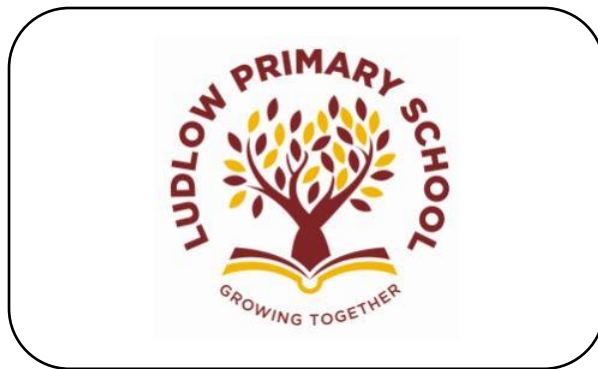


Ludlow Primary School



SEND Policy

**Adopted November 2020
Review November 2021**

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy

Date: November 2020

Review: November 2021

SENCo: J Marsden

Governance: DHMAT Strategic Task Group

Introduction

Ludlow Primary School is an inclusive school. We strive to support all children to enable them to achieve their full potential, no matter what their needs may be. We endeavour to raise the aspirations and expectations for all children. Pupils have the right to a broad and balanced education, including extra-curricular activities and full access to the National Curriculum. All children are valued and their self-esteem promoted. We work in close partnership with parents and/or carers who play an active and valued role in their child's education.

Therefore, we ensure that each student:

- Receives the support that need to meet their educational needs;
- Engages in the activities of the school alongside other students.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Setting high expectations and ambitious targets for all;
- Ensuring that there is high quality classroom teaching, differentiated to meet the needs of groups of students and individuals, enabling them to meet targets;
- Providing comprehensive training and guidance for teachers and teaching assistants;
- Regular and rigorous monitoring of achievement, which will identify those students not making expected progress;
- Intensive monitoring of the learning experience and classroom teaching quality, leading to targeted professional development and refined guidance on classroom strategies where appropriate;
- Effective identification of individual pupils' barriers to learning, through observations, Pupil Progress Meetings and specific testing;
- Effective programmes of intervention, aimed at overcoming barriers to learning and thereby restoring expected progress.

This policy has been written with comprehensive reference to the SEND Code of Practice (2014), the Children and Families Act (2014) and the Equality Act (2010). It is to be read in conjunction with the:

- School's Development Plan
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Safeguarding Policy
- Shropshire Local Offer for SEND
- Equalities Policy

The policy has been written with regard to the following principles:

- Participation of parents and pupils in all stages of decision-making;
- Early identification of needs;
- Collaboration with health and social care services;
- High quality teaching and provision underpinning educational needs;

- Best endeavours to make reasonable adjustments to enable inclusion;

Definition of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) as taken from section 20 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

A child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they;

- (a) have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- (b) have 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 or mainstream post-16 institutions.

A child under compulsory school age has special educational needs if they fall within the definition at (a) or (b) above or would do so if no special educational provision were made. Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

Identification and review of pupils needs:

- The whole school has a responsibility for the identification and review of pupils’ needs in line with the guidance in the SEND Code of Practice 2014. Assessment for Learning will provide a mechanism for all teachers to identify and review the learning needs for pupils. Teachers will refer any pupils they have identified as requiring support and/or intervention different from or additional to that for the majority of their pupil peers.
- Pupils who are identified as having SEND and are receiving support that is ‘different from’ and/or ‘additional to’ normal class differentiation are recorded on the SEND register and the school’s Provision Map.
- Pupils are then monitored termly.
- Progress will be measured in line with the school’s Pupil Progress policy. All teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class, including where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff.

The Code of Practice does not assume that there are hard and fast categories of special educational needs, but recognises that children’s needs and requirements may fall within or across four broad areas. A pupil’s needs are likely to fall into one or more of the following broad areas, although the profile of difficulty or disability for each pupil will vary and may change over time.

Communication and Interaction	Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)	Such pupils may have difficulty saying what they want to, understanding what is being said to them or understanding/using social rules of communication or imagination.
Cognition and Learning	Cognitive Ability: Moderate Learning Needs (MLD) Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)	Pupils with MLD will have attainments significantly below expected levels in most areas of the curriculum despite appropriate interventions.

		<p>Pupils with SLD have significant intellectual or cognitive impairments.</p> <p>Pupils with profound and multiple learning difficulties have complex learning needs. In addition to very severe learning difficulties, pupils have other significant difficulties such as physical disabilities, sensory impairment or a severe medical condition.</p> <p>Pupils may also have SpLD, where one or more specific aspect of learning is affected, e.g. dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.</p>
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	<p>Emotional Well Being</p> <p>Social Behaviour</p> <p>Learning Behaviour (SEMH)</p>	<p>These difficulties are manifested in different ways, including becoming withdrawn or displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour (e.g. self-harm, eating disorders). These may reflect underlying mental health issues, such as anxiety, or may be the result of disturbance or upset in the pupil's home life. Other pupils may have difficulties such as ADD, ADHD or insecure attachment.</p>
Sensory and/or Physical	<p>Hearing Impairment (HI)</p> <p>Visual Impairment (VI)</p> <p>Physical / Health / Medical (PD)</p>	<p>These may prevent or hinder a pupil from making use of educational facilities and may require specialist support or equipment.</p>

When identifying SEN, it should be noted that:

- Persistent disruptive or withdrawn behaviours do not necessarily mean that a pupil has special educational needs;
- Slow progress and attainment do not necessarily mean that a pupil has SEN. Equally, it should not be assumed that attainment in line with chronological age means that there is no learning difficulty or disability.
- Short term learning difficulties and wider mental health problems can be caused by events such as bullying or bereavement. Such events will not always lead to children having SEN, although where difficulties are persistent the school will consider whether the pupil will benefit from being assessed for SEN.
- Difficulties related solely to limitations in English as an additional language are not SEN.

