



*Learning through hard work, friendship and fun.*

# **Mill Lane Primary School**

## **Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Policy**

Adopted November 2023

Review date November 2024

## **Aims and Objectives**

Our aim at Mill Lane is to create an atmosphere where children can develop to their full potential in a secure and supportive environment. All children are individuals with their own talents and abilities. We aim to develop these abilities and to offer opportunities where they can grow in confidence and self-respect yet still retain sensitivity to others. Through a broad and balanced curriculum, the children's natural enthusiasm and interests can be nurtured and in turn, by their own efforts, they can appreciate the value of success. It is the right of every child to receive a curriculum that meets their needs. Every teacher is a teacher of Special Educational Needs (SEN) and it is our commitment to ensure that every child in Mill Lane Primary School is included in all aspects of school life and provided with opportunities to achieve and fulfil their potential.

This policy complies with the statutory requirements in the Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 0 - 25 2014 and should be read in conjunction with the following guidance, information and policies:

The Equality Policy

The Accessibility Plan (included as part of the Equality Policy)

The school's SEND information on the school website (SEND Report)

The Local Authority (LA) Guidance – 'Children & Young People with SEN; Guidance – School Based Support'

Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions

The Safeguarding Policy

## **Long Term Aim of this Policy**

Objectives:

To work within the guidance laid down in the SEN Code of Practice 2014.

To identify and put in place appropriate provision for pupils who have SEND and additional needs.

To operate a whole school approach to the management and provision of support for SEND that takes into account all of a pupil's needs.

To ensure that parents/carers have a clear understanding of how the school supports children and young people with SEND, and their own involvement in this

To provide an appropriately qualified and experienced SENDCo in post who can ensure that the SEND Policy is put into practice.

To provide support and advice for all staff working with SEND pupils.

## **Legislation and Guidance**

This is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

[Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEND

[The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out local authorities' and schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the special educational needs (SEN) information report

The [Equality Act 2010](#) (section 20), which sets out the school's duties to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities

The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010), which set out the school's responsibilities to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic (which includes having a disability) and those who don't share it

The [Governance Handbook](#), which sets out governors' responsibilities for pupils with SEND

The [School Admissions Code](#), which sets out the school's obligation to admit all pupils whose education, health and care (EHC) plan names the school, and its duty not to disadvantage unfairly children with a disability or with special educational needs

## Contacts

Our Special Needs Coordinator (SENDCo) at Mill Lane Primary School is Mrs Wilby, who is also a member of the senior leadership team. If you need to contact her please phone the school on 01924 477544 or email office@mill-lane.org.uk

## Definitions

### **Special educational needs**

A pupil has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability that requires special educational provision to be made for them.

They have a **learning difficulty or disability** if they have:

A significantly greater difficulty in learning than most others of the same age, or

A disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

**Special educational provision** is educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

### **Disability**

Pupils are considered to have a **disability** if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to do normal daily activities.

The school will make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage compared with their peers.

## Identification of SEN

Children and young people are identified as having SEN if they do not make adequate progress through quality first teaching. Every teacher is expected to plan a clearly differentiated, broad and balanced curriculum for all children. Through pupil progress meetings and meetings with the SENDCo, children are highlighted who are not making the required progress. The next stage would be to plan and deliver intervention to support the child in that particular area or areas of learning. This will be reviewed to assess whether the child is making progress. If monitoring showed that the child needed more support they would then move to higher level support called SEN Support.

Quality first teaching at Mill Lane allows teachers to support all children, through excellent classroom teaching. Quality first teaching is what is on offer for all children – a high-quality, inclusive, broad and balanced curriculum, engaging and effective teaching and personalised learning which includes and supports all children.

Quality first teaching includes:

- well-resourced and carefully planned provision which provides a rich learning environment
- clear objectives that are shared with the children
- lively, interactive teaching and learning, based on real life, practical experiences
- carefully structured, differentiated learning activities which enable all children to participate fully
- children being supported with their learning, in groups, pairs and sometimes individually
- children being helped to take responsibility for their own learning, when appropriate - children being encouraged to know their own targets and how to achieve them

If your child continues to experience difficulties despite high quality personalised teaching, they may need additional support. This is called SEN Support.

If your child is identified as needing SEN Support, we will:

- put a plan in place to support your child.
- regularly review your child's progress
- meet regularly with parents to discuss progress and plan future support.

Most children receiving SEN Support will respond well to this support and make effective progress. However, some children may have more complex needs requiring a greater level of support. Children with ongoing, significant and / or complex needs may be entitled to receive a much higher level of support through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan).

