

Merrylands Primary School

INCLUSION POLICY

April 2018



INCLUSION POLICY FOR MERRYLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Legislative Compliance

This policy complies with the guidance given in Statutory Instrument 2013 Special Needs (Information Regulations) Clause 64. It has been written as guidance for staff, parents/carers and children with reference to the following guidance and documents.

SEN Code of Practice DfE & DoH 2014

SEND Regulations 2014

Ofsted Section 5 Inspection Framework 2015 (up-dated 2018)

Ofsted SEN Review 2010 "A Statement is not enough"

The Equality Act 2010

Education Bill 2011

Children and Families Act 2014

SEND and Inclusion Statement

According to the DfE and DoH SEN Code of Practice (2014) states that "a pupil has SEN where their learning difficulty or disability calls for special educational provision, namely provision **different from** or **additional to** that normally available to pupils of the same age."

- We endeavour to achieve maximum inclusion of all children (including vulnerable learners) whilst meeting their individual needs.
- All teachers provide differentiated learning opportunities for all the children within the school and provide materials appropriate to children's interests and abilities. This ensures that all children have a full access to the school curriculum.
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities might be an explanation for delayed or slower progress but is not an excuse, and we make every effort to narrow the gap in attainment between vulnerable groups of learners and others.
- English as an Additional Language (EAL) is not considered a Special Education Need. Differentiated work and individual learning opportunities are provided for children who are learning EAL as part of our provision for vulnerable learners.
- We focus on individual progress as the main indicator of success.
- We strive to make a clear distinction between "underachievement" – often caused by a poor early experience of learning - and special educational needs.
 - Some pupils in our school may be underachieving but will not necessarily have a special educational need. It is our responsibility to spot this quickly and ensure that appropriate interventions are put in place to help these pupils catch up.
 - Other pupils will genuinely have special educational needs and this **may** lead to lower-attainment (though not necessarily to under-

achievement). It is our responsibility to ensure that pupils with special educational needs have the maximum opportunity to attain and achieve in line with their peers. Accurate assessment of need and carefully planned programmes, which address the root causes of any learning difficulty, are essential ingredients of success for these pupils. These will be provided, initially, through Additional SEN Support funded from the devolved schools budget.

Aims and Objectives of this Policy

The aims of our inclusion policy and practice in this school are:

- To provide curriculum access for all
- To secure high levels of achievement for all
- To meet individual needs through a wide range of provision
- To attain high levels of satisfaction and participation from pupils, parents and carers
- To carefully map provision for all vulnerable learners to ensure that staffing deployment, resource allocation and choice of intervention is leading to good or better learning outcomes.
- To ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need, through well targeted continuing professional development.
- To work in cooperative and productive partnership with the Local Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners.
- To *“offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based and which: promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life”* (National Curriculum, 2014).

1. **Information about the school's policies for the identification, assessment and provision for pupils with special educational needs, whether or not pupils have EHC Plans, including how the school evaluates the effectiveness of its provision for such pupils.**
and
2. **The school's arrangements for assessing the progress of pupils with special educational needs**

In agreeing these staged arrangements, the school has taken into account the following statements and definitions:

“Defining achievement in terms of the number of targets on an individual education plan achieved across a given time rarely ensured rigorous evaluation of provision or pupils' progress. What made the difference to higher outcomes was effective target-setting within the curriculum or personalised programme as part of a whole-school policy on assessment.”

‘Inclusion: does it matter where pupils are taught?’ (Ofsted, 2006a)

*The Code of Practice states that pupils with SEND “need educational provision that is additional to or different from” those normally provided by “high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised”. A pupil with SEND “has a **significantly greater difficulty** in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or has a disability which **prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities** of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools”.*

SEN Code Of Practice (2014)

This is not necessarily “more literacy” or “more maths” but would be interventions which address the underlying learning needs of the pupil in order to improve his or her access to the curriculum.”

“Achievement for All” (National Strategies: 2009)

Across all the education providers visited, the keys to good outcomes were good teaching and learning, close tracking, rigorous monitoring of progress with intervention quickly put in place, and a thorough evaluation of the impact of additional provision.

