



Special Educational Needs & Disability

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1. Aims and objectives

Leicester City Primary PRU's special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) policy aims to:

- Make sure our school fully implements national legislation and guidance regarding pupils with SEND.
- Set out how our school will:
 - Support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
 - Provide pupils with SEND access to all aspects of school life.
 - Help pupils with SEND fulfil their aspirations and achieve their best.
 - Help pupils with SEND become confident individuals living fulfilling lives.
 - Communicate with pupils with SEND and their parents or carers and involve them in discussions and decisions about support and provision for the pupil.
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEND.
- Communicate with, and involve, pupils with SEND and their parents or carers in discussions and decisions about support and provision for the pupil.
- Make sure the SEND policy is understood and implemented consistently by all staff.

2. Vision and values

Leicester City Primary PRU will provide all pupils with access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

We are committed to making sure all our pupils have the chance to thrive and supporting them to meet their full potential.

We are focused on creating an inclusive environment, where provision is tailored to the needs and abilities of pupils, no matter how varied.

We uphold the idea of inclusion in its broadest sense and seek to involve all stakeholders in achieving this. All our staff are caring, supportive and adopt nurturing principles in order to provide excellent education and care to all our children.

3. 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.

4. Inclusion and equal opportunities

The Primary PRU strives to create an inclusive teaching environment that offers all pupils, no matter their needs and abilities, a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum. We are committed to offering all pupils the chance to thrive and fulfil their aspirations.

We will achieve this by making reasonable adjustments to teaching, the curriculum, and the school environment to make sure that pupils with SEND are included in all aspects of school life.

5. Definitions

5.1 Special educational needs

A pupil has SEN 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.

5.2 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.

5.3 The 4 areas of need

The needs of pupils with SEND are grouped into 4 broad areas. Pupils can have needs that cut across more than 1 area, and their needs may change over time.

Interventions will be selected that are appropriate for the pupil's particular area(s) of need, at the relevant time.

AREA OF NEED	
Social, emotional, and mental health	These needs may reflect a wide range of underlying difficulties or disorders. Pupils may have: • Mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression, or an eating disorder. • Attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder. • Suffered adverse childhood experiences. These needs can manifest in many ways, for example as challenging, disruptive, or disturbing behaviour, or by the pupil becoming withdrawn or isolated.
Cognition and learning	Pupils with learning difficulties usually learn at a slower pace than their peers. A wide range of needs are grouped in this area, including: • Specific learning difficulties, which impact 1 or more specific aspects of learning, such as: dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dyspraxia. • Moderate learning difficulties. • Severe learning difficulties. • 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.



AREA OF NEED	
Communication and interaction	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. Pupils who are on the autism spectrum often have needs that fall in this category.
Sensory and/or physical	Pupils with these needs have a disability that hinders them from accessing the educational facilities generally provided. Pupils may have: • A sensory impairment such as vision impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory impairment. • A physical impairment. These pupils may need ongoing additional support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 The SENCO

The SENCO at our school is **Mairead Richards**. Mairead is a member of the PRU Leadership Team and can be contacted through the school office. (0116 208 1470)

They will:

- Work with the headteacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.
- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEN, including those who have EHC plans.
- Implement a program of Annual Review for all pupils with a current statement of special educational need or EHCPs. Complying with requests from an Education Health Care Plan Coordinator to participate in a review.
- Carry out referral procedures to the Local Authority to request an Education Health and Care Plan when it is suspected, on strong evidence arising from previous intervention (additional SEN support), that a pupil may have a special educational need which will require significant support. This should be done



alongside the child's previous mainstream setting where possible and other professionals.

- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and liaise and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to make sure that pupils with SEN receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching.
- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEN support and differentiated teaching methods appropriate for individual pupils.
- Maintain and analyse whole-school provision and interventions, evaluating regularly the impact and effectiveness of all additional interventions for all vulnerable learners (including those with special educational needs).
- Be a point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority (LA) and its support services, and work with external agencies to ensure that appropriate provision is provided.
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to make sure that the pupil and their parents are informed about options and that a smooth transition is planned.
- Work with the headteacher and school governors to make sure the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- Make sure the school keeps its records of all pupils with SEND up to date and accurate.
- With the headteacher, monitor to identify any staff who have specific training needs regarding SEN, and incorporate this into the school's plan for continuous professional development.
- With the headteacher, regularly review and evaluate the breadth and impact of the SEND support the school offers or can access and co-operate with the LA in reviewing the provision that is available locally and in developing the local offer.
- Attend area SENCo briefing meetings and training as appropriate to remain informed about local and national SEND updates and developments.

