

# Special educational needs (SEN) information report

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#### Contents

Contents2	
1. What types of SEN does the school provide for?	
2. Which staff will support my child, and what training have they had?3	
3. What should I do if I think my child has SEN?5	
4. How will the school know if my child needs SEN support?5	
5. How will the school measure my child's progress?6	
6. How will I be involved in decisions made about my child's education?7	
7. How will my child be involved in decisions made about their education?7	
8. How will the school adapt its teaching for my child?	
9. How will the school evaluate whether the support in place is helping my child?	
10. How will the school resources be secured for my child?9	
11. How will the school make sure my child is included in activities alongside students who don't have SEND	? 9
12. How does the school make sure the admissions process is fair for students with SEN or a disability? 9	
13. How does the school support students with disabilities?9	
14. How will the school support my child's mental health and emotional and social development?9	
15. What support will be available for my child as they transition between classes or settings or in preparing adulthood?	
16. What support is in place for looked-after and previously looked-after children with SEN?10	
17. What should I do if I have a complaint about my child's SEN support?10	
18. What support is available for me and my family?	
19 Glossary 11	

Dear Parents and Carers,

The aim of this information report is to explain how we implement our SEND policy. In other words, we want to show you how SEND support works in our school.

If you want to know more about our arrangements for SEND, read our SEND policy.

You can find it on our website: https://www.parkhighstanmore.org.uk/sen

**Note:** If there are any terms we've used in this information report that you're unsure of, you can look them up in the Glossary at the end of the report.

#### 1. What types of SEN does the school provide for?

Our school provides for students with the following needs:

AREA OF NEED	CONDITION	
Communication and interaction	Autism spectrum disorder	
	Speech and language difficulties	
Cognition and learning	Specific learning difficulties, including dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia	
	Moderate learning difficulties	
	Severe learning difficulties	
Social, emotional and mental health	Attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD)	
	Attention deficit disorder (ADD)	
Sensory and/or physical	Hearing impairments	
	Visual impairment	
	Multi-sensory impairment	
	Physical impairment	

#### 2. Which staff will support my child, and what training have they had?

#### Our special educational needs co-ordinator, or SENCO

Our SENCO can be contacted via email – info@parkhighstanmore.org.uk

Our SENCO has 8 years experience working with SEND. She is a qualified teacher and has gained the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordinators.

We have a team of 17 teaching assistants, including 5 higher level teaching assistants (HLTAs) who are trained to deliver SEN provision and one unqualified teacher.

In the last academic year, staff have been trained in: Autism, ADHD, Speech and Language, Social Emotional and Mental Health, Specific Learning Difficulties, Hearing Impaired, Visually Impaired, Downs Syndrome.

They are allocated 3 days a week to manage SEN provision.

#### **Class Teachers**

All of our teachers receive in-house SEN training, and are supported by the SENCO to meet the needs of students who have SEN.

#### Teaching assistants (TAs)

We have a team of 17 TAs, including 5 higher-level teaching assistants (HLTAs) who are trained to deliver SEN provision.

We have 3 teaching assistants who are trained to deliver interventions such as Lexonik Leap and Advanced.

In the last academic year, TAs have been trained in modelling independence and questioning.

#### **External agencies and experts**

Sometimes we need extra help to offer our students the support that they need. Whenever necessary we will work with external support services to meet the needs of our students with SEN and to support their families. These include:

- > Speech and language therapists
- > Educational psychologists
- > Occupational therapists
- > GPs or paediatricians
- > School nurses
- > Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
- **>** Education welfare officers
- > Social services and other LA-provided support services

#### 3. What should I do if I think my child has SEN?

Tell us about your concerns

We will invite you to a meeting to discuss them

We will decide whether your child needs SEN support

If you think your child might have SEN, the first person you should tell is your child's teacher.

This can be done by calling reception.

They will pass the message on to our SENCO, who will be in touch to discuss your concerns.

You can also contact the SENCO directly via email at info@parkhighstanmore.org.uk

We will meet with you to discuss your concerns and try to get a better understanding of what your child's strengths and difficulties are.

Together we will decide what outcomes to seek for your child and agree on next steps.

