



BLESSED GEORGE NAPIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
SEND INFORMATION REPORT
Updated May 2023

This SEND Information Report contains the legal requirement set out for schools. The Information Report includes information for identifying, assessing, and making provision for pupils with SEN and for the admission of disabled pupils. These requirements are set out in legislation (the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014).

It includes:

- Details of and links to our area Local Offer(s).
- The name and contact details of the School Leadership, SENCO, and how parents can make a complaint or raise a concern.
- Information about the expertise and training of staff in relation to children and young people with SEND and about how specialist expertise will be secured.
- How we make provision for pupils with SEND, whether, or not they have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
- What interventions we have implemented and their impact.
- The additional learning opportunities for pupils with SEND.
- Our procedures for the identification and assessment of pupils with SEND.
- Our approach to teaching pupils who have SEND.
- How we adapt the curriculum and the learning environment for those who have SEND.
- How the school enables pupils with SEND to engage in the activities of the school (including physical activities) together with children who do not have SEND.
- Details of the support that is available for improving the social, emotional and mental health and development of pupils with SEND.
- How we involve pupils and their parents in decision-making.
- How we evaluate the effectiveness of our provision, including securing feedback and the views of pupils and their parents.

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A: SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

A1 DEFINITION

“High quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised will meet the individual needs of most children. Some children need educational provision that is additional and different to this”. This is special educational provision under Section 21 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

A child 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 has a learning difficulty or disability if she or he:

- 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 educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

Aims and objectives:

The Governors and staff of this school recognise that all children have a right to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. We aim to create a happy, educationally exciting and positive environment in which all pupils can develop to their full potential and become confident, independent individuals.

We aim to:

- ensure that our curriculum is responsive to all children whatever their individual need. promote positive attitudes and individual confidence, ensuring all children experience success.
- Identify early, assess, record and regularly review pupils' special educational needs
- encourage parents/guardians to be involved in planning and supporting at all stages of their child's development
- make effective use of support services

A2 LINKS TO AREA LOCAL OFFERS

Oxfordshire

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer>

Northampton:

<https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/Pages/default.aspx>

A3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Governors

An appointed representative from the governing body, the SEND Governor of the school, Nina Henderson-Andrade together with the Principal, Mrs Niamh Dolan have a legal responsibility for

overseeing all aspects of the schoolwork, including provision for children with special educational needs, and for doing their best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs. They should determine the school's general approach to provision for children with special educational needs and/or disability and establish the appropriate staffing and funding arrangements. The SEND Governor is actively involved in self-review, with the Headteacher and SENCO and Inclusion Lead, of the provision for children with special needs and implementation of the policy within the school.

SENCO

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENCO) and Inclusion Lead is Mrs Murdoch. She works closely with all staff, parents and outside agencies ensuring the best possible provision for children with special educational needs.

SENCO is responsible for:

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND provision and inclusion
- coordinating provision for children with SEND
- ensuring the involvement of parents and guardians from an early stage and liaising with parents of pupils with SEND
- advising and liaising with teachers and other staff on graduated approach to providing SEND support,
- helping to identify children with special educational needs, assessing and planning for their progress
- maintaining and developing the school's SEND reporting and recording registers
- acting as Designated Teacher for looked after pupils with SEND
- advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- liaising with feeder schools, other schools, educational psychologists, health and care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies
- being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support agencies
- liaising with potential and next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- supporting the professional development of Learning Support Assistants and other SEND support staff
- regularly liaising with the governors' representative
- keeps the Governing Body fully informed

Teaching Staff and Learning Support Assistants

Class teachers are involved in the development of the school's SEND provision and implement the procedures for identifying, assessing, and making provision for pupils with SEND, through adapting teaching and the graduated approach of Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle. The identification of SEND is built into the overall approach to monitoring the progress and development of pupils. Class teachers are responsible for working with children daily and closely monitor children involved in interventions away from the main class. Teachers collaborate with Learning Support Assistants to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching.

