

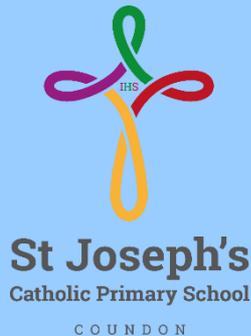
# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School COUNDON

## SEN Information Report

(and contribution to LA SEND Local Offer)



“We always strive to serve as witnesses to the Catholic faith in Jesus Christ, Our Lord.”



***St Joseph's Catholic Primary School aims to offer children an educational experience where staff will strive to identify and remove barriers to learning and create an environment in which every child is encouraged to reach their potential and ensure "no child is left behind".***

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School strives to be an inclusive school. Inclusion is central in the Catholic ethos and values of the school – a philosophy, which covers every child's rights and entitlement to the very best experiences education can offer.

The school is committed to constantly reviewing and evaluating its practices, systems and curriculum provision.

- [Links to key policies e.g. SEN and Inclusion policies, Equality](#)

# Our Core Offer

- Teachers are responsible for the progress of ALL pupils in their class. High quality teaching is personalised to meet every child's need. This is the first step in supporting pupils who may have SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities). All children are challenged to do their very best. This is enough for most pupils to make progress.
- All children will be taught a broad and balanced curriculum; differentiated to the needs of each individual. Where children require extra support, specialist resources or extension materials, these will be provided wherever possible.
- All children are known well by their class teacher, who develops strong relationships with them. Good behaviour and work is rewarded.
- Your child can express their views in several ways, including via their house captain, school council representatives or directly to staff, e.g. their 'Safe Person'. Buddies and mentors and the student council representatives encourage all pupils to have a voice in school.
- We manage medical needs by working closely with parents and healthcare professionals. We listen to and act on their advice, providing staff training when needed.
- We run a wide range of extra curricular clubs including Dance, Puzzles, Games, Science, Football and Home work and Computing club.
- There is also an SEN governor who has particular involvement with SEND policy and provision.

**St. Joseph's has a wealth of expertise from its staff over and above the qualifications needed for their jobs. Specialist services are always used when the need arises and the school feels it needs more support or advice to ensure a child fulfils their potential.**

The following is a snapshot of our expertise, but is not an exhaustive list:

### **Expertise in School**

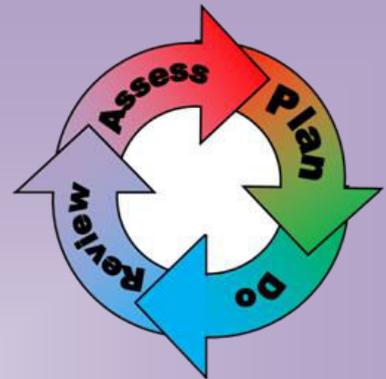
- SENCo – Miss K Stevenson (NASENCO)
- Qualified First Aid Staff
- Speech & Language- NELI and Speechlink
- Lexia (Literacy programme)
- Sounds Write Phonics
- Mastery In Maths
- Lego Therapy
- Nurture
- Fine and Gross Motor
- Time to Talk
- Socially Speaking

**At St. Joseph's we involve other bodies; including health and social care, local authority support services, charitable and voluntary sector organisations in meeting the children's SEN and supporting their families.**

### **Expertise/Specialist Services secured by School**

- Educational Psychologist
- Therapeutic Service/Child Psychotherapist
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational therapists
- Speech and Language therapists
- Visually/Hearing Impaired Service
- CAMHs – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- School Nurse/Health Visitors/Dental Health
- Fire Brigade/Cycling Proficiency – road/fire safety interventions