Ofsted SEN Review (2010)

PROVISION

Stage 1 : High Quality Teaching

Well-differentiated, quality first teaching including, where appropriate, the use of Wave 1 or Wave 2 Interventions.

- All learners will have access to good to outstanding quality first teaching.
- The routine and prolonged withdrawal from mainstream of children with EAL is not recognised as good practice and does not promote rapid language acquisition. Language acquisition is best promoted through a range of good, inclusive strategies, interventions and differentiation of the usual school curriculum.
- Some vulnerable learners will have access to Wave 1 or Wave 2 interventions. These will probably be pupils who are underachieving and have been identified by the school as needing to make accelerated progress but will not necessarily be pupils with special educational needs. This is considered to be a differentiation of the usual school curriculum – not a special intervention for pupils with SEN.
- All vulnerable learners will be included on a detailed whole-school/class provision map which outlines and monitors all additional intervention across the school. The whole school/class provision map enables the school and teachers to:
 - Plan strategically to meet pupils’ identified needs and track their provision.
 - Audit how well provision matches need
 - Recognise gaps in provision
 - Highlight repetitive or ineffective use of resources
 - Cost provision effectively
 - Demonstrate accountability for financial efficiency
 - Demonstrate to all staff how support is deployed

- Inform parents, LEA, external agencies and Ofsted about resource deployment
- Focus attention on whole-school issues of learning and teaching as well as individual needs, providing an important tool for self-evaluation.

Identification and Assessment at Stage 1

Children's needs should be identified and met as early as possible through:

- the analysis of data including entry profiles, Foundation Stage levels, assessment, other whole-school pupil progress data
- classroom-based assessment and monitoring arrangements (cycle of planning, action and review)
- following up parental concerns
- information from parents when child first begins at school
- tracking individual children's progress over time, including progress in EAL
- liaison with feeder nurseries on transfer
- information from previous schools
- information from other services
- maintaining provision map for all vulnerable learners but which clearly identifies pupils receiving additional support. This provision map is updated termly through meetings between the teachers and SEN team.
- undertaking, when necessary, a more in depth individual assessment - this may include a range of commercially available assessments, carefully chosen to deliver appropriate, useful information on a pupil's needs. It may include a bilingual assessment where English is not the first language.
- involving an external agency where it is suspected that a special educational need is significant.

Curriculum Access and Provision for vulnerable learners

Where children are underachieving and/or identified as having special educational needs, the school provides for these additional needs in a variety of ways and might use a combination of these approaches to address targets identified for individual pupils.

- teachers differentiate work as part of quality first teaching
- Wave 1 and/or Wave 2 interventions
- other small group withdrawal (ie. Speech & Language support/intervention)
- individual class support
- individual/paired tuition if appropriate
- further differentiation of resources
- homework
- Class Support Personal Learning Plan (PLP)
- After-school/before school interventions

Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of our provision for vulnerable learners is carried out in the following ways:

- classroom observation by the Inclusion Manager, SENCO and senior leaders
- ongoing assessment of progress made by intervention groups
- work sampling on a termly basis
- scrutiny of planning
- teacher meetings with the Inclusion Manager and/or SENCO
- informal feedback from all staff
- pupil interviews when formulating individual provision maps pupil progress tracking using assessment data whole-school processes
- class teachers monitor Class Support PLP targets and evaluate the impact of additional support on pupils' progress
- head teacher's report to parents and governors.

