



Ark Tindal  
Primary Academy

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS  
AND DISABILITY POLICY





# Policy Information

**Named personnel with designated responsibility for matters associated with special educational needs and disabilities:**

Role	Designated Person	Contact Details
SENDCo [State whether you have or are about to complete the NASENCo award]	Nabeela Tahira Will complete NASENCo award next academic year	n.tahira@arktindalprimary.org
Senior leader who manages the SEND Department	Kathryn Skoro	k.skoro@arkchamberlain.org
SEND Link Governor	Jude Slama	info@arktindalprimary.org
Designated teacher with safeguarding responsibility	Nabeela Tahira	n.tahira@arktindalprimary.org
Member of staff responsible for pupils with medical needs	Rob Deering	r.deering@arktindalprimary.org
Member of staff responsible for managing PPG/LAC funding	Hayley Frances	<a href="mailto:h.frances@arktindalprimary.org">h.frances@arktindalprimary.org</a>

## Policy review dates (frequency of review: annual)

Review Date	Changes made	By whom
Sep 2014	Policy created	Ark Central
Sep 2016	Policy reviewed	Kathryn Skoro
July 2017	Policy reviewed	Nabeela Tahira

## Ratification by Governing Body

Academic year	Date of ratification	Chair of Governors
2016-2017	October 12	Julie Farr

## Dates of staff training for this academic year

Dates	Course Title	Staff



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## 1. COMPLIANCE

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This policy complies with all statutory requirements, especially those relating to the legislation contained in the Equality Act 2010 and the Children and Families Act 2014, as set out in the SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25 (September 2014).

This policy was created by the academy SENDCo in collaboration with the SEND Link Governor and the Academy Leadership Team, taking into account the views of pupils, parents and relevant other stakeholders.

## 2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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### The SENDCo

The SENDCo has day-to-day responsibility for the operation of the SEN and disabilities policy and co-ordinating provision made for students with SEN and disabilities.

The SENDCo provides professional guidance to colleagues with the aim of securing high quality teaching for students with SEN and disabilities, and works closely with students, parents and other professionals to ensure students with SEN and disabilities receive appropriate support.

The SENDCo plays an important role along with the Headteacher and governing body in determining the strategic development of the SEN and disabilities policy and provision within the school in order to raise the achievements of students with SEN and disabilities.

In compliance with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, the SENDCo is also responsible for the following:

- In relation to each of the registered pupils who the SENDCo considers may have special educational needs, informing a parent / carer of the pupil that this may be the case as soon as is reasonably practicable
- In relation to each of the registered pupils who have special educational needs:
  - Identifying the pupil's special educational needs, and coordinating the making of special educational provision which meets those needs
  - Monitoring the effectiveness of any special educational provision made
  - Securing relevant services for the pupil where necessary
  - Ensuring the records of the pupil's special educational needs and the special educational provision made are maintained and kept up to date
  - Liaising with and providing information to a parent / carer of the pupil on a regular basis about that pupil's special educational needs and the special educational provision made
  - Ensuring that, where the pupil transfers to another school or educational institution, educational provision made is conveyed to the appropriate authority or the proprietor of that school or institution
  - Promoting the pupil's inclusion in the school community and access to the school's curriculum, facilities and extra-curricular activities
  - Selecting, supervising and training any adults who work with pupils with special educational needs



- Advising teachers at the school about differentiated teaching methods appropriate for individual pupils with special educational needs
- Contributing to in-service training for teachers at the school to assist them to carry out necessary tasks to meet the needs of pupils with special educational needs
- Preparing and reviewing the information required by law to be published in relation to special educational needs provision

### The SEND Link Governor

The SEND Link Governor has specific oversight of the school's arrangements for SEN and disability. Their responsibilities include:

- Helping to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing body meetings
- Ensuring that the school's notional SEN budget is appropriately allocated to support pupils with SEN
- Giving up-to-date information to the governing body on the quality and effectiveness of SEN and disability provision within the school
- Helping to review the school's policy on provision for pupils with SEN
- Assuring the governing body that the school website publishes the school's SEN offer

### The Headteacher

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the strategic planning and day-to-day delivery of SEND provision.