# Assess



- Identification – Your child will be identified as having SEN and/or a disability if they have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age or if they have a disability preventing or hindering the use of educational facilities provided for children of the same age within the Local Education Authority.
- First steps - if from our rigorous tracking and monitoring of your child's progress, it becomes apparent that he/she is not making expected progress then you will be invited to a meeting with their teacher and Miss Stevenson (SENCo). Where appropriate your child will be involved in this meeting. At the meeting we will begin to explore the possible barriers to learning and you will be asked how we can best support your child.
- Observations and assessments will then be carried out and, if required, input from specialist services may be sought with your permission.
- Where appropriate your child may be placed on our school's School's Monitoring List or SEN Support Register and a plan will be devised by the class teacher that will set achievable outcomes. These will be reviewed and updated at least termly.
- EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans) will be used when a child's needs are deemed more complex and require the input from a range of outside agencies. This could be in the form of Educational Psychologists, Occupational Therapists or other professionals with an area of expertise, e.g. Autism. An EHCP helps to determine the level of educational, social and health support the child needs.
- **If you are concerned about your child's progress or that your child may have SEN and/or a disability, please contact our SENCo Miss Stevenson on 01388 602608.**

# Plan



Our procedures are in line with the [SEN Code of Practice \(2014\)](#).

The first point of contact is the class teacher, who has overall responsibility for the welfare of your child. Additional provision is planned carefully and overseen by Miss Stevenson, the SENCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator). It is implemented by a skilled team of teachers and supported by experienced teaching assistants.

## SEND Resources

At St. Joseph's we have an extensive range of different SEND resources and interventions available. These are closely matched to the needs of our children and their progress is monitored by the class teacher, the SENCo and staff with specific curriculum responsibilities.

Where provision does not result in adequate progress, as outlined in the SEN Code of Practice, the SENCo (Miss Stevenson) should be consulted for advice.

# Do



- Our teachers are skilled at adapting teaching and learning to meet the diverse needs in each class.
- Daily planning takes into account individual children’s needs and requirements and is annotated and adapted according to need. Explicit reference is made in the teacher’s planning to the needs of those children identified with SEN and/or disabilities.
- Differentiation/ scaffolding is approached in a range of ways to support access to the curriculum and ensure that all children can experience success and challenge in their learning.
- Grouping arrangements take into account the different skills and abilities of each child. This ensures that learning is maximised.
- Additional adults are used to help groups and individual children with the long term goal of developing independent learning skills. The class teacher monitors this support to avoid pupils becoming over reliant on this.
- We fully encourage parental support and offer opportunities for individual meetings with parents/carers to provide clarity and recommendations on how they can support their child at home.

# REVIEW

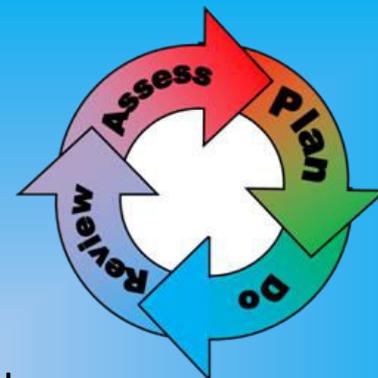


If despite all steps taken, good progress is still not being made we will refer back to our graduated approach and increase/change support whilst continuing to monitor and review progress. It may also be necessary, at this stage, to consult with the expertise and specialist services secured by the school.

SEN Support meetings sessions are held termly where you can meet your child's teacher to discuss and look at their work in different subject areas. A further opportunity is provided in the Summer term for you to discuss your child's end of year report.

Parents that have children on the school's Monitoring List or SEN Support Register, are also invited to termly meetings to review their child's Support Plan. Your child will be involved in reviewing their outcomes at appropriate times throughout the term, with the class teacher or teaching assistant, and during the setting of new outcomes on a termly basis. If, of course, you would like to meet Miss Stevenson or your child's class teacher at any point during the term, this can easily be arranged.

# REVIEW



For every child who is in the care of the Local Authority, (a looked after child - LAC), a Personal Education Plan (PEP) will be devised. This Plan will establish clear targets and actions to respond effectively to each child's needs and provide a continuous record of their achievements.

