

Caedmon Primary School SEN Information Report



for
Special Needs and Disability
2023-24

This report is to inform parents/carers, prospective parents/carers and other interested parties on Caedmon Primary School's provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

At Caedmon Primary, we believe that all pupils, regardless of their specific needs, should be offered inclusive teaching, which will enable them to make the best possible progress in school and feel that they are a valued member of the wider school community. Caedmon Primary School is inclusive and may offer the following range of provision to support children with communication and interaction; cognition and learning difficulties; social, mental and emotional health problems or sensory or physical needs. The range of support deployed will be tailored to individual need following thorough assessment by internal and/or external agencies. It is designed to promote pupils working towards becoming independent and resilient learners and should not be seen in isolation.

How does the school know if children need extra help, and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

- We encourage parents/carers to share information with us and to discuss and raise any concerns they may have as early as possible. Parents/carers should discuss any concerns with the child's class teacher. We encourage on-going home school communication.
- We assess children's ability as soon as they come into school and track their progress carefully. Evidence is gathered in a variety of ways starting, if necessary, by liaising with health professionals once a two year old developmental check has been carried out. Nursery staff quickly begin to implement a programme of support if needed. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) staff also carry out stringent milestone checks at key points in the year. The identification of special educational needs (SEND) is part of our usual practice - all teachers meet to discuss pupil progress and attainment with the Headteacher and Assessment lead. This happens on a termly basis in order to monitor and discuss the development and progress of all pupils. These are called Pupil Progress Meetings. If it is thought that children are making inadequate progress in any of the four areas of S.E.N.D: communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social, mental, emotional health or that they have sensory and/or physical needs, teachers speak to the SENDCO to relay their concerns. The SENDCO then investigates and will arrange a more in-depth assessment by external professionals as appropriate.

Communication and interaction - these children have a difficulty in communicating with others. This may be because they have difficulty saying what they want to, understanding what is being said to them or they do not understand or use social rules of communication. For example, children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD), including Asperger syndrome, are likely to have particular difficulties

with social interaction. They may also experience difficulties with language, communication and imagination, which can impact on how they relate to others.

Cognition and learning - children with learning difficulties learn at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation. Learning difficulties cover a wide range of needs from moderate learning difficulties (MLD) to children with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). Specific learning difficulties (SpLD), affect one or more specific aspects of learning, such as dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties - children may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained. Other children may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD) or attachment disorder.

Sensory and/or physical needs - some children require special educational provision because they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided. Many children with vision impairment (VI), hearing impairment (HI) or a multi-Sensory impairment (MSI) will require specialist support and /or equipment to access their learning.

How are parents and carers involved in the school? How can I be involved?

- Parents of children with SEND are invited to attend termly meetings with their child's teacher to review their child's progress, identify targets and share other information that will help their child.
- During termly meetings, the SENDCo may be invited along to share information with parents and answer any specific questions. At anytime throughout the year, parents are able to request a meeting with class teachers or the SENDCo.
- Where applicable, home school books are used to support communication between home and school for some pupils.
- The school will always ask permission of parents before approaching other professionals and outside agencies for information about their child.
- The LA has a SEND Family Liaison Officer who acts independently of schools to inform and support parents of children with SEND
- It is our aim that the school works in close partnership with parents/carers and maintains regular and purposeful communications between school and home. This includes :

The school website: <http://www.caedmonprimaryschool.co.uk>

Newsletters informing parents/carers of dates, events and items of school news.

ParentMail.

Caedmon Primary School Twitter and Facebook pages.

Informal conversations with parents on a daily basis.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?

- All class teachers meet with the Head Teacher/English Leader/Assessment Leader/ SENDCO/ Assistant Headteacher and the Mathematics Leader at regular intervals during the school year to discuss pupils' progress. We look closely at the provisions that have been in place and their effectiveness and impact on the child's learning.
- We consider any new concerns and plan appropriately for additional support, provision, resources or advice from outside services as necessary.
- SEND Support Plans are written and reviewed for all children on the SEND register as part of this process.

How will school staff support my child?