Stage 2: Additional School Intervention & Support

- Pupils will be offered additional SEN support when it is clear that their needs require intervention which is "additional to" or "different from" the well-differentiated curriculum offer for all pupils in the school i.e. they have a special educational need as defined by the SEN Code of Practice 2014.
- Under-achieving pupils, pupils with EAL or pupils with a Class Support PLP who do not have SEN will **not** be placed on the school's SEND register of pupils being offered Additional SEN Support.
- In keeping with all vulnerable learners, intervention for pupils with SEND will be identified and tracked using the whole-school register.
- Our approach to PLPs (Personal Learning Plans, previously referred to as IEPs – Individual Learning Plans) is as follows:
 - Our PLPs are a planning, teaching and reviewing tool which enables us to focus on particular areas of development for pupils with special educational needs. They are seen as working document which can be constantly refined and amended.
 - Our PLPs will only record that which is *additional to* or *different from* the differentiated curriculum plan which is in place as part of provision for all children. Targets will address the underlying reasons why a pupil is having difficulty with learning – they will not simply be "more literacy" or "more maths".
 - Our PLPs will be accessible to all those involved in their implementation – pupils should have an understanding and "ownership of the targets".
 - Our PLPs will be based on informed assessment and will include the input of outside agencies,
 - Our PLPs have been devised so that they are manageable and easily monitored and therefore will be monitored and evaluated regularly.
 - Our PLPs will be time-limited – at termly review, there will be an agreed "where to next?"

- Our PLPs will have a maximum of 3/4 short / medium term SMART targets set for or by the pupil.
- Our PLPs will state what the learner is going to learn – not what the teacher is going to teach and will be clear about what the pupil should be able to do at the end of the given period.
- Targets for an PLP will be arrived at through :
 - *Discussion between teacher and Inclusion Manager and/or SENCO*
 - *Discussion, wherever possible, with parents/carers and pupil*
 - *Discussion with another professional*
- Our PLPs will be reviewed termly by class teachers in consultation with the Inclusion Manager or SENCO and parents.

Stage 3: High Needs. Having a current Education Health & Care Plan or requesting an Education Health Care needs assessment

- Pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will have access to all arrangements for pupils on the SEN list (above) and, in addition to this, will have an Annual Review of their EHCP provision and outcomes.
- Our school will comply with all local arrangements and procedures when applying for/requesting
 - Additional High Needs Funding
 - an Education Health and Care needs assessment
 and will ensure that all pre-requisites for application have been met through ambitious and pro-active Additional SEN Support.
- Our review procedures fully comply with those recommended in Sections 6.53 to 6.56 of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2014 and with local policy and guidance particularly with regard to the timescales set out within the process.

Inclusion of pupils with English as an additional language

Definition

A pupil who has English as an Additional Language (EAL) is a pupil whose first language is not English and who uses that language on a regular basis inside or outside of school. Pupils with EAL are not considered to have a Special Educational Need but are seen to benefit from the ability to live and learn in more than one language.

Ethos

We strive to recognise, welcome and celebrate linguistic, ethnic and cultural diversity and have a high expectation of all pupils regardless of ethnic, cultural or linguistic heritage. We aim to include all pupils and parents in our school by respecting that diversity and reflecting it in our school environment, curriculum, learning resources and partnership with parents. We welcome the enrichment that linguistic, ethnic and cultural diversity brings to our school community.

Admissions

No pupil will be refused admission on the basis of ethnicity or EAL. Pupils who have EAL will be admitted under the same criteria as any other pupil applying for a school place. Where parents do not speak English, we endeavour to provide information and help in their first language which will facilitate the admission process and provide key information about our school. On admission, the pupil will have access to a welcome and induction programme which recognises their linguistic needs and provides a safe and secure start to their learning.

Provision

Pupils with EAL will have full access to mainstream provision regardless of their proficiency in English. Where necessary, additional support will be given to improve acquisition of English: this will be provided through Wave 1 and, where appropriate, Wave 2 teaching.

The following provision can be expected:

- initial assessment of EAL
- pupils will not be regarded as pupils with SEN unless SEN is indicated.
- work in class will be differentiated for the pupils to lessen linguistic difficulties without significantly reducing academic challenge. Differentiated homework will be provided to enable the pupil to improve their knowledge and use of English and to participate in homework activities on an equal basis with their peers.
- additional support for pupils may be given through: visual resources & translation facilities; teaching support on a 1:1 or small group basis, peer group support; pre-teaching of key concepts and vocabulary.

- Progress of EAL pupils will be monitored against National Curriculum indicators. Where accelerated progress in English is needed for reasons of EAL, targets will be set and provision made on agreement between the class teacher and the Inclusion Manager and/or SENCO. Provision will be recorded and monitored for effectiveness using the school's provision map, in line with standard practice for all vulnerable learners in the school. The pupil will not be placed on the SEN register for reasons of EAL.