The school will take a graduated approach to identification, following these stages.

Stage 1 – Quality First Teaching:

- Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class, including where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff.
- High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN.
- If a concern is raised about a pupils' progress, discussions should take place between the class teacher, parent and SENCo. The pupil will be monitored, and possible support strategies put in place and an Individual Support Plan may be provided which will detail the support strategies implemented.
- Pupil Progress Meetings are used to monitor and assess the progress being made by pupils.

Stage 2 – SEN Support:

- This recognises pupils who are identified as requiring additional and different help to that which has been provided at Stage 1.
- Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:
 - Is significantly slower to make progress than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
 - Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
 - Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
 - Widens the attainment gap
 - This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.
 - Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN.
- At this stage the SENCo will seek consent from parents who may refer the pupil to an external agency, to ascertain what the specific barriers to learning may be.
- Pupils will now be placed on the SEN Support Register and an Individual Support Plan will be provided which will detail the specific provision that will be made, including recommendations from external agencies.
- Parents and children will help provide a One Page Profile, to detail how they would like to be supported. This will be shared with staff.
- The school provision map will detail all interventions that are being carried out across the school for children identified as requiring SEN support.
- It will be the responsibility of the SENCo to monitor the Support Plans, One Page Profiles and school provision maps, the effectiveness of the provision and the progress of the pupils.
- Further consultation with external agencies may be required. They will make their own assessments of the pupil and provide support in the planning of extended provision and continued support.
- The SENCo will be responsible for monitoring that the advice of external agencies is being followed, and will liaise with the agencies when required.

Funding for SEN support

Resources are provided to the school for supporting those with additional educational needs. The amount is determined by a local funding formula, and is referred to as the 'notional SEN budget'. It is not a ring-fenced amount and its use is determined as part of the school's annual budget planning. The school tracks spending on all additional educational provisions and regularly reviews the impact. The school funds special educational provision up to £6000 per pupil per year. Additional 'top-up' funding is provided for needs beyond this by the Local Authority.

Graduated Support Pathway (GSP)

If a child requires additional targeted intervention that can't be provided from the resources generally available to all schools, the local authority can provide additional top-up funding from the 'high needs' block.

Shropshire schools can request additional funding through the Graduated Pathway, which will also promote a more personalised and holistic approach to meeting the additional needs of children and young people with SEN.

Educational, Health and Care Plans:

Where, despite the school having taken the relevant and purposeful action described above to meet the needs of a pupil, that pupil has not made expected progress, the school will consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment from the Local Authority. If a child's special educational needs are complex and/or severe and, despite receiving additional help through the graduated approach hasn't made progress, school can request that the local authority complete an education, health and care assessment in order to determine whether or not it is necessary to issue an EHCP.

The Local Authority undertakes an education, health and care (EHC) needs assessment to determine whether an education, health and care plan (EHCP) is required to meet the special educational needs of a child or young person with SEN. An EHCP will be necessary where the assessment identifies that a child or young person requires access to specialist provision for a prolonged period of time in order to meet their special educational needs, and to support them towards achieving greater independence in preparation for adulthood.

Links with other agencies and support services:

We foster and develop links with the available support agencies and voluntary organisations, for example:

- Social Services
- Health Services – including Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Physiotherapy etc
- A comprehensive list is contained within the **School's Information Report**.

The role of the SENCo

Schools must ensure that there is a qualified teacher designated as SENCo for the school, who must achieve a National Award in Special Educational Needs Coordination within three years of appointment.

The SENCo has an important role to play with the headteacher in determining the strategic development of SEN policy and provision in the school.

The SENCo has day-to-day responsibility for the operation of SEN policy and coordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEN, including those with EHC plans.

The SENCo provides professional guidance to colleagues and will work closely with staff, parents and other agencies. The SENCo should be aware of the provision in the Local Offer and be able to work with professionals providing a support role to families to ensure that pupils with SEN receive appropriate support and high quality teaching.

The key responsibilities of the SENCo may include:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEN policy;
- Coordinating provision for children with SEN;
- Advising on a graduated approach to providing SEN support;

- Advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupil's needs effectively;
- Liaising with parents of pupils with SEN;
- Liaising with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, and health and social care professionals;
- Being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services;
- Liaising with high schools to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned;
- Working with the headteacher and DHMAT to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements;
- Ensuring that the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEN up to date.

Governance through the Strategic Task Group

The STG representatives will:

Help to raise awareness of SEN issues at STG meetings;

Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEN and disability provision within the school and update the Strategic Task Group (DHMAT) on this;

Work with the headteacher and SENCO to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school.

The headteacher

The headteacher will:

Work with the SENCO and wellbeing team to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school;

Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEN and/or a disability.

Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

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 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 SEN policy.

Contact details for raising concerns

Please see our complaints policy on the website. A copy is available from the office.

The local authority local offer

Our local authority's local offer is published at www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/