6.2 The governing board

The governing board will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEN issues at governing board meetings.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of provision within the school and update the governing board on this.

6.3 The SEND link governor

The SEND link governor is **Jessica Nicholls**



The SEND governor will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND provision within the school and update the governing board on this.
- Work with the headteacher and SENCO to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.

6.4 The Headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Work with the SENCO and SEND link governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision within the school.
- Work with the SENCO and school governors to make sure the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- Have overall responsibility for, and awareness of, the provision for pupils with SEND, and their progress.
- Have responsibility for monitoring the school's notional SEND budget and any additional funding allocated by the LA to support individual pupils.
- Make sure that the SENCO has enough time to carry out their duties.
- Have an overview of the needs of the current cohort of pupils.
- Advise the LA when a pupil needs an EHC needs assessment, or when an EHC plan needs an early review.
- With the SENCO, monitor to identify any staff who have specific training needs regarding SEN, and incorporate this into the school's plan for continuous professional development.
- With the SENCO, regularly review and evaluate the breadth and impact of the SEND support the school offers or can access and co-operate with the LA in reviewing the provision that is available locally and in developing the local offer.
- With the SENCO and teaching staff, identify any patterns in the school's identification of SEN, both within the school and in comparison, with national data, and use these to reflect on and reinforce the quality of teaching.

6.5 Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- Planning and providing high-quality teaching that is differentiated to meet pupil needs through a graduated approach.



- The progress and development of every pupil in their class.
- Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and consider how they can be linked to classroom teaching.
- Working with the SENCO and Curriculum lead to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision.
- Ensuring they follow this SEND policy and the SEN information report.
- Communicating with parents regularly to:
 - Set clear outcomes and review progress towards them.
 - Discuss the activities and support that will help achieve the set outcomes.
 - Identify the responsibilities of the parent, the pupil, and the school.
 - Listen to the parents' concerns and agree their aspirations for the pupil.

6.6 Parents or carers

Parents or carers should inform the school if they have any concerns about their child's progress or development.

Parents or carers of a pupil will always be given the opportunity to provide information and express their views about the pupil's SEND and the support provided. They will be invited to participate in discussions and decisions about this support. They will be:

- Invited to regular meetings to review the provision that is in place for their child.
- Asked to provide information about the impact of SEN support outside school and any changes in the pupil's needs.
- Given the opportunity to share their concerns and, with school staff, agree their aspirations for the pupil.

The school will take into account the views of the parent or carer in any decisions made about the pupil.

6.7 The pupil

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.

7. SEN information report

The school publishes a SEN information report on its website, which sets out how this policy is implemented in the school.

The information report will be updated annually and as soon as possible after any changes to the information it contains.

8. Our approach to SEND support

8.1 Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs

We will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment when they start at the school. This will build on information from previous settings and Key Stages. We will also consider any evidence that the pupil may have a disability and if so, what reasonable adjustments the school may need to make.

Class teachers will regularly assess the progress of all pupils and identify any whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline.
- Fails to match or better their previous rate of progress.
- Fails to close the attainment gap between them and their peers.
- Widens the attainment gap.

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, wider development or social needs.

When teachers identify an area where a pupil is making slow progress, they will target the pupil's area of weakness with differentiated, high-quality teaching. If progress does not improve, the teacher will raise the issue with the SENCO and Curriculum Lead to have an initial discussion about whether this lack of progress may be due to a special educational need. Where necessary they will, in consultation with the pupil's parents or carers, consider consulting an external specialist.

Potential short-term causes of impact on behaviour or performance will be considered, such as bullying or bereavement. Staff will also take particular care in identifying and assessing SEN for pupils whose first language is not English.

When deciding whether the pupil needs special educational provision, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the



views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

8.2 Consulting and involving pupils and parents

The Primary PRU will put the pupil and their parents at the heart of all decisions made about special educational provision.

When we are aiming to identify whether a pupil needs special education provision, we will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents. These conversations will make sure that:

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty.
- We take into account any concerns the parents have.
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child.
- Everyone is clear on what the next steps are.