The Code specifies four broad areas of need:

Communication and Interaction (including Autism Spectrum Disorder)

Cognition and Learning

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

Sensory and/or physical needs.

Area of Need	
Communication and interaction	<p>Pupils with needs in this area have difficulty communicating with others. They may have difficulty understanding what is being said to them, have trouble expressing themselves, or do not understand or use the social rules of communication.</p> <p>Pupils who are on the autism spectrum often have needs that fall in this category.</p>
Cognition and learning	<p>Pupils with learning difficulties usually learn at a slower pace than their peers.</p> <p>A wide range of needs are grouped in this area, including:</p> <p>Specific learning difficulties, which impact 1 or more specific aspects of learning, such as: dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia</p> <p>Moderate learning difficulties</p> <p>Severe learning difficulties</p> <p>Profound and multiple learning difficulties, which is where pupils are likely to have severe and complex learning difficulties as well as a physical disability or sensory impairment</p>
Social, emotional and mental health	<p>These needs may reflect a wide range of underlying difficulties or disorders. Pupils may have:</p> <p>Mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression or an eating disorder</p> <p>Attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder</p> <p>Suffered adverse childhood experiences</p> <p>These needs can manifest in many ways, for example as challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour, or by the pupil becoming withdrawn or isolated.</p>
Sensory and/or physical	<p>Pupils with these needs have a disability that hinders them from accessing the educational facilities generally provided.</p> <p>Pupils may have:</p> <p>A sensory impairment such as vision impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory impairment</p> <p>A physical impairment</p> <p>These pupils may need ongoing additional support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.</p>

Other factors may impact on progress and attainment: attendance and punctuality, English as an Additional Language, being a Looked After Child, health and welfare, being in receipt of Pupil Premium, Disability, but these alone do not constitute SEND.

The Code no longer allows for the identification of behaviour to describe SEND. Any concerns we may have about a child with behavioural needs would form an underlying part of a wider need in relation to the four broad needs highlighted above.

## **A Graduated, Whole School Approach to SEND Support**

Once a pupil has been identified as having SEN, we will take action to remove any barriers to learning, and put effective special educational provision in place. This support will be delivered through successive rounds of a 4-part cycle known as the graduated approach.

### **1. Assess**

The pupil's class teacher and the SENDCO will carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. The views of the pupil and their parents will be taken into account. The school may also seek advice from external support services.

The assessment will be reviewed regularly to help make sure that the support in place is matched to the pupil's need. For many pupils, the most reliable way to identify needs is to observe the way they respond to an intervention.

### **2. Plan**

In consultation with the parents and the pupil, the teacher and the SENDCO will decide which adjustments, interventions and support will be put into place, the expected outcomes, and a clear date for review.

All staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of the pupil's needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided and any teaching strategies or approaches that are needed. This information will be recorded in school, and will be made accessible to staff in a [sensory passport / provision document / school-based support plan/my support plan].

Parents will be fully aware of the planned support and interventions, and may be asked to reinforce or contribute to progress at home.

### **3. Do**

The pupil's class or subject teacher retains overall responsibility for their progress.

Where the plan involves group or 1-to-1 teaching away from the main class or subject teacher, they still retain responsibility for the pupil. They will work closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved, to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching.

The SENDCO will support the teacher in further assessing the pupil's particular strengths and weaknesses, in problem solving and advising on how to implement support effectively.

### **4. Review**

The effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed in line with the agreed date.

We will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions. This evaluation will be based on:

The views of the parents and pupils

The level of progress the pupil has made towards their outcomes

The views of teaching staff who work with the pupil

The teacher and the SENDCO will revise the outcomes and support in light of the pupil's progress and development, and in consultation with the pupil and their parents.

At Mill Lane School we have an agreed system by which different stages of support are documented and monitored.

Document	Explanation	Responsibility	Reviewed
Provision Documents  Or  Additional Needs Plans	This is a document which records all the interventions happening in school for the children who participate. It shows their needs, entry data, objective and strategies used to enable progress to be made. It shows when the intervention starts and finishes and how often it happens within the week. It highlights the stage the child is currently at and allows opportunity to record notes to support future planning and next steps.	Class teacher SENDCo Parents	Reviewed termly and/or when an intervention finishes.