We will make a note of what's been discussed and add this to your child's record.

If we decide that your child needs SEN support, we will formally notify you in writing and your child will be added to the school's SEND register.

#### 4. How will the school know if my child needs SEN support?

All our class teachers are aware of SEN and are on the lookout for any students who aren't making the expected level of progress in their schoolwork or socially. This might include reading, writing, spelling or Mathematics work.

If the teacher notices that a student is falling behind, they try to find out if the student has any gaps in their learning. If they can find a gap, they will give the student extra tuition to try to fill it. Students who don't have SEN usually make progress quickly once the gap in their learning has been filled.

If the student is still struggling to make the expected progress, the teacher will talk to the SENCO, and will contact you to discuss the possibility that your child has SEN.

The SENCO will observe the student in the classroom and in the playground to see what their strengths and difficulties are. They will have discussions with your child's teacher/s, to see if there have been any issues with, or changes in, their progress, attainment or behaviour. They will also compare your child's progress and development with their peers and available national data.

The SENCO will ask for your opinion and speak to your child to get their input as well. They may also, where appropriate, ask for the opinion of external experts such as a speech and language therapist, an educational psychologist, or a paediatrician.

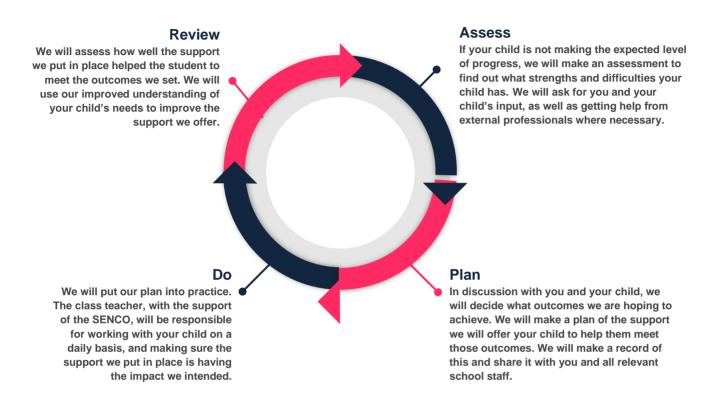
Based on all of this information, the SENCO will decide whether your child needs SEN support. You will be notified of the outcome of the decision in writing.

If your child does need SEN support, their name will be added to the school's SEN register, and the SENCO will work with you to create a SEN support plan for them.

#### 5. How will the school measure my child's progress?

We will follow the 'graduated approach' to meeting your child's SEN needs.

The graduated approach is a 4-part cycle of assess, plan, do, review.



As a part of the planning stage of the graduated approach, we will set outcomes that we want to see your child achieve.

Whenever we run an intervention with your child, we will assess them before the intervention begins. This is known as a 'baseline assessment'. We do this so we can see how much impact the intervention has on your child's progress.

We will track your child's progress towards the outcomes we set over time and improve our offer as we learn what your child responds to best.

This process will be continual. If the review shows a student has made progress, they may no longer need the additional provision made through SEN support. For others, the cycle will continue and the school's targets, strategies and provisions will be revisited and refined.

#### 6. How will I be involved in decisions made about my child's education?

We will provide reports on your child's progress, in the form of progress checks.

Your child's class/form teacher will meet you at parents' evening and review days to:

- > Set clear outcomes for your child's progress
- > Review progress towards those outcomes
- > Discuss the support we will put in place to help your child make that progress
- > Identify what we will do, what we will ask you to do, and what we will ask your child to do

The SENCO may also attend these meetings to provide extra support.

We know that you are the expert when it comes to your child's needs and aspirations. So we want to make sure you have a full understanding of how we are trying to meet your child's needs, so that you can provide insight into what you think would work best for your child.

We also want to hear from you as much as possible so that we can build a better picture of how the SEN support we are providing is impacting your child outside of school.

If your child's needs or aspirations change at any time, please let us know right away so we can keep our provision as relevant as possible.

After any discussion we will make a record of any outcomes, actions and support that have been agreed. This record will be shared with all relevant staff, and you will be given a copy.

If you have concerns that arise between these meetings, please contact your child's class teacher by calling reception.