If your child has an EHC plan, you will be invited to an annual review of this plan.

Homework is given regularly and your child may have the opportunity to access computer programmes to support their learning at home through the school website. You are encouraged to support your child's learning at home.

Reading records and Evidence Me are used to support communication between home and school and you are encouraged to use these where appropriate. Class email addresses are also used to communicate more effectively.

# MEETING IDENTIFIED NEEDS

Communication and Interaction

Social, Emotional and Mental  
Health Difficulties

Cognition and Learning

Sensory and/or Physical Needs



For many children, their outcomes will be linked to the child's individual next steps and needs.

**At St. Joseph's, we offer many different forms of additional provision, including;**

- \* additional in and out of class support
- \* one-to-one support
- \* flexible groupings (including small group work)
- \* access to specific resources and learning programmes
- \* mentoring
- \* access to a wide range of outside agencies.

## Communication and Interaction



- Access to small group and/or individualised interventions to develop skills in communication and interaction with others, e.g. Time to Talk, Nurture, Socially Speaking
- Visual timetables are often used
- Flexible approaches to timetable
- Modifications to lunch and/or break times, e.g. children eat in quiet places
- Access to additional aids/technology
- Careful planning of transitions, e.g. advance notice, familiar resources
- Mentoring and/or buddy systems
- Communication support resource- eg PECS

## Cognition and Learning



- Regular, individually focused interventions, e.g. reading (Lexia), phonics (SW) numeracy (Mastery in Maths)
- Increased access to small group support in class
- Practical aids for learning, e.g. table squares, time/number lines, pictures, photos, accessible reading material suited to age, individualised success criteria
- Increased access to ICT programmes, e.g. Lexia/ TTRS
- Flexible groupings
- Adaptations to assessments to enable access e.g. readers, scribe, ICT
- Curriculum/delivery adaptations to meet the learning needs of individuals
- Frequent repetition and reinforcement

## Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties



- Access to calm spaces/individual work area
- Mentoring/Buddy system
- Individualised rewards system
- Access to counselling services, e.g. CAMHS, Psychotherapy services
- Increased access to additional adults in and out of the classroom
- Supported transition programme with chosen secondary school
- Opportunities to develop Social and Emotional aspects of learning through small group work: Occupational Therapy services, e.g. Calming and Regulating programmes, Proprioception (heavy lifting)

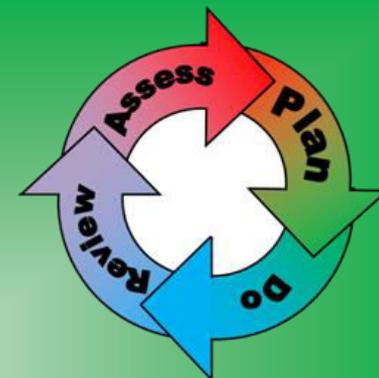
## Sensory and/or Physical Needs



- Occupational Therapy interventions
- Concrete apparatus available to support learning, e.g. Numicon materials (numeracy)
- Adapted curriculum to enable full access e.g. alternative recording devices, modified PE curriculum
- Sensory resources available e.g. wobble board, headphones/ear guards
- Access to support for personal care, e.g. school nurse service
- Adaptive resources for hearing impairment

# Accessibility

With due regard to our admission policy, parental choice and accessibility of the school building all children with special educational needs who apply will be accepted by the school.



- All of the school is fully wheelchair accessible.
- Disabled toilet facilities are located near the school entrance.
- Communication with parents whose first language is not English is supported by advice from the Local Authorities EAL (English as an additional language) team.

## Activities Outside of School

- St. Joseph's is an inclusive school and we will put in place appropriate support, whenever possible, to enable your child to be educated alongside their peers. This may include extra staffing and/or equipment.
- Staff who are arranging an offsite visit will discuss with parents and the SENCo any requirements needed and the suitability of any trip which the school is taking part in.
- We will not stop your child from going on a trip due to their special educational needs and/or disability if the trip is suitable for your child and their safety and the safety of others is not compromised.
- The Headteacher oversees all educational visits to ensure children are safe and included where possible.