A4 CO-ORDINATING AND MANAGING PROVISION

The SENCO meets regularly with class teachers to give support and advice. SEND Information report and provision are discussed regularly at staff meetings to raise the achievement of children with SEND. Special Educational Needs provision is an integral part of the School Development Plan and is included in the evaluation process. The SENCO meets regularly with the Learning Support Assistants to review progress and give advice, and monitor the LSA support throughout the school. This is dependent on the Special Educational Needs requirements and this placement may change as the needs of the children change. There is opportunity for informal daily contact between staff to discuss concerns.

Parents/guardians are kept informed by class teachers and are encouraged to be involved in the support of their child whenever possible. Pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans have an Annual Review with the parents/guardians, Local Authority SEN Officer, SENCO and Key workers. Where there is a concern that parents need extra support, the staff would refer them to the Out of School Liaison Officer (OSLO). If the situation becomes more worrying, the EHA (Early Help Assessment) and TAF (Team Around the Family) processes would be used to identify areas for change and engage support from other professionals.

Blessed George Napier Catholic School strives to be a fully inclusive school. It acknowledges the range of issues to be taken account of in the process of development. All pupils are welcome, including those with special educational needs and disability, in accordance with the Pope Francis MAC Policy. According to the Education Act 1996, (Section 316), the school will admit a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan subject to the wishes of their parent unless this is incompatible with the efficient education of other children, and there are no reasonable steps that can be taken to prevent the incompatibility.

A5 SPECIALISMS AND SPECIAL FACILITIES

Children's specific needs are discussed with parents/guardians when admission to school is requested. The previous school and support agencies are contacted should this be appropriate. All staff have responsibility for teaching children with learning difficulties/disabilities and should any specialist advice be required; this will be arranged.

The school has access for wheelchairs. Suitable toilet facilities are available. Where a child has a disability the SENCO and class teachers make sure that all adults are informed and trained about effective management strategies and that other children are made aware as appropriate. Advice is sought from outside agencies on how best to provide for the child's needs. Arrangements are made to allow as much independence as possible, but with support available as and when necessary.

The SENCO and Governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs / disability liaise regularly to discuss provision within the school for all children with SEND.

Specialist training among the staff

Staff training is undertaken in various aspects of SEND according to the needs of the children to ensure that the provision made, and support given to pupils is appropriate and effective. The training needs of the staff including LSAs are reviewed as part of their performance management process in school.

A6 ACCESSIBILITY

The School will:

- has an accessibility strategy and it is published on school website

The accessibility strategy is for:

- increasing the extent to which pupils with a disability can participate in the curriculum through effective Risk Assessment.
- Improving the physical environment so that pupils with a disability can take advantage of the education and associated services provided by the school.
- Improving the delivery of the information to pupils with a VI and HI disability.

SECTION B: IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND PROVISION

B1 ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

All schools in Oxfordshire receive funding for pupils with SEND in three main ways:

- The base budget (element 1 funding) covers teaching and curriculum expenses as well as the cost of the SENCO.
- The notional SEND budget (element 2 funding) covers the additional educational support required.
- Specific top up funds may be allocated to pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans and high needs.

Blessed George Napier Catholic School, as part of normal budget planning, has a strategic approach to using resources to support the progress of pupils with SEND. BGN provides additional support up to the nationally prescribed threshold per pupil per year. Where the cost of special educational provision required to meet the needs of an individual pupil exceeds this threshold, schools are not expected to meet the full costs of more expensive special educational provision from their core funding. For pre -16 pupils, school may apply for high-needs top-up funding, which would be paid directly by the commissioning local authority for high needs pupils where the total cost exceeds the following thresholds. First £6,000 of additional need costs is to be met from delegated budget. High needs are agreed per pupil and top up is paid by commissioning LA.

B2 IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW

The progress of the children is assessed at regular intervals by staff as part of the school's tracking process. Where progress is slow, the first response is graduated approach to teaching. Slow progress and low attainment do not necessarily mean that a child has SEND. All those working with children are alert to emerging difficulties and respond early.

In deciding whether to make special educational needs provision, the Headteacher and SENCO consider all the information gathered from within the school about the pupil's progress, alongside national data and expectations of progress.

