At the same time, when pupils with EAL make slow progress, it will not be assumed that their language status is the only reason; they may have SEND.

The school will consider the pupil within the context of their home, culture and community and look carefully at all aspects of a pupil's performance in different subjects to establish whether the problems they have in the classroom are due to limitations in their command of English or arise from SEND.

Early years pupils with SEND

All early year's providers are required to have arrangements in place to identify and support children with SEND and to promote equality of opportunity for children in their care. These requirements are set out in the EYFS framework.

The school will ensure all staff who work with young children are alert to emerging difficulties and respond early.

The school will:

- Ensure that staff listen and understand when parents express concerns about their child's development, as well as listening to any concerns raised by children themselves.
- Monitor and review the progress and development of all children throughout the early years.
- Use its best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEND gets the support they need.
- Ensure that children with SEND engage in the activities of school alongside children who do not have SEND.
- Designate a teacher to be the SENCO.
- Provide information for parents on how it supports children with SEND.
- Prepare a report on the:
 - Implementation of SEND policy and procedures.
 - Arrangements for the admission of children with SEND.
 - Steps being taken to prevent children with SEND from being treated less favourably than others.
 - Facilities provided to enable access to the school for children with SEND.
 - Accessibility plan showing how it plans to improve access over time.
- Inform parents when the school makes special educational provision for their child.
- Follow a graduated approach to assessing, planning, implementing, and reviewing provision and progress – the 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle.

Admissions

The school will ensure it meets its duties set under the DfE's 'School Admissions Code' by:

- Not refusing admission for a child thought to be potentially disruptive, or likely to exhibit challenging behaviour, on the grounds that the child is first to be assessed for SEND.
- Not refusing admission for a child that has named the school in their EHC plan.
- Considering applications from parents of children who have SEND but do not have an EHC plan.
- Not refusing admission for a child who has SEND but does not have an EHC plan because the school does not feel able to cater for those needs.
- Not refusing admission for a child who does not have an EHC plan.

- Not discriminating against or disadvantaging applicants with SEND.
- Ensuring policies relating to school uniform and trips do not discourage parents of pupils with SEND from applying for a place.
- Adopting fair practices and arrangements in accordance with the 'School Admissions Code' for the admission of children without an EHC plan.
- Ensuring the school's oversubscription arrangements will not disadvantage children with SEND.
- Ensuring that tests for selection are accessible to children with SEND, with reasonable adjustments made where necessary.

Arrangements for the fair admissions of pupils with SEND are outlined in the Admissions Policy and will be published on the school website.

The school may challenge a decision to name the school in an EHC plan if the school considers that such a placement would be unsuitable based on the child's age, ability, aptitude or SEND; or it would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children or the efficient use of resources. The school will consider whether any reasonable adjustments can be made to provide a placement.

Examination Access Arrangements

Access arrangements are requested using DfE guidelines in Year 6. An examination access arrangement granted in Year 6 will not automatically carry over into Year 7.

A pupil requiring an access arrangement will not necessarily be placed on the SEND register, nor will they automatically require a targeted support plan.

Transition

The school is aware of the importance of planning and preparing for the transitions between phases of education and preparation for adult life.

Where pupils have EHC plans, these will be reviewed and amended in sufficient time prior to a pupil moving between key phases of education, to allow for planning for and, where necessary, commissioning of support and provision at the new setting.

Funding for SEND Support

Where additional pupil needs are identified the school will use its delegated funding allowance to provide early intervention support for the benefit of pupils identified with SEND.

Where pupils with SEND have been receiving early intervention support but are still not making sufficient progress, the school will consider accessing high needs top-up funding from the LA to provide additional specialist support.

Curriculum Access and Provision

In order to meet the learning needs of all pupils, teachers differentiate work. They work to meet individual learning needs and to mark work and plan homework effectively.

Where pupils are identified as having special educational needs, the school provides for these additional needs in a variety of ways. The provision for pupils is related specifically to their needs. A personal learning plan (PLP) records a graduated response to individuals.