Parental support

We recognise that some parents who are learning English may find it difficult to communicate with the school and approach the school regarding any concerns they may have on their child's progress. We endeavour to fully include parents with EAL in the life of the school by, wherever possible, facilitating interpretation at parents' evenings, other school meetings and in the course of a school day.

Inclusion of pupils who are looked after in local authority care

Our school recognises that:

Children who are looked after in local authority care have the same rights as all children but may have additional needs due to attachment issues, early neglect, separation and loss, trauma and many placement moves. These barriers to learning can affect their educational outcomes and their personal, social and emotional development.

There are commonly understood reasons (Social Exclusion Unit Report :2003) why children who are looked after in local authority care often fail to make expected progress at school:

- o Placement instability
- o Unsatisfactory educational experiences of many carers
- o Too much time out of school
- o Insufficient help if they fall behind
- o Unmet needs - emotional, mental, physical

There is a statutory requirement for all schools to have a designated teacher for looked after children. The responsibilities of our designated teacher include:

- monitoring the progress of children who are 'looked after' to ensure that they have the best life chances possible and access to the full range of opportunities in school
- ensuring that children who are 'looked after' have access to the appropriate network of support

- checking that the statutory Personal Education Plan (PEP) has been arranged and that it is regularly reviewed, at least every six months
- ensuring that information concerning the education of children who are 'looked after' is transferred between agencies and individuals
- liaising with the child's social worker to ensure that there is effective communication at all times
- celebrating the child's successes and acknowledge the progress they are making.
- completing pupil profile on CLA tracker with assessments and new targets.

Inclusion of pupils who are very able and/or talented

In this section the term 'very able' refers to pupils who have a broad range of achievement at a very high level. Those children who are very able have very well-developed learning skills across the curriculum. The term 'talented' refers to pupils who excel in one or more specific fields, such as sport or music, but who may or may not perform at a high level across all areas of learning.

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|-------------------------------|--|
| • Physical talents | sports, games, skilled, dexterity |
| • Visual/performing abilities | dance, movement, drama |
| • Mechanical ingenuity | construction, object assembly (and disassembly), systematic, working solutions |
| • Outstanding leadership | organiser, outstanding team leader, sound judgements |
| • Social awareness | sensitivity, empathy, |
| • Creativity | artistic, musical, linguistic |

We respect the right of all children in our school, irrespective of differences in ability, to access a number of areas of learning, and to develop the knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes that are necessary for their self-fulfilment and eventual development into active and responsible adults.

The aims of our school make specific reference to teaching and learning that takes into account the needs of all children. They also identify the commitment to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. This policy guides the way in which this happens for our very able and/or talented children.

Identification

Before identifying any child 'very able' in a particular area, we aim to ensure that all children have had the opportunity to learn and succeed in this area. This makes the identification process fair. Identification of pupils as 'very able' and/or 'talented' is a judgement which applies to the current class/school context and refers to the

current level of performance only. This means that 'at this time this child is showing ability in a particular area'. Identification at our school does not necessarily mean that in another school or context the child would be identified.

A very able or talented pupil should be identified using a variety of methods. The specific procedure will vary according to subject area but will include elements of the following:

- teacher nomination
- assessment results
- specialist teacher identification
- parental nomination
- peer nomination
- self nomination

Each year the school will draw up a register of very able and/or talented children, this list will be kept under review.

Provision

Teachers have high expectations and plan carefully to meet the learning needs of all our children. We give all children the opportunity to show what they know, understand and can do, and we achieve this in a variety of ways when planning for children's learning by providing:

- a common activity that allows the children to respond at their own level;
- an enrichment activity that broadens a child's learning in a particular skill or knowledge area;
- an individual activity within a common theme that reflects a greater depth of understanding and higher level of attainment;
- the opportunity for children to progress through their work at their own rate of learning.

Children meet a variety of organisational strategies as they move through the school. Each strategy supports all children in their learning, but gives due regard to the more able and very able learner.