- The class teacher will take responsibility for the daily provision for each child, and will be supported and advised by the school SENDCO and other professionals where necessary.
- When it is decided that your child requires support over-and-above the support offered to other pupils, a SEND Support Plan is written - detailing the extra support that your child will receive and the impact that school expects this support to have on your child.
- The support provided consists of a four-part process:
 - Assess
 - Plan
 - Do
 - Review
- This is an ongoing cycle to enable the provision to be refined and revised as the understanding of the needs of the pupil grows.
- **Assess** - This involves clearly analysing the pupil's needs using the class teachers assessment and experience of working with the pupil, details of previous progress and attainment, comparisons with peers and national data, as well as the views and experience of the parents. The pupil's views and where relevant advice from external support services will be considered. Any parental concerns will be noted and compared with the school's information and assessment data on how the pupil is progressing.
- **Plan** - Planning will involve consultation between the teacher, the SENDCo and parents to agree the adjustments, interventions and support that are required. The impact on progress, development and or behaviour, that is expected and a clear date for review. Parental involvement may be sought, where appropriate, to reinforce or contribute to progress at home. All those working with the pupil, including support staff will be informed of their individual needs, the support that is being provided, any particular teaching strategies/ approaches that are being employed and the outcomes that are being sought.
- **Do** - The class teacher remains responsible for working with the child on a day to day basis. They will retain responsibility even where the interventions may involve group or one to one teaching away from the main class teacher. They will work closely with teaching assistants and to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and links with classroom teaching. Support with

further assessment of the pupil's strengths and weaknesses, problem solving and advising of the implementation of effective support will be provided by the SENDCo.

- **Review** - Reviews of a child's progress will be sought regularly. The review process will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions. It will also take account of the views of the pupil and where necessary their parents. The class teacher in conjunction with the SENDCo will revise the support and outcomes based on the pupil's progress and development making necessary amendments going forward, in consultation with parents and the pupil.
- In a very small number of cases, the Local Authority will need to make an Education Health Care Assessment and then consider whether to issue an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), which will give a child access to further support.
- The special educational needs of the great majority of children should be met effectively within mainstream settings.
- School governors meet with the SENDCO and receive regular reports regarding the overseeing of SEND provision.

EDUCATION HEATH CARE PLAN (EHC Plan) – formally known as 'Statements'

If a child is not making progress despite following the graduated response of Assess, Plan, Do, Review (including targeted support and the advice of outside professionals) it may be necessary to move onto the next stage and to make an application for statutory assessment for an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). Parents/carers will be consulted throughout the process, and the child's views will be sought if appropriate. The EHC assessment takes up to 20 weeks and could result in the child being issued with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). This is a legal document and it usually means that a child requires a higher level of support which would not ordinarily be provided from the basic funding made available to the school.

- Class teachers have overall responsibility for the welfare of the children in their class. They are supported in this role by the Senior Leadership Team and the SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator), Mrs M White.
- Class teachers are supported in the classroom by teaching assistants who can support individuals and groups of children to access the curriculum. Teaching assistants also lead catch up interventions in reading, writing and mathematics.
- Teaching some subjects in ability groups means that children can be taught according to their learning needs. It also means that children with learning difficulties can be taught in smaller groups.
- The school have reduced class sizes to ensure that SEND receive more teacher intervention and have the opportunity to access quality first teaching.
- The school employs a counsellor who works with individual pupils and their families.
- The school employs an educational psychologist to work 12 days a year to support the school in assessing education needs and recommending strategies.
- The school employs two thrive trained practitioners to deliver bespoke SEMH support to children on a 1:1 basis and in focus groups. We also currently have an additional 3 members of staff training to become THRIVE practitioners.
- The school can call on specialised support from a number of external services.

My child has a disability. What provision will be made for them?

- The school has children with a range of disabilities, which include moderate and specific learning disabilities and medical conditions. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts other professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents in order to ensure that pupils have access to the full curriculum, and are able to participate in all learning opportunities.
- As detailed elsewhere in this report, equipment and resources are provided for individual SEND pupils, as required, in order to support their individual needs.
- The whole of the school building and playgrounds are accessible for wheelchair users. As it is a single storey building, there is no requirement for ramps. The playground is fully suitable and accessible for all pupils.
- A disabled toilet facility is available, including a changing table, and school uses specialist facilities to meet toileting needs as and when required.
- **Please see the 'Accessibility Policy' for further information on accessibility for all and for how we are planning to further improve accessibility. Please see the 'Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy' for information on how we manage medical conditions. (Both policies are available on our school website or from the School Office).**