## 3. OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

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Our vision for all pupils, including those who may have special educational needs and/or disabilities, is that they will develop the necessary skills, knowledge and attributes to be able to lead happy and successful lives.

We believe in the potential of every child at Ark Tindal Primary Academy and will strive to create a school which provides each pupil with the best possible start in life and the motivation to achieve academic excellence. We aspire to ensure that every child gains the skills, knowledge and qualifications to be able to attend a university or embark on a career of their choice.

Our school values are at the heart of all that we do:

Achievement

Scholarship

Perseverance

Integrity

Responsibility

Enthusiasm

In achieving our aims, we will:

- work side-by-side with teaching staff, supporting them with training and development so that they can deliver differentiated lessons with the needs of those pupils who have SEN and disabilities in mind
- set exceptionally high expectations for all our pupils, and do whatever it takes to meet them. Our aspirations are no lower for pupils with SEN and disabilities
- teach, recognise and reinforce good behaviour
- organise our academy so that every child knows, and is known well by, every adult in the academy
- prioritise depth in English and mathematics, giving our pupils with SEN and disabilities the best chance of success



- make sure pupils have enough time both for core subjects and for extra-curricular activities

## 4. IDENTIFYING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

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Early identification of pupils' needs is the key to unlocking the potential of pupils who may have special educational needs. We adopt a graduated approach to ensure that pupils who do not develop age appropriate knowledge and skills, or who fall behind their peers are identified as early as possible.

The attainment of all pupils is assessed upon entry to the academy, either as part of the Early Years Foundation Framework and CEM baseline or through assessment against the national curriculum and standardised maths and reading tests in KS1 and KS2. This is in order to:

- form the baseline for setting individual targets. Progress towards these targets is reviewed at data entry points at least three times per year to ensure that pupils who fall behind are identified as early as possible.
- identify pupils whose development is significantly behind that of their peers. Such pupils are prioritised for targeted and/or specialist assessment and/or intervention as set out in section 5 below. Each intervention is reviewed frequently, based on progress against intervention-specific measures.

Pupils in year 1 are also assessed nationally for phonics so that those who lag behind their peers may receive the necessary targeted or specialist input to help them catch up.

Where concerns about a student's learning or development arise as a result of our data analysis, we start the identification process by talking to the pupil and a parent / carer. Where learning needs appear complex, we may also seek input from specialists such as educational psychologists or speech and language therapists.

In our attempts to understand the learning needs of pupils, we apply the four broad categories of needs as set out in the SEN Code of Practice 0 – 25 (2014):

- **Communication and interaction** needs refer to those students who experience difficulty with speech, language and communication
- **Cognition and learning needs** refer to those students who learn at a slower pace than their peers, who have difficulties acquiring skills in a specific area such as literacy. This includes students with moderate learning difficulties and severe learning difficulties, requiring support in all areas of the curriculum and participation in school life in general
- **Social, emotional and mental health** needs, as manifested in different ways, such as students being withdrawn or displaying challenging behaviour such as being disruptive or self-harming. Students who have difficulty paying attention, or forming attachments with adults also fall into this category.
- **Sensory and / or physical** needs refer to those students who require special educational provision as they have a disability that prevents them from accessing the educational facilities that are generally available

## 5. A GRADUATED APPROACH TO SEN SUPPORT

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At Ark Tindal Primary Academy we have a three-tiered, graduated approach to supporting students' learning needs. The graduated approach at each tier involves:

- *Assessing* the pupil's needs by considering all of the information gathered from within the academy about the pupil's progress, alongside national data and expectations of progress and parent and pupil views.
- *Planning* the most effective and appropriate short term intervention, based on evidence of what works
- *Providing* this intervention and training staff to deliver it to a high standard as well as clear information for parents / carers