We offer a range of extra-curricular activities for our children. These activities offer very able and/or talented children the opportunity to further extend their learning in a range of activities. Opportunities include a range of sporting, musical clubs and art-based. School based provision includes opportunities for performance, specialist teaching and partnership with secondary schools.

3. The name and contact details of key members of staff:

SEN team

Mr. M. Davis – Assistant Headteacher/Inclusion Manager: 01268 417893

Mrs. K. Wiggins – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) : 01268 417893

Designated Teacher for Looked After Children

Mr. M. Davis – Assistant Headteacher/Inclusion Manager: 01268 417893

Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator

Mr. M. Davis – Assistant Headteacher/Inclusion Manager: 01268 417893

Ethnic Minority Achievement Co-ordinator

Mr. M. Davis – Assistant Headteacher/Inclusion Manager: 01268 417893

Safeguarding Leader

Mrs. N Berry – Head of School: 01268 417893

Management of Inclusion within our school

The Head of School and the Governing body have delegated the responsibility for the ongoing implementation of this Inclusion Policy to the Inclusion Manager. The Inclusion Manager is responsible for reporting regularly to the Head of School and the governor with responsibility for SEN/Inclusion on the ongoing effectiveness of this inclusion policy. The Designated Teacher for Looked After Children has strategic responsibility for the inclusion of children who are adopted or in local authority care.

All staff in school have a responsibility for maximising achievement and opportunity of vulnerable learners – specifically, all teachers are teachers of special educational needs and EAL. Staff are aware of their responsibilities towards all vulnerable learners and a positive and sensitive attitude is shown towards all pupils at all times.

Head of School

- the Head of School is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the progress of all pupils and for making strategic decisions which will maximise their opportunity to learn.
- the Head of School and the governing body will delegate the day to day implementation of this policy to the Inclusion Manager and the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO).
- the Head of School will be informed of the progress of all vulnerable learners and any issues with regard to the school's provision in this regard through:
 - analysis of the whole-school pupil progress tracking system
 - maintenance and analysis of a whole-school provision map for vulnerable learners
 - pupil progress meetings with individual teachers
 - regular meetings with the Inclusion Manager and SENCO
 - discussions with pupils and parents.

Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

In line with the recommendations in the SEN Code of Practice 2014 the SENCO will oversee the day- to-day operation of this policy in the following ways:

- maintenance and analysis of whole-school provision map for vulnerable learners
- identifying on this provision map a staged list of pupils with special educational needs – those in receipt of Additional SEN Support and those with Education Health and Care plans
- co-ordinating provision for children with special educational needs
- liaising with and advising teachers
- managing other classroom staff involved in supporting vulnerable learners
- overseeing the records on all children with Special Educational Needs
- liaising with parents of children with SEN, in conjunction with class teachers and, where appropriate, the Inclusion Manager
- contributing to the in-service training of staff
- implementing a programme of Annual Review for all pupils with EHCPs.
- complying with requests from an Education Health and Care Plan Coordinator to participate in a review.
- carrying out referral procedures to the Local Authority to request high needs block funding and/or requesting an Education Health and Care needs assessment when it is suspected, on strong evidence arising from previous intervention Additional SEN Support, that a pupil may have a special educational need which will require significant support, possibly to the age of 25 and beyond
- overseeing the smooth running of transition arrangements and transfer of information
- monitoring the school's system for ensuring that Personal Learning Plans, where it is agreed they will be useful for a pupil with special educational needs, have a high profile in the classroom and with pupils.
- evaluating regularly the impact and effectiveness of all additional interventions for all vulnerable learners.
- meeting **at least** termly with each teacher to review and revise learning objectives for all vulnerable learners in their class who are being tracked on the school's provision map.
- liaising sensitively with parents and families of pupils on the SEN register, keeping them informed of progress and listening to their views of progress.
- attending area SENCO network meetings and training as appropriate.
- liaising with the school's Inclusion Governor, keeping him/her informed of current issues regarding provision for vulnerable learners, including those with Special Educational Needs (nationally, locally and within school).
- liaising closely with a range of outside agencies to support vulnerable learners,

Inclusion Manager (Ethnic Minority Achievement, LAC, G&T Co-ordinator)