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

As an Academy Trust school, we offer a bespoke 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.
- The school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that each school plans for its pupils.
- School uses its best endeavours to ensure provision is made for young people who need something additional or different to what is provided for the majority.
- It is the responsibility of all teachers at Caedmon Primary to use different teaching styles and strategies to ensure that lessons and homework are accessible for all children. High quality classroom teaching and adjusted planning and resources for pupils, known as differentiation, is the first step in responding to children who may have special needs. Children with specific needs, such as dyslexia, will have been assessed by a Specialist Service. The recommendations from these reports will be used within the classroom setting.
- In some lessons, such as reading, children are taught in ability groups, which we believe aids progress in these areas. During some lessons, teaching assistants provide support to the class teacher and work with a group of children.
- If appropriate, during lessons and assessments, laptops are provided, extra time is allowed, readers and scribes are used to support pupils with additional needs.
- When participating in Physical Education or other physical activities, some pupils require additional support. This will be tailored to each child's particular needs and may involve: 1:1 or small group support from a teacher, the Sports Lead or a Teaching Assistant. Where a pupil has been given

exercises to complete at school - e.g. by the Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist – our Sports Lead will provide 1:1 interventions/an exercise programme to work on fine and gross motor skill skills.

- To ensure that all children's emotional, mental and social development is improved, teachers will ensure that children have access to the appropriate activity – e.g. 1:1 interventions such as Thrive, small group nurture work, 1:1 counselling, small group work e.g. friendship skills, roles of responsibility for children e.g. Playground Buddy or Prefect.
- If your child is not making the expected progress and has specific gaps in their understanding he/she may receive interventions in a smaller group of children.

These groups, also called intervention groups, may:

- take place in the classroom or outside in another teaching space;
- be led by a teacher, the Sports Lead or a teaching assistant;
- be led by a specialist from outside the school, such as a speech and language therapist.
- Specific support may also be provided by the local authority through the Resource and Support Panel. This means that your child has been identified by their teacher or the SENDCO as needing extra support from external agencies, such as the SEMH (social, emotional and mental health) specialist teacher or the ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) teacher.
- The Resource and Support Panel can also grant school further funding to support your child's needs without the need of an Education, Health and Care Plan.
- The 'learning environment' is very calm, quiet and consistent which supports all pupils. However, adaptations are made for some pupils e.g. a visual timetable, larger font resources, more space/accessibility, personalised resources e.g. spelling cards at their own ability level.

How will both you and I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

- Once a need has been identified, a cycle of support begins: Assess/Plan/Do/ Review. The class teacher or teaching assistant will carry out assessments. For some children, additional assessments are carried out by specialists, who are invited into school to observe/asses the child both in and out of the classroom. A report is then compiled and sent both to home and school. School then has a duty of care to implement any recommendations that have been suggested. Examples of such recommendations range from purchasing specific equipment such as pencil grips and sloped writing boards; implementing behaviour strategies unique to that particular child and - where necessary - the child pursuing some of their education at other educational institutes for short periods of time.
- In order to check assessment data, regular pupil progress meetings are held within school and the progress of children on the SEND register is monitored closely to ensure that they are making their own small steps of progression. Where this progress is slower than expected, the class teacher, SENDCO and teaching assistant will meet to discuss the next steps.
- Formal parent consultation takes place once a year. In addition, meetings for pupils with SEND are arranged between the class teacher and parents/carers each term and pupils are encouraged to attend. Additional meetings can be arranged if required. If a child needs extra support, a SEND Support Plan is written by the class teacher in consultation with the parent(s) and the child and all parties sign the plan. This is reviewed termly (as detailed above).

- Home/school communication books/charts are used as appropriate.
- Three times a year, parents/carers are provided with short reports about their child's attainment and attendance. If any concerns are raised because of these reports, a meeting will be arranged with parents/carers.
- Outside services involved with some children provide reports and information about attainment and expected progress for health based needs, such as speech and language or physical development.
- We have an open door policy for any daily information that needs to be shared between school and home. Any comments and suggestions are always taken into account.

What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

- We have a staff Safeguarding Team and all concerns, however small, are documented and closely monitored in order to keep children safe.
- We have an inclusive school ethos; we believe that children of varying abilities should be educated together.
- We have access to outside service support. A list of services is provided later in this document.
- Trained paediatric first aiders are available in school. Staff members are trained to administer medicines (this is done by staff on a **voluntary** basis only). Parents/carers are asked to sign a form to provide further details when medicine needs to be administered in school.
- If a child has a medical need then a detailed Care Plan is completed with the support of the school nurse or Health Visitor in consultation with the parent/carer.
- Staff members receive basic medical training, e.g. epipen administration and epilepsy training, when required.
- We have an active School Council to give children the opportunity to voice their ideas.
- We have a whole school reward system for behaviour (please refer to the school Behaviour Policy). Additional support will be provided, where necessary, to support individual children who are experiencing particular difficulties. Individual behaviour plans are also used in addition to the behaviour policy.
- Attendance is monitored closely with phone calls and visits to the home to ensure that children are safe. Children with excellent attendance receive attendance rewards.
- We have a trained Counsellor in school who works with children one day per week. Parental consent is always requested if counselling is thought to be of benefit to a child. Parents can request that their child be added to the waiting list which is on a priority basis. The Headlight project counsellors also work in school one day per week.
- We have a yoga teacher that works with the children one afternoon per week, to complete mindfulness activities.
- We have many Thrive Practitioners in school who work with children 1:1 and in small groups. We are working to ensure all staff become Thrive trained. We also have Thrive sessions within the classroom. This is done with the whole class.