- *Reviewing* the impact on the pupil's progress towards individual learning outcomes at shorter intervals, depending on the type of intervention

### **Tier 1: Universal Support**

It is our firm belief that pupils' needs are best met in the classroom and that, therefore, every teacher is responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all pupils they teach, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. At this **universal** level, we train our teachers to deliver high quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils. We review the progress of all pupils at least three times per year and make rapid adjustments to support strategies and, where necessary, teachers' understanding of the needs of individual pupils they teach. In addition, we talk to students and their parents to gain as full an understanding of their learning needs as possible. The information we gather in this way is shared with teachers in a Pupil Profile. The Pupil Profile is a document that outlines pupils' strengths and difficulties, with suggested strategies for teachers to best support their learning.

### **Tier 2: Targeted Support**

We provide **targeted** support when we consider it appropriate to make additional short term special educational provision to remove or reduce any obstacle to a pupil's learning, or to help them catch up when termly data analysis shows they have fallen behind their peers. Such specific, targeted one to one or small group interventions may be run outside the classroom, limited to a number of weeks to minimise disruption to the regular curriculum.

### **Tier 3: Specialist Support**

We provide **specialist** support when we consider it necessary to seek specialist advice and/or regular long term support from a specialist professional outside the academy in order to plan for the best possible learning outcomes for those pupils who fail to make progress in spite of high quality teaching and targeted intervention. This may include assessment and / or support from:

- An educational psychologist
- A speech and language therapist
- Specialist sensory advisory teachers for students with, for example, hearing or visual impairments
- Pupil School Support teacher (PSS)
- Communication and autism team member (CAT)

## **6. RECORDING SEN AND DISABILITIES**

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We are required by law to keep a record of those pupils who have been identified as having special educational needs and disabilities, and the provision we make for such pupils.

For each pupil with special educational needs and/or a disability, the SENDCo will record on the academy data management system their broad area/s of need as listed in point 4 above, as well as a description of any specific areas of need. This will make up the academy SEND register.

Records of interventions and support are kept in the academy provision map.

When the pupil has caught up with their peers and therefore no longer requires the additional provision or support, in consultation with parents the entry will be deleted from the SEND register and provision will



be ended on the provision map.

## 7. SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

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We provide support to parents / carers of pupils with SEN and/or disabilities through regular contact, information sharing and termly progress reports.

Specific support is provided at key transition points. At the end of reception parents/carers may talk to the SENDCo about transition plans for starting KS1. Similarly at the end of Key Stage 2 parents / carers may approach the SENDCo for support relating to Secondary School options.

Additional support to families is available through the local authority, whose Local Offer can be accessed here: <https://childrens.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk/local-offer-main-page.aspx>

Parents may also wish to look at the services offered by Birmingham City Council [https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20019/children\\_and\\_families](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20019/children_and_families)

## 8. SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

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We recognise that pupils 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 with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the academy will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Some pupils with medical conditions may also have special educational needs and where this is the case the academy will comply with the SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25 (2014).

The policy for meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions sets out the academy approach in this regard. This policy is available on the academy web site:

<http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies>

## 9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SEND PROVISION

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The progress of all pupils towards their attainment targets are monitored at data entry points at least three times per year. It is expected that pupils with SEN and/or disabilities will make good progress in response to high quality, well differentiated teaching. Where this is not the case, we rapidly respond to pupils' needs as set out in section 5.

The senior leadership team, supported by the SENDCo, regularly observes lessons to monitor the quality of teaching, and for those pupils with SEN and/or disabilities focus specifically on the extent to which teachers adapt their lessons and resources as set out in the Pupil Profiles.