As well as supporting the SENCO, the Inclusion Manager will also oversee the day-to-day operation of this policy in the following ways:

- maintenance of a list of pupils with ethnic minority heritage and EAL, ensuring they are identified on the school's provision map

- in collaboration with the SLT and the SENCO, maintenance and analysis of whole-school provision map for vulnerable learners from ethnic/linguistic minority backgrounds
 - advising on and co-ordinating provision for children with additional needs relating to ethnic or linguistic background
 - working collaboratively with teachers to plan for and teach children with EAL as part of mainstream teaching practice
- managing other classroom staff involved in supporting ethnic/linguistic minorities
 - overseeing the initial and on-going assessment records on all children with EAL
 - liaising with parents of ethnic and linguistic minority children, in conjunction with class teachers, keeping them informed of progress and listening to their views of progress.
 - meeting **at least** termly with each teacher to review the linguistic progress of children learning EAL and establish next steps in learning
 - in collaboration with the Inclusion Manager and/or SENCO, evaluating regularly the impact and effectiveness of all additional interventions for children from cultural and linguistic minority backgrounds.
 - in collaboration with the SLT, Inclusion Manager and/or SENCO, overseeing the smooth running of transition arrangements and transfer of information
 - contributing to the in-service training of staff
 - supporting the design and delivery of a culturally inclusive curriculum which reflects the ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity of the school
 - advising on and sourcing bilingual and culturally reflective materials to support children's learning across the curriculum
 - advising on and sourcing interpreters and materials in translation to ensure that bilingual parents have equality of access to essential information
 - attending EAL network meetings and training as appropriate.
 - liaising with the school's Inclusion Governor, keeping him/her informed of current issues regarding provision for ethnic/linguistic minorities.
 - liaising closely with a range of outside agencies to ethnic & linguistic minority learner

Class teacher

- liaising with the SENCO and/or Inclusion Manager
 - o which pupils in the class are vulnerable learners
 - o which pupils are underachieving and need to have their additional interventions monitored on the vulnerable learners' provision map – but do not have special educational needs.
 - o which pupils (also on the provision map) require additional support because of a special educational need and need to go on the school's SEN register. Some of these pupils may require advice/support from an outside professional and, therefore, a PLP to address a special educational need (this would include pupils with a EHCP)
- securing good provision and good outcomes for all groups of vulnerable learners by :

- o providing differentiated teaching and learning opportunities, including differentiated work for pupils with EAL which reduces linguistic difficulty whilst maintaining cognitive challenge
- o ensuring there is adequate opportunity for pupils with special educational needs to working on agreed targets which are genuinely “additional to” or “different from” those normally provided as part of the differentiated curriculum and High Quality Teaching.
- o ensuring effective deployment of resources – including learning support assistants - to maximise outcomes for all groups of vulnerable learners.

4. Information about the expertise and training of staff in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and about how specialist expertise will be secured.

- In accordance with Section 6.85 of the SEN Code of Practice 2014 our Special Educational Needs Coordinator has statutory accreditation. If a new SENCO is appointed, he/she will gain statutory accreditation within three years of appointment.
- The Inclusion Manager and SENCO will regularly attend local network meetings, training courses (as appropriate) and Essex SEN up-date conferences.
- The Inclusion Manager and SENCO will liaise with other professionals (such as paediatricians, Specialist Teachers, Statutory Assessment Service staff, Area SENCOs, Doctors, Nursery Teachers, etc.) whenever necessary for advice, guidance and information sharing.
- All staff will be trained in how to best support all vulnerable learners in order to maximise their achievement as part of the school development plan and annual schedule of continuous professional development.

5. Information about how equipment and facilities to support children and young people with special educational needs will be secured.

Specialist equipment and expertise in relation to its use will be purchased/hired/commissioned by the school from the open market, subject to the usual guarantees, service level agreements and quality assurance criteria.

All staffing appointments to support vulnerable learners will be carried out in accordance with equal opportunities legislation, employment law, safer recruiting policy and best practice. All vacancies will be competitively advertised and recruited.