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record.

8.3 The graduated approach to SEN 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 SENCO will carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. The views of the pupil and their parents will be considered. 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 SENCO 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 within CPOMS and will be made accessible to staff in a PRU Pupil Overview.



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 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 SENCO 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 level of progress the pupil has made towards their outcomes
- The views of teaching staff who work with the pupil

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

8.4 Levels of support

School-based SEN provision

All pupils attending the Primary PRU are identified as having SEN, and are 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 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.



Where a pupil's EHC identifies the need for a specialist placement, the pupil will remain attending the Primary PRU until the LA identify their next placement. The provision for these pupils will be funded from the school's budget.

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

8.5 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEN provision

We evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEN by:

- Tracking pupils' progress.
- Carrying out the review stage of the graduated approach in every cycle of SEN support.
- Using pupil questionnaires.
- Monitoring by the SENCO.
- Holding annual reviews for pupils with EHC plans.
- Getting feedback from the pupil and their parents.

9. Expertise and training of staff

Training will regularly be provided to teaching and support staff. The headteacher and the SENCO will continuously monitor to identify any staff who have specific training needs and will incorporate this into the school's plan for continuous professional development.

10. Links with external professional agencies

The school recognises that it won't be able to meet all the needs of every pupil. Whenever necessary the school will work with external support services such as:

- Speech and language therapists
- Specialist teachers or support services (SEMH Team, LCI Team)
- Educational psychologists
- Occupational therapists, speech and language therapists or physiotherapists
- General practitioners or paediatricians
- School nurses
- Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
- Education welfare officers
- Social services

11. Admission and accessibility arrangements

11.1 Admission arrangements

Pupils who attend the Primary PRU will have been known to support services such as, the SEMH Team or LCI when they were attending their previous setting. Places



are considered when the child continues to be a challenge to the school and the child's individual SEND needs are not improving. Regular meetings are held between the Headteacher and support service leads to prioritise pupil places. Following an agreement of a place to be offered the entry protocol will be followed.

This includes:

- Completion of PRU referral form.
- Case study to date from the relevant support service.
- Meetings with mainstream provision to ascertain needs.
- Observation of pupil at mainstream setting by PRU member of staff.
- SEMH team to meet PRU staff to give overview of pupil and needs etc.
- Parent/Pupil visit to PRU provision to complete paperwork for transport and PRU paperwork.
- Transport request sent out.

The Primary PRU aims to have the majority of its population dual registered with their mainstream school and preferably attend part time. However, if the only solution is a full-time placement, then that provision is available.

The only exception to the above is when a child is permanently excluded from their provision and the Primary PRU becomes their 6th day provision.

11.2 Accessibility arrangements

This policy should be read alongside the Leicester City Primary PRU's Accessibility Plan.

The Primary PRU's approach to accessibility for all is founded upon three stands of provision.

- Access to the school's curriculum, particularly for pupils with a disability. Access to the curriculum also includes teaching and learning aids provided to aid less able pupils
- The delivery of written information to all pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors.
- Access to the school's physical environment including physical aids that some pupils may require to properly access education.

The Primary PRU is committed to provided a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs.

12. Complaints about SEND provision

The Leicester City Primary PRU works, wherever possible, in full partnership with parents and carers to ensure a collaborative approach to meeting pupil's needs.



However, all complaints are taken seriously and will be heard through the Primary PRU's Complaints Procedure.

In most instances, complaints can be resolved at class teacher level. However, if this is not possible, complaints relating to SEN should be addressed to the SENCo and/or the Headteacher.

If a situation remains unresolved then a letter outlining your concern should be sent formally to the Clerk to the Management Committee at the address below:

Robyn Cooper
Senior Officer - Governor Services
Governor Services Team - Raising Achievements Service
Tel - 0116 454 1916

www.leicester.gov.uk/governors

13. Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

*This policy will be reviewed by Mairead Richards, SENCO **every year**. It will also be updated when any new legislation, requirements or changes in procedure occur during the year.*

It will be approved by the full governing board.

14. Links with other policies and documents

This policy links to the following documents

- SEN information report
- Accessibility plan
- Trauma-informed Behaviour & Relationships policy
- Equality information and objectives
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
- Attendance policy
- Safeguarding / child protection policy
- Complaints policy