

## **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy** **November 2020**

‘Children are the Lord’s reward and gift’. (Psalm 127.3)

### **What is a Special Educational Need (SEN)?**

According to the SEN Code of Practice (2015) ‘a child or young person has SEN if they have 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 he or she

- has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools’

### **What is a disability?**

The Equality Act 2010 definition is:

‘A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.’

### **Aims & Objectives:**

At Dereham Church Infant and Nursery School, we believe that all children should have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum and are committed to meeting the needs of all children. We aim to minimise the barriers to learning so that all children reach their full potential, whatever their starting point or learning need.

### **Responsibility**

Overall responsibility for SEND lies with the Head Teacher, Mrs Amy Futers. Day to day responsibility for the management lies with the SENCO, Mrs Lucy Robinson.

It is the responsibility of class teachers and subject leaders to ensure that relevant, appropriate and differentiated teaching methods and resources are in place to support children with SEND.

## **Identification and Assessment of special educational needs**

The school is committed to the early identification of special educational needs. Identification of SEN can happen through many different means including:

Discussions with the parents/carers

External agency advice

Classroom staff observations

To assist teachers in the identification of SEN, we regularly assess and monitor children's progress against the national curriculum and Foundation Stage Profile. Action is taken if the pupil is making less than expected progress despite high quality targeted teaching within the classroom.

If a pupil is making less than expected progress the pupil will be discussed with the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) in order to decide if additional provision is required. Where a pupil is identified as having SEND, the school takes action to remove barriers to learning and put effective provision in place. This SEND support should take the form of a four-part cycle which is known as the graduated approach (assess, plan, do, review).

Pupils identified as having SEND will be supported at an appropriate level. This may be internally, with school supporting and meeting pupils needs, or if required school will request additional support and further advice from external agencies to ensure pupil progress and that the pupils' needs are met.

Pupils who have significantly greater difficulty in learning may have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP).

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The SENCO monitors the movement of children within the SEN system in school and provides staff and governors with regular reports regarding this. The SENCO and Headteacher hold regular meetings to review the work of the school in this area.

Teachers complete Case Studies for children with SEN who are not making expected progress or giving cause for concern.

### **Voice of the pupil**

At Dereham Church Infant and Nursery School we encourage children to share their views about their learning and include them in making decisions about their education wherever possible.

### **Partnership with Parents/Carers**

We work in partnership with parents/carers to provide an education of the highest quality, which celebrates everyone's success in a stimulating and caring environment. We believe that the relationship between Dereham Church Infant and Nursery School and its parents/carers is a partnership which involves a two-way process. We recognise and value the input of the family and ensure their voices and opinions are heard when making decisions around their education.

### **Reviewing the Policy**

This policy will be amended/updated as necessary by the SENCO.

The amended/updated policy will then be passed to the Governing Body for review.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or sooner if government guidance or requirements change.

**This policy was reviewed and approved by the Achievement and Standards Committee  
on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**

**Signed by the Chair of the A&S Committee: *Patricia T Waller***