The range of provision may include:

- in class support for small groups with an additional teacher or Teaching Assistant (TA)
- small group withdrawal with TA, CT, or Learning Mentor LM.
- individual class support / individual withdrawal
- further differentiation of resources
- reading buddies
- interventions
- provision of alternative learning materials/ special equipment
- group support
- provision of additional adult time in devising interventions and monitoring their effectiveness
- staff development/training to undertake more effective strategies
- access to Specialist Teaching and Educational Psychology Service, or other support services like the HUB for advice on strategies, equipment, or staff training

Monitoring Pupil Progress

Progress is the crucial factor in determining the need for additional support.

Adequate progress is that which:

- Narrows the attainment gap between pupil and peers
- Prevents the attainment gap widening
- Is equivalent to that of peers starting from the same baseline but less than the majority of peers
- Equals or improves upon the pupil's previous rate of progress
- Ensures full curricular access
- Shows an improvement in self-help and social or personal skills
- Shows improvements in the pupil's behaviour

Use of Data and Record Keeping

All information about pupils will be kept in accordance with the school's Records Management Policy and Data Protection Policy.

The school's records will:

- Record details of additional or different provision made under SEND support, with accurate information to evidence the SEND support that has been provided over the pupil's time in the school, as well as its impact, e.g. through the use of personal learning plans.

- Include details of SEND, outcomes, action, agreed support, teaching strategies and the involvement of specialists, as part of its standard management information system to monitor the progress, behaviour and development of all pupils.
- Maintain an accurate and up-to-date register of the provision made for pupils with SEND.
- Be kept securely so that unauthorised persons do not have access to it, so far as reasonably practicable.

The school keeps data on the levels and types of need within the school and makes this available to the LA and Ofsted.

Confidentiality

The school will not disclose any EHC plan without the consent of the pupil's parents, except for specified purposes or in the interests of the pupil, such as disclosure:

- To a SEND tribunal when parents appeal, and to the Secretary of State under the Education Act 1996.
- On the order of any court for any criminal proceedings.
- For the purposes of investigations of maladministration under the Local Government Act 1974.
- To enable any authority to perform duties arising from the Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986, or from the Children Act 1989 relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- To Ofsted inspection teams as part of their inspections of schools and LAs.
- To any person in connection with the pupil's application for students with disabilities allowance in advance of taking up a place in HE.
- To the headteacher (or equivalent position) of the setting at which the pupil is intending to start their next phase of education.

The school will adhere to the Pupil Confidentiality Policy at all times.

Targets and Personal Learning Plans

All pupils on our SEND Support list will have individual Personal Learning Plans setting out targets and any provision made that is additional to and different from usual classroom provision. For pupils with an EHCP, provision will meet the recommendations on the plan. In subjects where all children have curriculum targets these are used to inform the Personal Learning Plan. Curriculum targets are recorded in exercise books, homework diaries, target cards etc. Strategies for pupils' progress will be recorded in individual Action Plan containing information on:

- Short-term targets

- Teaching strategies
- Provision made
- Date for review
- Success and/or exit criteria
- The outcomes recorded at review

The Personal Learning Plan will record only that which is different from or additional to the normal differentiated curriculum, and will concentrate on three or four individual targets that closely match the pupil's needs. The Personal Learning Plan will be created through discussion with both the pupil and the parent or carer.

Reviewing a Personal Plan

Personal Learning Plan will be reviewed at regular intervals with the inclusion of parents, carers and pupils' views.

Code of Practice Graduated Response

The school adopts the levels of intervention as described in the SEN Code of Practice.

The Code of Practice advocates a graduated response to meeting pupils' needs. If the school decides, after consultation with parents, that a pupil requires additional support to make progress, the SENDCO, in collaboration with teachers, will support the assessment of the pupil and have an input in planning future support and add the pupil to the SEND Support list. The class teacher will remain responsible for planning and delivering individualised programmes. Parents will be closely informed of the action and results.