The progress of pupils who receive targeted or specialist support is measured against intervention specific baselines and targets. For example, we assess pupils' reading development prior to targeted literacy





intervention, and again after a set period of time to assess whether the intervention is allowing pupils to catch up with their peers.

Students with a Statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan have a formal review meeting each year, at which progress and provision are considered and – if needed – changes are made.

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## 10. TRAINING AND RESOURCES

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We make every effort to ensure that staff members at Ark Tindal Primary Academy are suitably trained and that we have adequate resources available to meet the needs of all pupils, including those with SEN and/or disabilities.

Staffing and resources are funded through the Academy's notional SEN budget - a sum of money to be spent at our discretion for meeting the needs of pupils with SEND. We provide support and resources from this budget as required up to the value of £6000 per pupil with SEND.

Some students with a statement of SEND or Education, Health and Care plan may receive additional funding (top up funding) to have their needs met. This top up funding is used specifically for resources needed by that particular pupil and is reported on during the annual review meeting.

In order to maintain and develop the quality of teaching and provision to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils, all staff are encouraged to undertake training and development. In addition, we audit staff training needs in relation to special educational needs on an annual basis as to inform the continued professional development schedule for the academic year.

The SENDCo regularly attends SENDCo network meetings at both Local Authority and Ark Network level in order to keep up to date with local, Ark Network-wide and national updates in SEND.

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## 11. STORING AND MANAGING INFORMATION

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All documents and information are stored in compliance with guidance presented in the Data Protection Policy, available on the school website.

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## 12. ACCESSIBILITY

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The Equality Act 2010 placed a duty on schools to plan to increase over time the accessibility of schools for disabled pupils.

This Accessibility Statement complies with the Equality Act 2010: Schedule 10, Paragraph 3 and Disability Discrimination (prescribed Times and Periods for Accessibility Strategies and Plans for Schools) (England) Regulations 2005. An accessibility plan is a plan for:

- Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum,



- Improving the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and benefits, facilities or services provided or offered by the school, and
- Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled.

Equality Act 2010: Schedule 10, Paragraph 3

### **Access to Premises and Facilities**

No pupil is ever prevented from physically accessing the location of any lesson at Ark Tindal Primary Academy, even if this requires rewriting the school timetable. The school fulfils all duties under the Equality Act 2010. We are always happy to discuss the individual accessibility requirements of pupils, parents or any visitor to the school.

Due to the age and composition of the main school building there is no wheelchair access to the first floor. However, wheelchair access is available to all rooms on the ground floor throughout the school. When necessary, a timetable will be rewritten to ensure that all classes for a pupil who is unable to use the stairs are on the ground floor.

### **Full access to education, school trips and physical education**

The school recognises that pupils 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 with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010. The school has a policy for pupils with medical conditions.

Some may also have special educational needs (SEN) and may have a statement, or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision and the SEND Code of Practice (2014) is followed.

### **Admission Arrangements for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

No pupil will be refused admission to school on the basis of his/her Special Educational Needs or Disabilities. In line with the Equalities Act 2010, we will take all reasonable steps to provide effective educational provision

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## 13. DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS

Our named person for all matters relating to special educational needs and disabilities is Nabeela Tahira. She should be contacted if parents / carers have a concern. If a parent wishes to make a formal complaint, guidance as to how this can be done is available on the academy website under the complaints policy.

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## 14. REVIEWING THE POLICY

Governors, the Headteacher and SENDCo, paying regard to views expressed by students, parents and all



agency staff, who have been consulted or have contributed to SEND provision during the year, will review the policy, publishing an updated version on the school website.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

## 15. EQUALITY IMPACT STATEMENT

We will do all we can to ensure that this policy does not discriminate, directly or indirectly. We shall do this through regular monitoring and evaluation of our policies. On review we shall assess and consult relevant stakeholders on the likely impact of our policies on the promotion of all aspects of equality, as laid down in the Equality Act (2010). This will include, but not necessarily be limited to: race; gender; sexual orientation; disability; ethnicity; religion; cultural beliefs and pregnancy/maternity. We will use an appropriate Equality Impact Assessment to monitor the impact of all our policies and the policy may be amended as a result of this assessment.