Advice may be sought from Specialist Teachers or other professionals such as Occupational Therapists or Speech and Language Therapists.

6. The role played by the parents of pupils with special educational needs (and other learning, physical or medical needs).

Partnership with Parents/Carers

The school aims to work in partnership with parents and carers. We do so by:

- 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
- 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 can help their child
- allowing parents and carers opportunities to discuss ways in which the school can help their child
- agreeing targets for all pupils, in particular those not making expected progress and, for some pupils identified as having special educational needs, involving parents in monitoring progress against these targets and any appropriate revision of them.
- keeping parents and carers informed and giving support during reviews and any related decision-making process, such as assessments or appointments with other professionals.
- making parents and carers aware of any appropriate Parent/Carer Support services.
- providing all information in an accessible way including, where necessary, facilitating translation of information for parents with EAL, where appropriate.

Involvement of Pupils

We recognise that all pupils have the right to be involved in making decisions and exercising choice. We endeavour to fully involve all pupils by encouraging them to:

- state their views about their education and learning
- identify their own needs and learn about learning
- share in target setting across the curriculum so that they know what their targets are and why they have them
- self-review their progress and set new targets
- for pupils with special educational needs monitor their success at achieving the targets on their PLP (Personal Learning Plan) or, where appropriate, their EHCP.

Effective Transition

- We will ensure early and timely planning for transfer to a pupil's next phase of education and, in the year before the year in which they leave, will offer transition meetings to all pupils in receipt of Additional SEN support and all those with EHCPs. Pupils with Education Health and Care Plans will also have next phase destinations and transition arrangements discussed at review meetings. Requests for new placements need to be facilitated by the Statutory Assessment Service but should be made clear at the Annual Review meeting, in consultation with the pupil's Specialist Teacher where necessary.
- Support for the pupil in coming to terms with moving on will be carefully planned and will include familiarisation visits. Pupils will be included in all transition days to the next phase but may also be offered additional transition visits; these will be organised in consultation with the pupil's new placement.
- Pupils and parents will be encouraged to consider all options for the next phase of education and the school will involve outside agencies, as appropriate, to ensure information is comprehensive but easily accessible and understandable. Accompanied visits to other providers may be arranged as appropriate.
- Parents will be given a named contact at the next phase provider with whom the Inclusion Manager or SENCO will liaise.
- Where pupils are attending a different placement but intending to join Merrylands Primary School the SENCO or Inclusion Manager may visit that placement to meet the pupil and staff in order to facilitate a smooth transition.

7. Any arrangements made by the governing body or the proprietor relating to the treatment of complaints from parents of pupils with special educational needs concerning the provision made at the school.

Admission Arrangements

No child will be refused admission to school on the basis of his or her special educational need, ethnicity or language need. In line with the Equalities Act 2010, we will not discriminate against disabled children and we will take all reasonable steps to provide effective educational provision (*see Admission policy for the school, as agreed with the Local Authority*)

Complaints

If there are any complaints relating to the provision for children with SEN or EAL these will be dealt with in the first instance by the class teacher, and only in the second instance by the Inclusion Manager or SENCO. Then, if unresolved, the complaint will be dealt with by the Deputy Headteacher or Head of School. The Governor with specific responsibility for SEN/Inclusion may be involved if necessary. In the case of an unresolved complaint the issue should be taken through the general Governors' complaints procedure (see separate Complaints Policy)

8. The contact details of support services for the parents of pupils with special educational needs, including those for arrangements made in accordance with clause 32

Links with Other Services

Effective working links will also be maintained with:

Educational Psychology Service Parent Helpline: 01245 433293

Statutory Assessment Service: 0333 013 4736

Parent Partnership Service helpline: 0333 013 8913

Children & Families Hub: 0345 603 7627

The Effective Support Directory: <http://essexpartnership.org/content/directory-services>

Virtual School for Looked After Children: 0333 013 1077

9. Information on where the local authority's local offer is published.

The link can be found on the school's website, alternatively you can use this address:

<http://www.essexlocaloffer.org.uk/>

Written by: Mrs. K. Wiggins (SENCO)

Date: April 2018

Review date: April 2019