Placement of a pupil on the SEND Support list will be made by the SENDCO after full consultation with parents at a Personal Learning Plan review. External support services may advise on targets for a new Provision Map and provide specialist inputs to the support process.

Personal Learning Plan intervention will usually be triggered when despite receiving differentiated

teaching and a sustained level of support, a pupil:

- Still makes little or no progress in specific areas over a long period
- Continues to work at National Curriculum levels considerably lower (one year lower) than expected for a pupil at a similar age
- Continues to experience difficulty in developing literacy/numeracy skills
- Has emotional problems that substantially impede their learning
- Has sensory or physical needs requiring additional specialist equipment or visits/advice from specialists.
- Has communication or interaction problems that impede the development of social relationships, thus presenting barriers to learning
- Parental consent is sought before any external agencies are involved. The resulting Personal Learning Plan may incorporate specialist strategies. These may be implemented by the class teacher but involve other adults.

Education, Care and Health Assessment needs assessments and plans

The school recognises that, despite having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEND of a pupil, some pupils may not make expected levels of progress. In these cases, the school will consult with parents and consider requesting an EHC needs assessment.

The purpose of an EHC plan is to make special educational provision to meet the SEND of the pupil, to secure the best possible outcomes for them across education, health and social care and prepare them for adulthood.

As part of the EHC needs assessment, the school will meet its duty by:

- Responding to any request for information as part of the EHC needs assessment process within six weeks from the date of the request, unless special exemptions apply as outlined in the SEND code of practice.
- Providing the LA with any school-specific information and evidence about the pupil's profile and educational progress.
- Gathering any advice received from relevant professionals regarding their education, health and care needs, desired outcomes, and any special education, health and care provision that may be required to meet their identified needs and achieve desired outcomes.

If, following the assessment, the LA decides not to issue an EHC plan, the school will be provided with written feedback collected during the EHC needs. It will use this information to contribute to the graduated approach and inform how the outcomes sought for the pupil can be achieved through further special educational provision made by the school and its partners.

Where the LA decides to issue an EHC plan, it must consult the prospective school by sending a copy of the draft plan and consider their comments before deciding whether to name it in the pupil's EHC plan. The school will meet its duty to provide views on a draft EHC plan within 15 days.

The school will admit any pupil that names the school in an EHC plan and will ensure that all those teaching or working with a pupil named in an EHC plan are aware of the pupil's needs and that arrangements are in place to meet them.

Reviewing EHC plans

The school will ensure that teachers monitor and review the pupil's progress during the year and conduct a formal review of the EHC plan at least annually.

The school will:

- Cooperate with the LA and relevant individuals to ensure an annual review meeting takes place, including convening the meeting on behalf of the LA if requested.
- Ensure that the appropriate people are given at least two weeks' notice of the date of the meeting, such as representatives from the LA SEN, social care and health services.
- Seek advice and information about the pupil prior to the annual review meeting from all parties invited, and send any information gathered to all those invited, at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.
- Ensure that sufficient arrangements are put in place at the school to host the annual review meeting.
- Contribute any relevant information and recommendations about the EHC plan to the LA, keeping parents involved at all times.
- Lead the review of the EHC plan to create the greatest confidence amongst pupils and their parents.
- Prepare and send a report of the meeting to everyone invited within two weeks of the meeting, setting out any recommendations and amendments to the EHC plan.
- Clarify to the parents and pupil that they have the right to appeal the decisions made regarding the EHC plan.
- Where possible for LAC, combine the annual review with one of the reviews in their care plan, in particular the personal education plan (PEP) element.
- Where necessary, provide support from an advocate to ensure the pupil's views are heard and acknowledged.
- Where necessary, facilitate support from an advocate to ensure the parent's views are heard and acknowledged.
- Review each pupil's EHC plan to ensure that it includes the statutory sections outlined in the 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years', labelled separately from one another.

If a pupil's needs significantly change, the school will request a re-assessment of an EHC plan at least six months after an initial assessment. Thereafter, the governing board or headteacher will request the LA to conduct a re-assessment of a pupil whenever they feel it is necessary.