#### 7. How will my child be involved in decisions made about their education?

The level of involvement will depend on your child's age, and level of competence. We recognise that no two children are the same, so we will decide on a case-by-case basis, with your input.

We may seek your child's views by asking them to:

- > Attend meetings to discuss their progress and outcomes
- > Prepare a presentation, written statement, video, drawing, etc.
- > Discuss their views with a member of staff who can act as a representative during the meeting
- > Complete a survey

#### 8. How will the school adapt its teaching for my child?

The accessibility plan and policy is available on request.

Your child's teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the students in their class.

High-quality teaching is our first step in responding to your child's needs. We will make sure that your child has access to a broad and balanced curriculum in every year they are at our school.

We will differentiate (or adapt) how we teach to suit the way the student works best. There is no 'one size fits all' approach to adapting the curriculum, we work on a case-by case basis to make sure the adaptations we make are meaningful to your child.

These adaptations include:

- ➤ Differentiating our curriculum to make sure all students are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1-to-1 work, adapting the teaching style or content of the lesson, etc.
- > Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.
- > Adapting our resources and staffing
- > Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- > Teaching assistants will support students in small groups for interventions.

We may also provide the following interventions:

- Emotional Literacy
- Anger management

- Stress management
- Social Skills
- Handwriting
- Organisation Mentoring
- WhyTry
- Lexonik Leap and Advanced
- Drawing and Talking

AREA OF NEED	CONDITION	HOW WE SUPPORT THESE STUDENTS
Communication and interaction	Autism spectrum disorder	Visual timetables Social stories
	Speech and language difficulties	Speech and language therapy
Cognition and learning	Specific learning difficulties, including dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia	Writing slope
	Moderate learning difficulties	
	Severe learning difficulties	
Social, emotional and mental health	ADHD, ADD	WhyTry
	Adverse childhood experiences and/or mental health issues	Mentoring
Sensory and/or physical	Hearing impairment	We work with our external agencies to ensure these students are supported at school
	Visual impairment	
	Multi-sensory impairment	
	Physical impairment	

These interventions are part of our contribution to Harrow's local offer.

#### 9. How will the school evaluate whether the support in place is helping my child?

We will evaluate the effectiveness of provision for your child by:

- > Reviewing their progress towards their Review Day targets
- > Reviewing the impact of interventions after 6-8 weeks
- > Using student questionnaires
- Monitoring by the SENCO
- > Using provision maps to measure progress
- > Holding an annual review (if they have an education, health and care (EHC) plan)

#### 10. How will the school resources be secured for my child?

It may be that your child's needs mean we need to secure:

- Extra equipment or facilities
- More teaching assistant hours
- Further training for our staff
- External specialist expertise

If that's the case, we will consult with external agencies to get recommendations on what will best help your child access their learning.

# 11. How will the school make sure my child is included in activities alongside students who don't have SEND? All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our students, including our before and afterschool clubs.

All students are encouraged to go on our school trips, including our residential trip when appropriate, depending on GCSE and Level 2 option subjects and field trips.

All students are encouraged to take part in Sports Day, School Shows and Workshops.

No student is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEN or disability and we will make whatever reasonable adjustments are needed to make sure that they can be included.

## **12.** How does the school make sure the admissions process is fair for students with SEN or a disability? Park High School works in partnership with the local authority admission program.

#### 13. How does the school support students with disabilities?

Park High School ensures reasonable adjustments are carried out by working with external partners such as Occupational Therapists, when needed, for example timetable adjustments and risks assessments are carried out.

#### 14. How will the school support my child's mental health and emotional and social development?

We provide support for students to progress in their emotional and social development in the following ways:

- > Students with SEN are encouraged to be part of the school council
- > Students with SEN are also encouraged to be part of clubs to promote teamwork/building friendships
- > We provide extra pastoral support for listening to the views of students with SEN by completing regular student voice
- > We run a Settling In Club for students who need extra support with social or emotional development in Year 7
- > We have a 'zero tolerance' approach to bullying. We prevent bullying in school through the OakWood Project, pastoral support, the mental health team and Speech and Language Therapy input.

### 15. What support will be available for my child as they transition between classes or settings or in preparing for adulthood?