7. What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

Education Psychology – private;

Redcar and Cleveland Inclusion team;

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS);

Speech and Language Therapy Service;

Redcar and Cleveland Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) specialist teacher;

Redcar and Cleveland Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) specialist teacher;

Daisy Chain;

Specialist Teaching Service - private;

Visually Impaired Unit;

Occupational Therapy;

Physiotherapy;

Social Services;

School Nurse;

Health Visiting Service;

Counsellor - private;

Play Therapy and Counselling – The Headlight Project, The Junction, Kidz Connect and The Link;

- You can find out more about the full range of services who work with schools on the Redcar and Cleveland Council website – ‘Local Offer’.
- The SENDCO holds the ‘National Award for Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities Co-ordination’.
- All staff receive an annual update/training from the SENDCO.
- Staff are provided with individualised training if they are supporting a pupil with a more specific need.
- The SENDCO attends regular cluster meetings with the Local Authority representative and SENDCOs from local schools.

How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

- Risk assessments are carried out for school visits, including residential trips, and reasonable adjustments will be made where required. Where needed, the risk assessment will include a meeting with parents/carers as well as taking account of any medical advice. When choosing the destination of these trips, the needs of all children will be taken into account.
- On some occasions, an individual member of staff may be assigned to support a small group or individual child if the risk assessment indicates that this is necessary.
- On certain occasions, parents/carers are invited along to support their child.

How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, transfer to a new school or the next stage of education and life?

- We recognise that transitions can be difficult for a child with SEND and take steps to ensure that any transition is as smooth as possible.
- If your child is moving to another school we will contact the school SENDCO and ensure he/she knows about any special arrangements or support that need to be made for your child. We will make sure that all records about your child are passed on as soon as possible.
- When moving classes in school, information will be passed on to the new class teacher and a planning meeting will take place with the new teacher to discuss your child's strengths and difficulties and the learning methods that have been successful. SEND Support Plans or EHC Plans will be shared. Children are given the opportunity to meet their new teachers in the summer term so that they feel secure and confident to begin the next academic year.
- In Reception, the Reception class teacher/teaching assistants work closely with the school's Nursery staff and are fully aware of the needs of children coming from Nursery into the Reception class. Children make a careful transition when they move into the Reception class.
- Our learning environment and teaching approaches are highly consistent, therefore transitions between classes and year groups are usually smooth.
- Extra transition visits are arranged for some pupils if needed, in order to build confidence, and additional meetings may be arranged with parents/carers and any other services that have been involved with your child as appropriate.
- In Year 6, the Year 6 teacher(s) and SENDCO will discuss the specific needs of your child with the SENDCO of their chosen secondary school. Where possible your child will visit their new school on several occasions and in some cases staff from the new school will visit your child in our school. A range of strategies, suitable for your child, may be used to support them at the time of transition.

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

- The school budget includes money for supporting pupils with SEND. The Headteacher then decides on the budget for SEND in consultation with school governors and based on the needs of pupils in the school. We may receive an additional amount of 'top-up' funding for pupils with higher-level needs.
- We will use our SEND funding in the most appropriate way to support your child. This support may include some small group teacher or teaching assistant support or some individual support from a teaching assistant e.g. reading intervention. The funding may also be used to put in place a range of support strategies. Additionally, SEND funding may be used to purchase specialist equipment or support from other support services etc.

Who can I contact for further information?

- The class teacher is usually the first point of contact, but parents/carers are also welcome to directly contact the SENDCO about any concerns.

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Hill

SENDCO: Mrs Michelle White

School Office: 01642 453187 enquiries@caedmon.steelriver.org.uk

SEND Governor: Rebecca Lambton

How can I make a complaint?

- The school 'Complaints Policy and Procedures' are available from our School Office and can be found on the school website <http://www.caedmonprimaryschool.co.uk/policies/>