The school will request an Education, Care and Health Assessment from the LA when, despite an individualised programme of sustained intervention within SEN Support the pupil remains a significant cause for concern. A Statutory Assessment might also be requested by a parent or outside agency. The school will have the following information available:

- Records from past interventions
- Current and past Action Plans
- Records and outcomes of regular reviews undertaken
- Information on the pupil's health and relevant medical history

- National Curriculum levels.
- Other relevant assessments from specialists such as support teachers and educational psychologists
- The views of parents
- Where possible, the views of the pupil
- Social Care/Educational Welfare Service reports
- Any other involvement by professionals

Partnership with Parents or Carers

The school is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers.

We do so by:

- keeping parents and carers informed and giving support during assessment and any related decision-making process about SEN provision
- working effectively with all other agencies supporting children and their parents
- giving parents and carers opportunities to play an active and valued role in their child's education
- making parents and carers feel welcome
- ensuring all parents and carers have appropriate communication aids and access arrangements
- providing all information in an accessible way
- encouraging parents and carers to inform school of any difficulties they perceive their child may be having or other needs the child may have which need addressing
- instilling confidence that the school will listen and act appropriately
- focusing on the child's strengths as well as areas of additional need
- allowing parents and carers opportunities to discuss ways in which they and the school can help their child
- agreeing targets for the child
- making parents and carers aware of the Parent Partnership services and encouraging them to look at the Parent Partnership board
- signposting parents to other services when needed
- involving parents in decision making as to how a pupil's individual budget may be allocated to provide support for their child.

Involvement of pupils

We recognise that all pupils have the right to be involved in making decisions and exercising choice (SEN Code of Practice). Where appropriate all pupils are involved in monitoring and reviewing their progress.

We endeavour to fully involve all pupils by encouraging them to:

- state their views about their education and learning
- identify their own needs (self-assessment and self-evaluation, Assessment for Learning)
- share in individual target setting across the curriculum
- self-review their progress and set new targets

In addition, pupils who are identified as having SEND are invited to participate in:

- Personal Learning Plan reviews and setting of individual targets
- Regular meetings with named adults

- Where appropriate, working with learning mentors
- Annual reviews

Special Provision

The school has the following special facilities:

- Wheelchair access to lower ground classrooms;
- Disabled toilets with hand rails;
- All mainstream classrooms are: carpeted (excluding cloakroom and practical areas),
- Blinds and curtains in classrooms to reduce glare. (Important for lip-reading)
- Individual adaptations will be made for specific pupils e.g. chair supports and individual work stations.

Leadership of SEND within School

The governing body delegates the responsibility for the day to day implementation of the policy to the appointed Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO), who is a Qualified Teacher.

The management of SEND is supported by the administration staff. All school staff have a responsibility for pupils with SEND in their class, firstly to ensure Quality First Teaching with differentiation and personalisation to meet need. Staff are aware of their responsibilities towards pupils with SEND, whether or not pupils have an Education, Health and Care Plan, (EHCP). A positive and sensitive attitude is shown towards all pupils by adults in school. Staff responsibilities are identified in individual job descriptions. Teaching Assistants play a major role in the support of pupils with SEND. The rationale for the deployment of TAs is pupil centred.

Role of Special Education Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENCO):

The SENDCO is responsible for the development, monitoring and reviewing of Springcroft's SEND policy; her specific responsibilities include:

- overseeing the day-day operation of the school's SEND policy
- liaising with the assistant SENDCO in co-ordinating provision for children with special educational needs
- liaising with and advising colleagues
- co-ordinate the teaching provided for children with SEN
- liaising with other schools to enable smooth transitions for children with SEN
- maintaining and updating resources for SEN, ensuring that staff have knowledge and access to materials
- attending relevant SENDCO update meetings, and keeping abreast of new research
- helping with the assessment of children with SEN
- maintaining the schools SEND support list and overseeing the SEN records
- work in partnership with parents of children with SEN (in conjunction with class teachers)

- carrying out reviews for EHCP plans
- contributing to the in-service training of staff
- liaising with external agencies including the LA's support and educational psychology services, health and social services, and voluntary bodies
- review the quality of provision and work with practitioners to ensure children have access to suitable challenges

The SENDCO is responsible for reporting to the governor with responsibility for SEN on the day-day management of SEND policy. Termly meetings will take place.