## 16. LINKS

For ease of reference, we include the following Hyperlinks:

Document	Hyperlink
The Academy SEND Information Report	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>
Birmingham Local Offer	<a href="https://childrens.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk/local-offer-main-page.aspx">https://childrens.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk/local-offer-main-page.aspx</a>
Data protection policy	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>
Behaviour policy	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>
Ark Tindal Academy Accessibility Plan	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>
Policy for meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>
Ark Tindal Academy Complaints Procedure	<a href="http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies">http://arktindalprimary.org/school-policies</a>

## Appendix A: Assessment Strategy

At half-termly intervals, use data to colour-code students' attainment/ progress / wider outcomes:

**RED = Attainment / progress below average; gap between pupil and peers not closing**

**AMBER / Yellow = Attainment / progress below average; between pupil and peers closing**

**GREEN = Attainment / progress in average range**

<b>UNIVERSAL</b>	<b>Possible area/s of need</b>	<b>TARGETED</b>	<b>SPECIALIST</b>
Half-termly data review (Class teacher, SENDCo, T&L Lead)	<i>Please note: these are hypotheses only; formal diagnoses can only be made by specialist professionals</i>	Further school-based assessment to inform universal strategies and targeted interventions (Specialist teacher / SENDCo)	Specialist assessment for diagnosis and / or advice to inform universal and targeted support (SENDCo)
Attainment + progress: English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RWI phonics band progression</li> <li>EYFS ELGs in C&amp;L, Lit and CEM baseline</li> <li>KS1 and 2 reading and writing KPIs and PIRA</li> </ul>	Literacy difficulties	RWI 1:1 assessment Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing (CTOPP) Check vision	Speech and Language Therapist – Stephanie Ropic Ed Psych – Becky Pearson PSS – Christina Whyte CAT Team – Rachel Grey
	EAL	Language Acquisition Stages	EAL Support Teacher– Munira Mulla
	Language and Communication Difficulties	Early Talk Boost/Talk Boost tracker Check hearing	GP referral School Nurse – Jenny Hagues
Attainment + progress: maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EYFS ELG in Mathematics, PUMA, CEM baseline</li> <li>KS1 and 2 Mathematics KPIs, Maths Mastery end of unit tests, arithmetic data and PUMA</li> </ul>	Numeracy difficulties – check gaps on KPIs first.	The 15 minute norm-referenced mathematics test (KS2) CAT 4 quantitative (KS2) WRAT IV math computation (KS1 & 2)	Ed Psych
	Difficulties with abstract thinking		Ed Psych
Attainment + progress: across the curriculum	Moderate learning difficulties / general developmental delay	CAT 4 (KS2) Consider personal history	Paediatrician Ed Psych
Attendance Negative behaviour incidents Isolations / detentions Exclusions / at risk of permanent exclusion Socially isolated/withdrawn	Mental health problems	EWO The Boxall Profile	CAHMs therapist Ed Psych Paediatrician
	Social Skills Difficulties	Talk Boost tracker social communication section SEN continuum Boxhall Profile	Speech and Language Therapist Pastoral Team: Ammal Mockbil (Outreach worker), Rob Deering (Behaviour worker), Habib Rahman (Attendance worker)
	Family or social difficulties	Consider personal history	Social Services, Family support, Home-school liaison
Handwriting / coordination - EYFS PD ELG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS1 and 2 observational information</li> </ul>	Motor Skills Problems	Motor skills checklist (EYFS/KS1) Diagnostic Assessment of Speed of Handwriting (DASH)	Ed Psych Occupational Therapist