#### **Between years**

To help students with SEND be prepared for a new school year we:

Share SEND information with all teachers via our SEND Register and Provision Map.

#### Onto adulthood

We provide all our students with appropriate advice on paths into work or further education.

We work with the student to help them achieve their ambitions, which can include goals in higher education, employment, independent living and participation in society. We have a dedicated CEAIG team to support students.

#### 16. What support is in place for looked-after and previously looked-after children with SEN?

Designated Safeguarding Lead will work with our SENCO, to make sure that all teachers understand how a lookedafter or previously looked-after student's circumstances and their SEN might interact, and what the implications are for teaching and learning.

Children who are looked-after or previously looked-after will be supported much in the same way as any other child who has SEND. However, looked-after students will also have a personal education plan (PEP). We will make sure that the PEP and any SEN support plans or EHC plans are consistent and complement one another.

#### 17. What should I do if I have a complaint about my child's SEN support?

Complaints about SEN provision in our school should be made to the Headteacher in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy. https://www.parkhighstanmore.org.uk/policiesandprocedures

If you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the student themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 246 and 247 of the <u>SEN Code of Practice</u>. If you feel that our school discriminated against your child because of their SEND, you have the right to make a discrimination claim to the first-tier SEND tribunal. To find out how to make such a claim, you should visit: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-school/disability-discrimination">https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-school/disability-discrimination</a>

You can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

- Admission
- **>** Exclusion
- > Provision of education and associated services
- Making reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services

Before going to a SEND tribunal, you can go through processes called disagreement resolution or mediation, where you try to resolve your disagreement before it reaches the tribunal. Information about this can be found here: https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning/harrow-sendias

#### 18. What support is available for me and my family?

If you have questions about SEND, or are struggling to cope, please get in touch to let us know. We want to support you, your child and your family.

To see what support is available to you locally, have a look at Harrow's local offer. Harrow publishes information about the local offer on their website: https://www.harrow.gov.uk/adult-social-care/local-offer

Our local special educational needs and disabilities information advice and support services (SENDIASS) organisations are:

https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning/harrow-sendias

National charities that offer information and support to families of children with SEND are:

- **>** IPSEA
- > SEND family support
- **>** NSPCC
- > Family Action
- > Special Needs Jungle

#### 19. Glossary

- > Access arrangements special arrangements to allow students with SEND to access assessments or exams
- > Annual review an annual meeting to review the provision in a student's EHC plan
- > Area of need the 4 areas of need describe different types of needs a student with SEND can have. The 4 areas are communication and interaction; cognition and learning; physical and/or sensory; and social, emotional and mental health needs.
- **CAMHS** child and adolescent mental health services
- **▶ Differentiation** when teachers adapt how they teach in response to a student's needs
- **EHC needs assessment** the needs assessment is the first step on the way to securing an EHC plan. The local authority will do an assessment to decide whether a child needs an EHC plan.
- **EHC plan** an education, health and care plan is a legally-binding document that sets out a child's needs and the provision that will be put in place to meet their needs.
- > First-tier tribunal/SEND tribunal a court where you can appeal against the local authority's decisions about EHC needs assessments or plans and against discrimination by a school or local authority due to SEND
- > Graduated approach an approach to providing SEN support in which the school provides support in successive cycles of assessing the student's needs, planning the provision, implementing the plan, and reviewing the impact of the action on the student
- > Intervention a short-term, targeted approach to teaching a student with a specific outcome in mind
- > Local offer information provided by the local authority which explains what services and support are on offer for students with SEN in the local area
- > Outcome target for improvement for students with SEND. These targets don't necessarily have to be related to academic attainment
- > Reasonable adjustments changes that the school must make to remove or reduce any disadvantages caused by a child's disability
- > SENCO the special educational needs co-ordinator
- > SEN special educational needs
- > SEND special educational needs and disabilities
- > SEND Code of Practice the statutory guidance that schools must follow to support children with SEND
- ➤ SEN information report a report that schools must publish on their website, that explains how the school supports students with SEN
- > SEN support special educational provision which meets the needs of students with SEN
- > Transition when a student moves between years, phases, schools or institutions or life stages