Role of the Governing Body:

The Governing Body's responsibilities to pupils with SEN include:

- Ensuring that provision of a high standard is made for SEN pupils
- Ensuring that a 'responsible person' is identified to inform other staff about all areas of SEN and all those involved with teaching and supporting Statemented pupils.
- Ensuring that SEN pupils are fully involved in school activities
- Having regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out these responsibilities
- Being fully involved in developing, monitoring and subsequently reviewing SEN policy
- Reporting annually to parents on the school's SEN Policy including the allocation of resources from the school's devolved/delegated budget

Role of the SEN Governor:

The Governing Body appoints a governor to have lead responsibility for the oversight of special educational needs in the school and to ensure that the full governing body is kept informed of how the school is meeting the statutory requirement. The SEN Governor has regular contact with the Headteacher and SENDCO, to keep up-to-date with and monitor the schools SEND provision, and is required to make an annual report to parents on the implementation of the SEND policy.

Role of the Headteacher:

The Headteacher's responsibilities include:

- The day-to-day management of all aspects of the school including the SEN provision
- Keeping the Governing Body well informed about SEN within the school
- Working closely with the SENDCO/SEN team
- Informing parents of the fact that SEN provision has been made for their child
- Ensuring that the school has clear and flexible strategies for working with parents, and that these strategies encourage involvement in their child's education

Role of the Class Teacher:

The Code of Practice clearly acknowledges the importance allocated to the teacher, whose responsibilities include:

- Being aware of the school's procedures for the identification and assessment of, and subsequent provision for, SEN pupils
- Collaborating with the SENDCO to decide the action required to assist the pupil to progress
- Working with the SENDCO to collect all available information on the pupil
- In collaboration with the SENDCO, develop Personal Learning Plans for SEN pupils.
- Working with SEN pupils on a daily basis to deliver the Personal Learning Plan targets within differentiated planning
- Developing constructive relationships with parents
- Being involved in the development of the school's SEN policy

Pastoral Support

As part of the school pastoral programme, the school will endeavour to identify and support those children and young people who are more vulnerable. Additional support is provided by our school councillor, who works with children and staff to support emotional well-being and offer mental health support. The school is also an early adopter of the HOPE Project (Helping Our Pupils Emotions), where staff are active members of this initiative, supporting children and families with a range of mental health topics. Outside agencies will be involved should the need arise.

Our school seeks to work in partnership with parents and carers to provide effective PSHE and support for children and young people. The school's PSHE programme endeavours to complement and support parent's and carer's roles. Parents are invited into school on a regular basis to attend parent's evenings or information evenings. Information can be found in our prospectus and in our regular news letters. We operate an "Open Door" policy which means parents are always welcome.

Links with Education Support Services

We aim to maintain useful contact with support services in Children and Young People's Services. For pupils on our SEND Support list any one or more of the following agencies may be involved: Educational Psychologist, School Nurse, CAMHS, First Steps, Mind ~ Younger Minds, Action for Children, Behaviour Support, Autism Outreach, PDD Outreach, Visual or Hearing Impairment Unit and SENNS.

Links with other schools

Early Years Settings

The Reception Class teacher arranges visits to the pre-school setting when they are informed of a child with SEN who **will be starting school** at Springcroft. When a child already has an EHCP or AEN funding they are usually invited to attend the child's Annual Review held during the summer term in the pre-school setting.

Children with SEN who transfer from other schools are supported through their induction to the school by the class teacher, who will assess the child's needs and put a suitable program in place.