My Support Plan	This plan is more specific to a child's individual needs and may offer more focused, co-ordinated or one to one support.	Class teacher SENDCo Parents	Reviewed October, February and July
EHCP Education, Health & Care Plan	An EHC plan is a legal document which is issued by the Local Authority. It would mean that your child has been assessed by the Local Authority as needing an ongoing, high level of support, which may need additional funding.	Teacher Key worker Parents Any agencies involved	Annually or an emergency review can be called if needed

If the school feels it has exhausted its own resources in terms of supporting a pupil additional help can be requested from external agencies. This process entails a referral being made and an assessment of the submitted evidence being made by an external panel. Following a successful referral external support is offered to the pupil to enable them to make progress – the school works alongside the external agency to ensure the support is continued once the agency withdraws.

## **The SEN Register.**

### **School-based SEN provision**

Pupils receiving SEN provision will be placed on the school's SEND register. These pupils have needs that can be met by the school through the graduated approach. Where the pupil's needs cannot be adequately met with in-house expertise, staff will consider involving an external specialist as soon as possible.

The provision for these pupils is funded through the school's notional SEND budget.

On the census these pupils will be marked with the code K.

### **Education, health and care (EHC) plan**

Pupils who need more support than is available through the school's school-based SEN provision may be entitled to an EHC plan. The plan is a legal document that describes the needs of the pupil, the provision that will be put in place, and the outcomes sought.

The provision for these pupils will be funded from the school's notional SEND budget, and potentially from the LA (from the high-level needs funding block of the dedicated schools grant).

On the census these pupils will be marked with the code E.

## **Supporting Pupils/Students and Families**

We aim to work in partnership with our pupils, their parents and families and to ensure that they are fully informed about all matters relating to their child's SEN. Our SEN Report is on our website and is updated regularly, and we guide parents towards the LA Local Offer for information about wider services. In addition to information about the personalised support we offer their child, we also provide information about:

Our admissions arrangements.

Our links with other agencies.

Our arrangements for assessments.

Our transition arrangements

Our school policy on managing medical conditions of pupils.

## **Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions**

At Mill Lane School we recognise that children and young people at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. Some children and young people with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

At times, children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) may require specific medications to be administered. Any arrangements regarding medications for children with SEND will need to be discussed with the SENDCo.

The SENDCo may arrange a meeting with the parent and the school nurse. We may decide that a Health Care Plan is needed. This would give details of any medications as well as when and how they are to be administered.

Children's medicines are kept centrally (in a fridge if necessary). Asthma inhalers are in the school office and Epipens are kept in an appropriate place in class and in the school office. We ensure that your child knows where their inhaler or Epipen is to be kept. Any child needing medications (including children with SEND) will require a parental permission form to be completed. These are kept in the school office.

For full details of arrangements regarding medical conditions and medications, please see the Managing Medical Conditions Policy.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of SEN**

Our monitoring and evaluation cycle is embedded into school practice and is a continual cycle of review aimed at improving the provision and outcomes for all pupils. This policy will be reviewed annually by the whole staff, governors and any amendments made to comply with the new legislation

Effective implementation of the SEND policy will be evaluated by:

Reviewing school procedures for identification and assessment to ensure that children are being identified and their needs met.

Ensuring that available resources are appropriate for children's needs and adding to them as necessary.

Reviewing the practical arrangements for ensuring that children are able to participate in all school activities.

Evaluating the extent that parents are satisfied with the school's ability to meet their children's needs at parent meetings.

Ensuring that school records are kept up to date for each individual child.

Reviewing the progress of children by using provision documents and support plans to ensure they are reaching their potential.

Termly consultations to discuss the progress of children with SEND.

Annual reviews of children with an Educational Health Care plan.

### **Workforce Development**

An induction process is in place for all teachers and support staff and this includes a meeting with the SENDCO to explain the systems and structures in place to support the needs of individual children.

The training needs of all staff are identified and relevant training is found and provided.

The school's SENDCO regularly attends the LA's SENDCO network meetings in order to keep up to date with local and national issues and changes in SEND. The SENDCO also attends the schools partnership meeting or children with additional needs.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

Meeting children's special educational needs is the shared responsibility of the LEA, governors, parents, teachers and support staff.

It is the statutory duty of the governing body to make provision for all children with SEND. This includes the majority of those who do not require EHC plans as well as the minority with EHC plans.

**Governors must:**

Ensure a member of staff is designated SEND co-ordinator.

Ensure the necessary provision is made for pupils with SEND.

Consult with the LEA and other bodies to co-ordinate SEND provision.

Publish an SEND policy.

Publish information in the Annual Report to Parents on:

- The success of the SEND policy
- Any significant changes
- Any consultations with other schools, the LEA etc.
- The allocation of resources.

Ensure that pupils with SEND have full access in all areas of school life.

Ensure that a summary of the SEND policy is included in the school prospectus.

Consult with the LEA about appropriate staff training in SEND.

