



# Harting CofE Primary School

## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

Reviewers: Full Governor Body

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## 1. Aims and objectives

Our 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:
  - Ensure that pupils with SEND can fulfil their aspirations and achieve their best potential
  - Provide pupils with SEND access to all aspects of school life so they can fully engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have SEND
  - Help pupils with SEND become confident individuals and to live fulfilling lives
  - Provide support for pupils with medical conditions that enables full inclusion in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals
  - Make sure all staff fully understand and implement the SEND policy and are aware of their roles and responsibilities for supporting children with special educational needs
  - Ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need, through well targeted continuing professional development
  - Detail how staff at Harting CofE Primary School work together to ensure that the needs of pupils with special educational needs (SEN) are effectively met through a four step; assess, plan, do and review cycle.
  - Through reasonable adjustments, enable all children to have full access to the whole school curriculum and to 'close the gap' for those with additional learning needs
  - Work in cooperation and productive partnerships with the Local Education Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners
  - Communicate with parents or carers of children with SEND and involve them in discussions and decisions about support and provision.
  - Share targets with pupils and gain regular pupil voice to ensure that pupils are fully informed and included in the 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle.

We are committed to equal opportunities under the Equality Act 2010.

## 2. Vision and values

Guided by our Christian values we motivate and inspire our community's love of learning through fostering a curiosity of the world around them, developing resilient and enthusiastic lifelong learners. In our ever changing world we aim to equip everyone with skills to continue on their individual journeys of discovery, enabling all to flourish and live life in all its fullness.

"I came that they might have life in all its fullness"

(John 10:10)

At Harting CofE Primary School we strive to offer inclusive educational opportunities that enable all pupils to get the very best educational experience. We recognise and value every child as an individual with different strengths, needs and challenges. Through quality first teaching, personalised provision and high expectations, we aim for all pupils identified with SEND to be able to access a broad and balanced curriculum that supports them to make progress alongside their peers. We aim to ensure every pupil is encouraged and supported to participate fully in school life so they can achieve their full potential within a challenging, stimulating and secure environment.

## 3. Legislation and guidance

This SEN policy details how, at Harting School, we will do our best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs and that those needs are known to all who are likely to work with them. In collaboration with the SENCO, teachers identify and provide for pupils with SEND allowing them to join in and be fully included, where possible, in school activities together with their peers.

This policy 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

### 3. Inclusion and equal opportunities

We believe that all children should be equally valued in school. We believe that educational inclusion is about equal opportunities for all learners, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity, impairment, attainment and background. We strive to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, and to develop an environment where all children can flourish, feel safe and live life in all its fullness. This does not mean that we will treat all learners in the same way, but that we will respond to learners in ways which take account of their varied life experiences and needs. We will achieve this by making reasonable adjustments and adaptations to teaching, the curriculum and the school environment whilst maintaining high expectations and an understanding of the whole child and their individual needs.

**Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that children:**

- have different educational and behavioural needs and aspirations
- require different strategies for learning
- acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates

- need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences

**Teachers aim to respond to children's needs by:**

- providing support for children who need help with communication, language and literacy
- planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all available senses
- planning for children's full participation in learning, and in physical and practical activities
- helping children to manage and own their behaviour and emotions and to take part in learning effectively and safely

## 4. Definitions

Children have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) if they have a cognition and learning, sensory and/or physical, communication and interaction or social, mental and emotional health difficulty which calls for special provision to be made for them which is additional to and different from quality first teaching. There is no need for pupils to be registered or identified as having SEND unless the school is taking additional or different action.

### 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	
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>

AREA OF NEED	
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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific learning difficulties, which impact 1 or more specific aspects of learning, such as: dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia</li> <li>• Moderate learning difficulties</li> <li>• Severe learning difficulties</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
Social, emotional and mental health	<p>These needs may reflect a wide range of underlying difficulties or disorders. Pupils may have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression or an eating disorder</li> <li>• Attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder</li> <li>• Suffered adverse childhood experiences</li> </ul> <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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sensory impairment such as vision impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory impairment</li> <li>• A physical impairment</li> </ul> <p>These pupils may need ongoing additional support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.</p>

## 6. Roles and responsibilities

### 6.1 The SENCO

The SENCO at Harting C. of E. Primary is Megan Tonkyn

She will:

- Inform parents when their child has been identified as having SEND
- Liaise with parents and teachers about a pupil's needs and any provision made
- Work with the headteacher and SEN governor (Jane Thwaites) 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
- 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
- Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- 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. When a pupil moves to a different school or institution: Make sure that all relevant information about a pupil's SEN and the provision for them are sent to the appropriate authority, school or institution in a timely manner



- 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
- Prepare and review information for inclusion in the school's SEN information report and any updates to this policy
- With the headteacher 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

## **6.2 The Governing Board**

The governing board is responsible for making sure the following duties are carried out by the school, though the duties can be delegated to a committee or an individual:

- Co-operate with the LA in reviewing the provision that is available locally and developing the local offer
- Do all it can to make sure that every pupil with SEND gets the support they need
- Make sure that pupils with SEND engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who don't have SEND
- Inform parents when the school is making special educational provision for their child
- Make sure that the school has arrangements in place to support any pupils with medical conditions
- Provide access to a broad and balanced curriculum

- Have a clear approach to identifying and responding to SEND
- Provide an annual report for parents on their child's progress
- Record accurately and keep up to date the provision made for pupils with SEND
- Publish information on the school website about how the school is implementing its SEND policy, in a SEN information report
- Publish information about the arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps taken to prevent disabled children being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to assist access of disabled children, and the school's accessibility plans
- Make sure that there is a qualified teacher designated as SENCO for the school and that the key responsibilities of the role are set out, and monitor the effectiveness of how these are carried out
- Determine their approach to using their resources to support the progress of pupils with SEND

### **6.3 The SEND link governor**

The SEND link governor is Jane Thwaites

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 on the SEND register
- 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 adapted 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 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 on the SEND register 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 termly 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
- Given an annual report on the pupil's progress

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. We will share targets with children using a child friendly format which class teachers will support them to use and refer to regularly during each week.

