

Special Educational Needs and Disability



The Governing Body of St John Plessington Catholic College aims to recognise pupils' special educational needs; to meet those needs within the resources of the school and the Local Authority, to promote awareness of those pupils; to pay due regard to the SEND Code of Practice 2014 and enable those young people to achieve their full potential. An appointed Governor has specific responsibility for SEN and reports to the governing body after visits and meetings with the SENCO.

Ms L Thierry acts as SEN Coordinator and is responsible for the day-to-day provision and the coordination of Local Authority provision. She is supported in her role by Mrs F Lageu, Special Educational Needs Learning Coach.

At St John Plessington Catholic College, in line with the SEND Code of Practice, September 2014, we adopt a graduated response to meeting a wide and varied range of special educational needs including: communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social/emotional and mental health difficulties; sensory and/or physical needs. Pupils are placed on the SEN register according to their level of need.

Progress of all pupils with additional needs at SJP is closely monitored via half termly Learning Programmes and termly Achievement Plans. Staff meet fortnightly to discuss provision and suggest intervention appropriate to need. Pupils with statements or an EHC all receive a Person-Centred Profile, detailing their learning and wider social/emotional needs as necessary; all pupils placed at our school based category of need receive termly Achievement Plans. SEN pupils are fully integrated and supported in the mainstream classroom. Small class sizes have increased the specialist teacher support available to all pupils.

The school is partially accessible to pupils in wheelchairs and a lift can access all but one department.

SEN is resourced as part of the annual funding allocation, received directly from the Education Funding Agency to meet the needs of all SEN pupils on roll. The school also receives funding from the Local Authority for designated provisions for example SEN statements and EHCs. Funding received covers the provision of appropriate staffing, training and educational resources/equipment.

Identification of SEN pupils occurs through close liaison with primary schools, parents, teachers, support staff and outside agencies. The Code of Practice is implemented to identify and clarify need and fully supported by SJP's SEND policy.

All pupils have equal access to the curriculum including the National Curriculum, which is modified where necessary to meet pupils' needs. Differentiation of the work occurs as appropriate and modifications are considered and implemented according to need and advice. Access to educational activities would only be denied if it were likely to be prejudicial to the pupil's health or wellbeing.

Complaints about special needs provision would be made to the Head Teacher or Governor with responsibility for SEN. Disagreements with Local Authority provision are dealt with by them directly.

The school values the support from the wide range of Local Authority Support facilities such as SENAAT; Educational Psychological Service; Hearing and Visually Impaired Service; Speech Therapy and Behaviour Outreach. We work closely with outside agencies facilitating a multi-disciplinary approach, working closely with Children's Services. Partnerships with parents are essential: therefore formal and informal liaison takes place on a regular basis.

Annual Review Meetings are held for all statemented pupils and those with EHCs as well as additional meetings with parents, as appropriate, including review days each year for each year group.

In supporting pupils between phases of education we maintain strong links with feeder primary schools and offer enhanced transition for any pupils for whom this is appropriate. Information sharing at our College ensures that transferring between years and key stages is successful for our pupils. Furthermore, between KS4 and KS5 all pupils with a statement or EHC plan are offered careers advice from professionals with an informed understanding of their needs.

Information regarding the Local Authority Offer can be found at

<http://localofferwirral.org/>