Have regard to the Children and families act 2014 and the SEND code of practice 0-25

The SEND Governor is Claire Prendergast who meet with the SENDCo termly and monitor the progress of children with SEN.

**The Headteacher:**

- has a legal responsibility to inform parents if a child is identified as having learning difficulties.
- will keep governors informed about SEND in school via termly reports to the Governing body by the SENDCo.
- has the management role to determine how resources are allocated to and amongst children with SEND.

The headteacher is Miss Barlow who meets with the SENDCo half termly to discuss SEN within school.

**The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO) is responsible for:**

- the day to day operation of the policy.
- liaising with and advising fellow teachers.
- co-ordinating provisions for children with SEND.
- maintaining the school's SEND register.
- liaising with parents / carers of children with SEND.
- identifying and contributing to the in-service training of staff.
- liaising with external agencies, including the Educational Psychological Service and other support agencies, medical and social services and voluntary bodies.

The SENDCo identified in school will actively encourage a positive working partnership between the parent / teacher / psychologist / other agencies, working to meet the special educational needs of each pupil.

The SENDCo is Mrs Wilby

**The Class Teacher will:**

- plan a broad and balanced curriculum.
- assess and plan differentiated activities
- identify a child's SEN using the agreed criteria.
- assess each individual child's SEN at the earliest opportunity.



- employ learning strategies and programmes which will cater for SEN.
- plan and record interventions with the help of the SENDCo where appropriate, to enable each child to have access to the National Curriculum.
- produce modified teaching resources, or employ other methods of differentiation, to enable a child with SEN to experience success.
- assess and review progress, keeping records in accordance with school and Kirklees guidelines.
- liaise with parents at regular intervals.
- inform and explain the procedure to parents, value their contribution to reviews.
- inform the Headteacher and the SENDCo of any child with SEN.
- liaise with Support Assistants who are working with children with SEN.
- participate in regular SEN meetings and training.

### **Educational Teaching Assistants will:**

- work alongside Class Teachers implementing programmes with individual children under the direction of the teacher.
- prepare appropriate materials and resources.
- feedback information to staff and keep records as directed by the teacher
- contribute their knowledge of the child and progress to enable future provision to be made.
- undertake any necessary training

### **Parents or carers**

The school aims to promote positive, collaborative partnerships with parents. We recognise the value of the active participation of parents in the education of their children and encourage this wherever possible.

Partnership with parents is encouraged by:

- acting upon parental concerns.
- Having formal and informal discussion between parents and staff.
- providing activities for parents to work with their children at home when appropriate.
- involving parents as soon as concerns are noted and encouraging their participation in all subsequent meetings and reviews.
- informing parents about school policies for SEND in the School Prospectus and at Annual Parents Meetings.
- making clear to parents the complaints procedure should they feel dissatisfied with the provision made for their child, details of which are available in school with the class teacher.

### **Pupils**

Pupils will always be given the opportunity to provide information and express their views about their SEND and the support provided. They will be invited to participate in discussions and decisions about this support. This might involve the pupil:

Explaining what their strengths and difficulties are

Contributing to setting targets or outcomes

Attending review meetings

Giving feedback on the effectiveness of interventions

The pupil's views will be taken into account in making decisions that affect them, whenever possible.

## **Storing and Managing Information**

All documents relating to children and young people on the SEN Register are stored in a locked cupboard in the SENDCo's office. These are all kept in school whilst the child attends. If the child leaves all documents are passed onto the next setting. These are hand delivered and signed for.

## **Reviewing the Policy**

The policy will be reviewed in November 2024. It will also be updated when any new legislation, requirements or changes in procedure occur during the year.

## **Accessibility – Statutory Responsibilities**

We have an Accessibility Plan that addresses the improvement of access to:

The curriculum

The physical environment

The provision of information.

This plan is reviewed annually, barriers are identified, and plans put in place to remove them.

## **Dealing with Complaints**

Complaints about SEN provision should be made in the first instance to the Class Teacher who will inform the SENDCo. If parents remain dissatisfied they should speak or write to the Headteacher. Following this, if they are still worried or dissatisfied they should put their complaint in writing to the governor with responsibility for SEND.

## **Bullying**

At Mill Lane School we have a whole school approach to mitigating the risk of bullying, and developing independence and building resilience in our children with SEN. Please refer to our Behaviour Policy and Safeguarding Policy.

## **Appendices (available from the school office on request)**

The LA Guidance – 'Children & Young People with SEN; Guidance – School Based Support'  
Support Plan

Educational Psychologist request form

Single Point of referral

Specialist provision

Equality Policy

Behaviour Policy

Safeguarding Policy