Where more specific assessments are deemed to be necessary, these will be carried out by the SENCO, who may then involve other professionals from outside the school. The information gathering will include an early discussion with the pupils and their parents. Blessed George Napier School listens to and understands when parents express concerns about their child's development. Consideration of whether special educational needs provision is required starts with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment and the views and wishes of their parents.

When a child is identified as needing SEND support, school employs and records a graduated approach of Assess-Plan-Do-Review adopting the recommended model for Special Educational Needs as set out in the Code of Practice (DfE 2015). The LA SEND Guidance (<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer>) is used as a guide for the identification, assessment and provision for SEND, and the forms provided are used for record keeping alongside with further recording and reporting documents.

- Criteria for identifying SEND may include:
- Concerns raised by teaching staff (behavioural/learning difficulties)
- A child's early history and/or parental concern
- Prior attainment
- Lack of progress despite receiving a differentiated curriculum
- Students requiring support for sensory/physical problems

The SENCO and the class teacher together with specialists and involving the pupils and parents, consider a range of teaching approaches, appropriate equipment, strategies and interventions in order to support the child's progress. Outcomes are agreed and progress reviewed regularly. Where, despite the school providing effective SEND support, a child has not made expected progress, school and parents may consider requesting an Education, Health and Care Plan needs assessments by the local authority. The LA will expect to see evidence of the Graduated Approach to SEND action taken by the school as part of their SEND support. Reviews of children with SEND support are held each term and led by the SENCO. They provide an opportunity for parents to share their concerns and, together with the child and school to agree aspirational outcomes for the pupil.

Provision

Provision for children with SEND is additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's universal provision of curriculum and strategies. It is a graduated response to children's individual needs. Such provision is recorded on the SEND Support Profile and provision map.

Categories of Special Educational Need

The 0-25 SEND Code of Practice (2015) identifies 'four broad areas of special educational need and support':

1. **Communication and interaction;** Speech, Language and Communication needs, Autistic Spectrum Disorder including Asperger's and Autism
2. **Cognition and learning;** Learning Difficulties, Specific Learning Difficulties e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia
3. **Social, emotional and mental health;** Behaviour reflecting underlying mental health difficulties (e.g. anxiety, depression). Attention Deficit (Hyperactive) Disorder, Attachment Disorder, Oppositional Defiance Disorder, Tourette's Syndrome
4. **Sensory and/or physical needs;** Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment
Physical Disability, Multi-Sensory Impairment

These areas allow schools to gain an overview of their pupils' range of needs. The 0-25 SEND Code (2015) emphasises: 'The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school needs to take, not to fit a pupil into a category. In practice, individual children or

young people often have needs that cut across all these areas and their needs may change over time. A detailed assessment of need should ensure that the full range of an individual's needs is identified, not simply the primary need.' (section 6.27)

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Where children with SEND also have medical needs, the school holds a Medical Needs Register and their provision is planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way with the healthcare plan. School has regard for the statutory guidance supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (DfE, 2014). See the Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy.

B3 CURRICULUM ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Blessed George Napier Catholic School strives to be an inclusive school, engendering a sense of community and belonging through its five Gospel values of Compassion, Respect, Truth, Service and Forgiveness by

- inclusive ethos
- broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils
- systems for early identification of barriers to learning and participation
- high expectations and suitable targets for all children

B4 EVALUATING SUCCESS

Parents/guardians, staff and pupils meet regularly, both formally and informally, to plan outcomes, revise provision and celebrate success.

The success of the school's SEND, Equality and Inclusion policy and provision is evaluated through:

- Monitoring of classroom practice by SENCO and subject coordinators
- Assess, Plan, Do and Review graduated approach
- Analysis of pupil tracking data and test results – for individual pupils for cohorts
- Value-added data for pupils on the SEND register
- Monitoring of procedures and practice by the SEND governor
- School self-evaluation
- Monitoring the quality of Support Profiles and review meetings
- The School Improvement Plan

B5 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

If a parent or guardian is concerned about SEND provision for their child, initial contact should be made with the class teacher. A meeting will be arranged, which may include the SENCO and Principal/ Deputy to discuss the concerns.