High Schools

Specific links are maintained with Blythe Bridge High School, to which the majority of our pupil's transfer, although liaison with other schools takes place. Transition days are organised to familiarise all pupils with SEN with their new schools and close links are maintained to ensure that relevant information is passed on.

Resources

The provision for SEN/AEN is funded through the main revenue budget for the school. Funds are deployed to implement the SEND policy.

Complaints

The school will publish the Complaints Procedure Policy on the school website.

Following a parent's serious complaint or disagreement about the SEND provision being made for their child, the school will contact the LA immediately to seek disagreement resolution advice, regardless of whether an EHC plan is in place.

The school is aware of the formal and informal arrangements for resolving disagreements at a local level and will work with the LA in responding to requests for information as part of procedures for:

- Disagreement resolution.
- Mediation.
- Appeals to the SEND Tribunal.

Parents will be made aware that Ofsted can consider complaints relating to whole-school SEND early years provision if the problem has not been resolved informally.

The school will meet any request to attend a SEND tribunal and explain any departure from its duties and obligations under the 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'.

Publishing information

The school will publish information on the school website about the implementation of this policy.

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

The SEN Information Report will be prepared by the governing board and will be published on the school website. It will include all the information outlined in paragraphs 6.79 and 6.83 of the 'Special educational needs and disabilities code of practice: 0 to 25 years'.

Joint commissioning, planning and delivery

The school will work closely with local education, health and social care services to ensure pupils get the right support.

The school will assist the LA in carrying out their statutory duties under the Children and Families Act 2014, by ensuring that services work together where this promotes children and young people's wellbeing or improves the quality of special educational provision (Section 25 of the Children and Families Act 2014).

The school will draw on the wide range of local data sets about the likely educational needs of pupils with SEND to forecast future needs, including:

- Population and demographic data.
- Prevalence data for different kinds of SEND among children at the national level.
- Numbers of local children with EHC plans and their main needs.
- The numbers and types of settings locally that work with or educate pupils with SEND.
- An analysis of local challenges or sources of health inequalities.

The school will plan, deliver and monitor services against how well outcomes have been met, including, but not limited to:

- Improved educational progress and outcomes for pupils with SEND.
- Increasing the identification of pupils with SEND prior to school entry.

Where pupils with SEND also have a medical condition, their provision will be planned and delivered in coordination with the EHC plan.

Local offer

The school's governing board will collaborate with and support the LA in developing and reviewing the Local Offer, where necessary and appropriate, to ensure that it is:

- **Collaborative:** Where appropriate, the school will work with LAs, parents and pupils in developing and reviewing the Local Offer. The school will also cooperate with those providing services.
- **Accessible:** The school will collaborate with the LA during development and review to ensure that the LA's Local Offer is easy to understand, factual and jargon-free; is structured in a way that relates to pupils' and parents' needs, e.g. by broad age group or type of special educational provision; and is well-signposted and -publicised.

- **Comprehensive:** The school will help to ensure that parents and pupils understand what support can be expected to be available across education, health and social care from age 0 to 25 and how to access it. The school will assist the LA in ensuring that the Local Offer includes eligibility criteria for services, where relevant, and makes it clear where to go for information, advice and support, as well as how to make complaints about provision or appeal against decisions.
- **Up-to-date:** The school will work with the LA to review the Local Offer to ensure that, when parents and pupils access the Local Offer, the information is up-to-date.

The school will provide the LA with information about their existing SEND provision and capabilities to support pupils with SEND to aid in the drafting of the Local Offer, where required.

Monitoring and Review of the SEND Policy

This policy was developed through consultation with staff, parents, carers and pupils. The school considers the SEND Policy document to be important and, in conjunction with the Governing Body, undertakes a thorough review of both policy and practice on an annual basis, and any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff, parents of pupils with SEND, and relevant stakeholders. The outcomes of this review are used to inform the School Improvement Plan.

All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction programme.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with our Mental Health, Well-being and Behaviour for Learning Policy and our Disability and Equality scheme/Accessibility plan.