# Medical



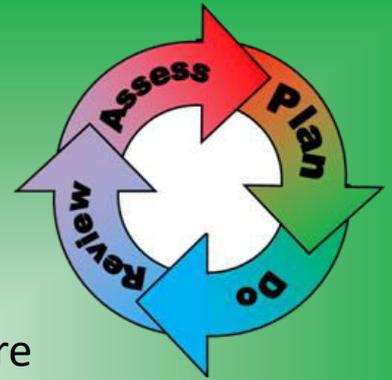
- On site medical support is provided by our qualified First Aiders including emergency and paediatric first aid.
- Staff are trained in medical administration eg BUCCOLAM/ Gluco-Gel/ Epi-Pens
- We have a comprehensive policy covering the administration of medicines in school.
- Children who have more severe medical conditions have detailed care plans which are devised in consultation with parents, school staff and medical professionals. These plans are kept in class and are shared with all members of staff as required. A copy of the plan is also available in our Medical file held in the medical room.

# Moving Up, Moving on ...



## Transition to Secondary School

- We work closely with all secondary schools in the area.
- The majority of our children move on to St John's Catholic Secondary School Bishop Auckland.
- The transition process will begin early, usually in Y5, for some of our more vulnerable children.
- Meetings are held for the transfer of essential information relating to IEPs, EHCPs, Child and Family Services and pastoral matters.
- We can also support you in organising meetings with secondary school staff if you wish to speak to them personally.
- When reviewing an EHCP for children in Y6, staff from the secondary school will always be invited to the review meetings.
- During the last term, staff from St John's come to meet our Y6 children and in addition to this, our Y6 children attend their chosen secondary school for two transition days.



### **Transition to a new school**

If your child moves to a new school within or at the end of an academic year, Miss Stevenson will contact the school SENCo to ensure he/she knows about any special arrangements or support that needs to be made for your child. If necessary a meeting will be arranged with other professionals. She will also transfer all records held for your child to the new school as soon as possible.

### **Transition to a new year group/Key Stage**

Information will be passed on to the new class teacher in advance and a transition meeting will take place with the new teacher. Individual outcomes/requirements for all SEND children will be discussed with the new teacher and agreed by Miss Stevenson.

Children who require additional support to ensure a smooth transition to their new class, will be included in a programme supported by Miss Stevenson.

# Staff Training

- All teachers have Qualified Teacher Status and our teaching assistants have a minimum of a level 2 qualification.
  - All staff are either teachers of or are supporting students with SEND.
  - St. Joseph's values staff training and organises courses/training programmes to ensure teachers and teaching assistants stay up to date with current research into teaching and learning.
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- Staff training includes: Child Protection (KCSIE), Prevent training, FGM, Team Teach, Lego Therapy, Nurture, NELI, Early Communicators.

# Evaluation of Impact

The impact of the provision provided has been to improve access to the curriculum for all pupils who have SEND. Carefully planned provision, including short term interventions implemented by school staff, together with expertise secured by school has ensured all children with SEND have been able to access areas of the curriculum that would not otherwise have been accessible to them.

To date, all the children identified with SEND in St. Joseph's have made progress this academic year. Those children who did not make expected progress have been identified through robust pupil progress meetings and SEN reviews. Such children are being further assessed through specialist services and/or given targeted interventions to support further progress.

# Further information to support this document can be found at the following links:

\* SEN Code of Practice (graduated response)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/revision-of-the-send-code-of-practice-0-to-25-years>

- Local Authority's Local Offer <https://www.durham.gov.uk/localoffer>

# Keeping in touch

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Carmel Trust website – [www.carmeleducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.carmeleducationtrust.org.uk)