## 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

Harting C. of. E School operates a graduated response to identifying and providing support for children with SEND which will be underpinned by the "assess, plan, do, review" cycle. We will assess every pupil's skills and levels of attainment when they start at the school. This will build on information from previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. 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.

If a pupil is joining the school, and their previous setting has already identified that they have SEN, if they are known to external agencies or if they have an education, health and care plan (EHCP), then the school will work in a multi-agency way to make sure we get relevant information before the pupil starts at school, so support can be put in place as early as possible.

If a teacher has concerns about a pupil's progress, they will endeavour to make adaptations which target the pupil's area of weakness with adapted, high-quality teaching. If progress does not improve, the teacher will arrange a meeting with the SENCO to have an initial discussion about whether this lack of progress may be due to a special educational need. At this point, staff will carefully consider what else could be tried to help the child to overcome any possible barriers and to reach their goals or if any further interventions or strategies could be put in place to support the child.

Where necessary staff will, in consultation with the pupil's parents or carers, consider consulting an external specialist, such as a speech therapist or EP. Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN. However, if despite adaptations and/or additional support in line with the school's universal offer, a child continues to make little or no progress over a sustained period of time and it becomes clear that the child's current needs require provision that is additional to that of the schools universal offer for all, a child will be placed on the SEND register and their parents will be informed.

We also recognise that there are numerous factors that may impact on progress and attainment these are not always considered special educational needs (although a child who is affected by these factors may also have special educational needs). For example:

- disability
- attendance and punctuality
- health and welfare
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- being in receipt of the pupil premium
- being a looked-after child

- being a child of servicemen/women

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 school 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 and given to their parents.

We will notify parents if it is decided that a pupil will receive special educational provision.

## **8.3 The graduated approach to SEN support**

Once a pupil has been identified as having SEN, we will take further 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 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 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. An Individual Support Plan (ISP) will be created for the child and targets will be set and shared with pupils and parents. We will produce a child friendly version of the targets where possible so that children can have ownership of their goals.

## **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 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 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 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**

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.

#### **8.5 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEN provision**

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

- Tracking pupils' progress at half termly ISP meetings.
- Carrying out the review stage of the graduated approach in every cycle of SEN support
- Using pupil questionnaires to gain pupil voice

- Creating one page profiles with the children to determine their perceived aspirations, goals, strengths and difficulties.
- Regular monitoring by the SENCO and leadership team
- 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
- 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
- Advisory teachers from the 'Learning and Behaviour' and 'Autism and Social Communication' teams

## 11. Admission and accessibility arrangements

### 11.1 Admission arrangements

West Sussex County Council act as the admissions authority for this school and follow the County admissions policy. This provides for the admission of children with special needs and disabilities.

### **11.2 Accessibility arrangements**

The school is inclusive to all children and will work to fully integrate children with SEND into the academic and social life of the school and to enable them to work to their potential. The school will ensure that children with SEND are encouraged to develop confidence and recognise value in their own contributions to their learning. They will be encouraged to participate in the decision making processes and contribute to the assessment, target setting and review of their needs. Children with SEND will not be placed at a disadvantage in comparison with other children. The school recognises the importance of parents/carers in helping children to achieve their potential and so they will be valued and treated as partners and encouraged to play an active and valued role in their children's education. We aim to raise the aspirations of and expectations for all pupils with SEND. The school is concerned with each child's overall wellbeing, and policies regarding Child Protection, Physical Intervention and Disability Equality Duty should be read in union with this policy.

## **12. Complaints about SEND provision**

Where parents have concerns about our school's SEND provision, they should first raise their concerns informally with the head teacher or SENCO. We will try to resolve the complaint informally in the first instance. If this does not resolve their concerns, parents are welcome to submit their complaint formally.

Formal complaints about SEND provision in our school should be made to the head teacher in the first instance. They will be handled in line with the school's complaints policy which can be found on the school's website.

If the parent or carer is not satisfied with the school's response, they can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 246 and 247 of the [SEN Code of Practice](#).

## 13. Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

### 13.1 Evaluating the effectiveness of the policy

The SENCO monitors progress of children, in collaboration with teaching staff. The SENCO and the Headteacher meet regularly to review the work of the school in this area. In addition, the SENCO and the named governor with responsibility for special needs hold regular meetings.

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our SEND policy. We will do this by evaluating whether or not we are meeting our objectives set out in section 1.

We will evaluate how effective our SEND provision is with regards to:

- All staff's awareness of pupils with SEND at the start of the autumn term
- How early pupils are identified as having SEND
- Pupils' progress and attainment once they have been identified as having SEND
- Whether pupils with SEND feel safe, valued and included in the school community
- Comments and feedback from pupils and their parents

### 13.2 Monitoring the policy

This policy will be reviewed by Megan Tonkyn (SENCO), Nick Tidey (Head Teacher) 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



- The local offer
- Behaviour policy
- Attendance policy
- Safeguarding / child protection policy
- Complaints policy