In the event of a formal complaint concerning SEND provision, parents/guardians are advised to contact the Headteacher and follow the Oxfordshire LA procedure in the first instance. Parents may also contact the Governing Body. Government publications regarding parents' rights are available in school.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/about-your-council/have-your-say-about-council-services/complaints-about-oxfordshire-county-council/complaints-about-schools>

SECTION C: PARTNERSHIP WITHIN AND BEYOND THE SCHOOL

C1 STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The school is committed to gaining further expertise in Special Needs Education. Current training includes school-based whole school INSET, training for SEND Team, SENCO and support staff group meetings, attendance at partnership meetings and the reading and discussion of updates on SEND, Equality and Inclusion. Individual staff development is provided by various higher education institutions. Staff meetings are arranged to respond to the needs of the school. Arrangements for the induction of ECTs and new staff into the school's policy and SEND procedures are detailed in the Staff Handbook. SENCO has added neurodiversity supporting classroom strategies for teaching staff in Teacher Planner.

C2 LINKS WITH OTHER AGENCIES, ORGANISATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The school can call upon the expertise of a wide range of support services. These support services are consulted after consultation with the SENCO, and with the full agreement of parents. For assessment and advice from most of these services a request form must be filled in first and additional information may be required e.g. the service's own checklist, and information about strategies already in use. The SENCO holds contact addresses and request forms for other agencies and support services.

C3 PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Our school believes that good communication between parents/guardians and staff is essential so that parents can share their knowledge and expertise about their child. This is important in enabling children with Special Educational Needs to achieve their true potential. Parents are always welcome to visit the school to discuss any concerns about their child with the class teacher, at a mutually agreed time. There is opportunity for parents to discuss their child's needs, progress and strengths at Parents Interviews and Special Educational Needs Review meetings. Parents are involved in the initial identification of their child's needs and are always part of the review process to monitor provision and progress. Wherever possible, parents are involved in any strategies instigated, and we aim to support parents with their child's difficulties if necessary. Parents are consulted and permission sought before involving outside agencies in the assessment of a child's progress or behaviour. Information about the SENDIASS Oxfordshire (formerly Parent Partnership) is given to parents so they may use it if they wish, and information is available for parents of children with learning difficulties/disabilities in school. Parents have right of access to records concerning their child.

C4 THE VOICE OF THE CHILD

All children are encouraged to participate in discussions about their learning and to feel that their views are valued right from the start of their education. In Blessed George Napier Catholic School we encourage pupils to participate in their learning by being present for at least part of review meetings, depending on their level of maturity, to share their wishes and feelings with success and achievements as part of the review process as well as addressing any difficulties. Pupils are encouraged to take part in the reviews and be part of the evaluation of their successes and needs.

C5 TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS

The SENCO, class teachers and Headteacher liaise over the internal transfer of pupils with

SEND. Placements are considered carefully to meet a child's particular needs, and pupils visit their new class before transfer.

Year 6 students transferring from local primary schools have the chance to visit the BGN during the 4- day experience. Pupils with Special Education Needs, low self-esteem or anxiety issues can visit the school separately to help the transition process. Representatives from the Primary Schools and parents visit to talk with the SENCO. The SENCO and Year 6 teachers liaise over the transfer procedure and when transfer is local, meetings are arranged between the appropriate staff. At all times of transition, SEND information is gathered and records transferred to the new teacher or school.

Year 11 students continuing their education can visit the colleges or sixth forms, this will be supported by the Key worker, SENCO or designated person aiding the transition to their next steps.

For pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans, these will transfer with the young person, with any amendments up to date. The designated person in charge of SEND at the new establishment will be part of the transfer and will be fully aware of the young person's needs.

C6 MONITORING AND REVIEW

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the SEND Governor. This policy will be updated in line with new initiatives together with any streamlining of school processes.

This SEND Report will be reviewed annually. **Next review November 2024.**