

*Every school must have a policy to say how it caters for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). A copy of our policy is available from the school office upon request.*

This booklet is a summary of our policy and is aimed at providing information to parents as to how we cater for pupils with SEN.

We believe that each child is an individual and as such is entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which meets both the requirements of the National Curriculum and their own individual needs.

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEN) all have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than most children of the same age. These children may need extra help, or different help from that given to other children of the same age.

#### **Your child may have Special Educational Needs if he/she:**

- Finds learning difficult in one or more curriculum areas and fails to make the progress expected for a child of his/her age;
- Has emotional or behavioural difficulties that affect learning;
- Has a disability that affects learning.

The Code of Practice 2001 defines Special Educational Needs as a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made. It identifies a child as having a learning difficulty if he or she:

***“has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children the same age”***

or

***“has a disability which either prevents or hinders the child from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within the area of the LA”***.

#### **How will I know if my child is recognised as having Special Educational Needs?**

It is school policy to encourage contact between parents and school throughout the year. Parent-teacher meetings should be held to discuss your child's achievements and general progress. Any particular strengths or difficulties will be addressed and your child will be placed on the school special needs register. Parents will be able to discuss the nature of the special need and be asked to participate in a special home/school learning programme which is built into the child's Individual Educational Plan (IEP).

An IEP says what the school plan to do to help your child learn. It will only say what is extra or different from the teaching plan for all pupils. It sets targets to be achieved by the child during the term and also gives suggestions for parental support.

#### **What is the SEN Register?**

This is simply a record of the child's SEN and stage or level of SEN.

#### **Stages of SEN**

**School Action** - If your child needs extra help in order to make progress an IEP will be written and reviewed each term. Diagnostic assessments may be carried out by school staff. Parents will receive a copy of each IEP and have the opportunity to discuss it with staff.

**School Action Plus** - If concerns persist the child will be moved to SA+. The IEP will continue to be written and reviewed each term. Outside specialists may provide advice and support. A small number of children will not make enough progress at SA+. The school may then refer the child for a Statutory Assessment to determine if further support is necessary.

**Statement of Special Educational Needs** - the child is made the subject of a statement and the school is given advice and support to meet the child's needs. Progress is monitored by the school and Local Educational Authority and the statement is reviewed annually.

### **What can I do to help my child?**

- Keep in close contact with the class teacher and attend all consultation meetings.
- Put aside some time each day to provide regular support in the areas identified in the IEP.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement; try not to criticise his/her efforts.
- Seek advice from the class teacher, SEN coordinator or Head teacher if you have any concerns, however small.

### **Parental Rights** - You have the right to:

- Have your views taken into account;
- Receive copies of all papers;
- Have an opportunity to discuss all reports;
- Appeal against decisions;
- Request re-assessment.

**Our SEN Coordinator is Mrs M Dymond  
Our SEN Governor is Mrs K Beeden**



## **Special Educational Needs**

### *A Guide for Parents*