## Appendix A: Inclusion Strategy



Cognition and Learning	English	<p>Great Teaching</p> <p>Whole school literacy strategy</p>	<p>High quality guided reading and reading for pleasure opportunities</p> <p>Whole-class comprehension teaching as part of new Reading strategy</p> <p>Read Write Inc. phonics, Get Spelling</p> <p>Talk for Writing Project</p> <p>Nelson whole school handwriting programme</p> <p>English curriculum for pupils with weak literacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 1:1 phonics tutorials</li> <li>• Targeted support</li> <li>• Scaffolded support in class – writing frames, word banks, etc.</li> <li>• EAL induction programme</li> </ul>	<p>Targeted Literacy support</p> <p>RWI 1:1 Phonics interventions</p> <p>Targeted Writing and Reading interventions in the afternoons linked to KPIs and groupings informed by data</p> <p>Inclusion team to provide class teachers with meeting specific needs of pupils with SEN</p> <p>EAL targeted interventions led by EAL teacher</p>	<p>Assessment and/or bespoke support:</p> <p>PSS Teacher</p> <p>Educational Psychologist</p> <p>CAT Team</p> <p>Speech and Language Therapist</p>
	Maths	<p>Great Teaching</p>	<p>Maths Mastery</p> <p>White Rose Maths Hub (non-MM year groups)</p> <p>Maths Meetings</p> <p>National Curriculum; new KPIs</p>	<p>Targeted Number Support (based on KPI gaps analysis and group data analysis)</p> <p>Maths Mastery interventions in YR and Y1 (counting, place value, number bonds, calculation)</p>	<p>Assessment and/or bespoke support:</p> <p>Educational Psychologist</p> <p>PSS Teacher</p> <p>CAT Team</p>
	MLD / GDD	<p>Great Teaching</p> <p>Whole school approach / strategies for teaching pupils with generally low attainment</p>	<p>Adapted English and Maths curriculum for pupils with general low attainment:</p> <p>Nurture/curriculum support model</p> <p>Small steps learning</p> <p>Visual / Kinaesthetic learning</p> <p>Support with self-organisation</p> <p>Visual timetables</p> <p>Makaton</p>	<p>As for literacy and numeracy</p>	<p>Assessment and/or bespoke support:</p> <p>Educational Psychologist</p> <p>Speech and Language Therapist</p> <p>CAT Team</p> <p>PSS Teacher</p>



Language and Communication	Whole School Communication Strategy	Language rich and language supportive curriculum Makaton Visual timetables	Early Talk Boost and Talk Boost Nuffield Early Language Intervention Colourful Semantics Personal visual timetables Infinite Power Group (ASC group)	Specialist assessment and / or bespoke support: Speech and Language Therapist
Social, emotional, mental health	Whole school behaviour policy Whole school communication strategy Pastoral support offer (sanctions as well as supportive input) Restorative / mediation approaches	PSHE and SMSC teaching in class Whole school assemblies with PSHE and SMSC focus Life bus	Social Skills Groups, muddles and puddles Inclusion Team – Inclusion Lead, Pastoral TA, outreach working and Inclusion TA Anger management support Counselling – bereavement and changes Nurture group	Specialist assessment and/or bespoke support: Educational Psychologist CAMHs / TAMHs Alternative provision Social Services
Attendance	Whole school focus on attendance (Incentives, etc.)	School-home contact Assemblies on attendance Whole school attendance awards	In-school meetings with parents / carers – outreach worker Spotlight Campaign Home visits, collecting children See attendance report	EWO CAMHs / TAMHs Social Services if needed
Physical / Sensory Needs	Accessibility plan	Accessibility plan on website	As directed by specialist services	Specialist support / input from: Visual impairment / Hearing Impairment / Physical Disability Support Team
EAL	Whole school teaching strategies for pupils with EAL Differentiation to ensure pupils are fully immersed and able to participate	EAL induction plan created by Inclusion Lead and led by Inclusion Team	EAL induction plan created by Inclusion Lead and led by Inclusion Team	