

Accelerated Learning Policy (including Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This policy is applicable to the whole school including the Early Years Foundation Stage (“EYFS”).
- 1.2 This policy has been written with reference to:
 - SEND code of practice 0 to 25 (Jan 2015)
 - The requirements of the Children and Families Bill 2014
 - Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions (April 2014)
 - Equality Act 2010
 - Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001
 - Park School Equal Opportunities Policy
 - Park School Accessibility Plan
 - Park School Safeguarding Policy
 - Park School Admissions Policy
 -
- 1.3 Park School staff should read this policy in conjunction with the Accelerated Learning Manual which is kept with this policy in the Policies Folder in the Staff Room, and on the School computer network.
- 1.4 Mrs Passmore acts as the Co-ordinator for Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (“SENDCo”) and leads the Accelerated Learning Department (“ALD”)
- 1.5 Park School/Nursery aims to be an inclusive setting ensuring that equality of opportunity is a reality for our children. We do this through the attention we pay to the different groups of children within our school, which include,
 - Girls and boys;
 - Minority ethnic and faith groups;
 - Children with special educational needs;
 - EAL pupils
 - Gifted and talented children;
 - Late birthdays June, July, August children;
 - Any other groups as shall arise from time to time in the School community
- 1.6 Park School/Nursery accepts pupils with a range of ability and from a variety of cultural, socio-economic home backgrounds. The National Curriculum age appropriate bands, test scores and other assessment methods help us to plan our teaching in order to meet the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. A minority of children have particular learning and assessment requirements that are potential barriers to learning. Teachers take account of these requirements and make provision, where necessary, to support individuals or groups of children and thus enable them to participate effectively in curriculum and assessment activities.
- 1.7 According to the SEND code of practice 0 to 25 (Jan 2015), a child or young person has Special Educational Needs (“SEN”) if he/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 he or she:
 - has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age;
 - 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.
- 1.8 Children may have special educational needs/disabilities either throughout, or at any time during, their school career.
- 1.9 Learning difficulties are often described on a spectrum which goes None - Mild - Moderate - Severe.

2 Aim of the Policy

- 2.1 The aim of this policy is to focus on ensuring positive outcomes for all pupils. We will do this by:
- identifying pupils with learning difficulties/disabilities;
 - promoting differentiated high quality teaching in the mainstream classroom for all pupils;
 - helping children learn to understand and manage their own learning difficulties/disabilities;
 - maintaining aspirations and high expectations for children with learning difficulties/disabilities;
 - ensuring that curriculum planning and assessment takes account of learning difficulties / disabilities experienced by our children;
 - developing support strategies;
 - providing equal opportunities for all pupils to access the curriculum and school life;
 - consulting, listening to, liaising with and advising parents when needed to enable everyone to work together to support the child;

3 The Assess – Plan – Do – Review framework

3.1 Assess

3.1.1 All of our pupils are assessed as follows:-

- Parents are required to declare any learning difficulties/disabilities their child may have on registration. Further details regarding admissions to the school can be found in the Admissions Policy.
- We consider evidence that a pupil may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 and, if so, what reasonable adjustments may need to be made for them in line with the provisions in our Accessibility Plan.
- We assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry and then continually whilst they are in the school using a range of methods including the following:-
 - eyesight screening for all pupils in Reception;
 - CAT tests for all children at the first available opportunity (Y3 Summer) and then follow up in Y5 Autumn
 - standardised tests in Literacy and Numeracy every Autumn for Years 2 to 6
 - standardised tests in Literacy and Numeracy every Summer for Years 1 to 6
 - three times a year National Curriculum Moderation of Reading, Writing and Numeracy

3.1.2 The needs of all of our pupils, including those with learning difficulties/disabilities are met within the following graduated framework.

Level of Need	Response
Wave 1	Differentiated high quality teaching in the mainstream classroom for all children.
Wave 2	Some form of extra support for pupils provided free of charge by the school, often in small groups.
Wave 3	Receive one-to-one lessons from specialist teachers (charged to parents), or other support from outside agencies, in order to help with learning difficulties/disabilities.
Children who have a Local Authority Education and Health Care Plan ("EHC Plan") – previously known as a Statement of Educational Need.	Suitable and appropriate support for children with an EHC plan is considered and implemented on a case by case basis.

- All pupils receiving support in wave 2 or 3 are on our Accelerated Learning Department Provision List ("ALD Provision List").
- Only pupils with diagnosed learning difficulties/disabilities are categorised as pupils with SEND.

3.1.3 The SENDCo is consulted:-

- if a member of staff is concerned about a child's performance/progress;
- if there is a marked discrepancy between a child's verbal and literacy/numeracy skills;
- if parents express concern about their child's progress (and the class teacher feels it appropriate to consult);
- if certain mistakes are repeated time and time again;
- if a child has difficulty coping with and understanding certain essential concepts or accessing certain activities.

3.1.4 An 'Accelerated Learning Department' referral form should be completed if appropriate (see the ALD manual). On receipt of this form the SENDCo will discuss the matter with the teacher concerned and the Headteacher. It is the class teacher who should lead the communication with parents and inform them at the appropriate time to alert them to concerns and enlist their active help and participation.

3.1.5 Further assessment tools (if needed) currently include the following:

- Screening tests, Educational Psychologist's and SpLD assessor's reports, Maths Screening and Visual Perception screening;
- Early help assessments (CAF) prior to multi-agency assessments. The SENDCo is trained to act as Lead Professional. All CAF assessments will be registered with the Local Authority CAF Co-ordinator.

3.1.6 The class teacher and the SENDCo can break down an assessment procedure into smaller steps in order to aid progress and provide detailed and accurate indicators. The child's views are also taken into consideration (age appropriate).

4 Plan

4.1.1 Areas of Need: There are 4 main areas of need:

- Communication and Interaction- including speech and language needs and social interaction;
- Cognition and Learning- includes specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia;
- Social, Emotional and Mental Well-being - including ADD, ADHD and disruptive behaviour;
- Sensory and Physical needs - including vision and hearing difficulties, fine and gross motor developmental delays and other physical disabilities.

4.1.2 When planning to meet pupils' needs, consideration is given to:

- the child's learning difficulties/disabilities and needs
- learning profile and assessment results;
- the child's overall progress;
- providing a positive learning experience which values positive encouragement;
- setting out clear learning objectives;
- whether there are any reasonable adjustments that can be made to enable access to a full curriculum.
- how the tasks/activities are presented to pupils, so that they can make progress and experience success. Care is taken regarding the use of any printed material. Materials are chosen carefully and adapted as necessary. Print size, the complexity of vocabulary, syntax used, etc. are all considered;
- varying the teaching style, adopting a multi-sensory approach where possible, changing group size, and pace, considering levels of interest and previous appropriate experience, the use of language, opportunities for other forms of teaching (e.g. through drama, role play, discussion, etc.);
- the child's /parents' contributions to outcomes and view of their progress as appropriate;

- 4.1.3 Pupils who have individual lessons with a Learning Support Teacher (part of our Wave 3 provision).
- the class teacher/maths set teacher set targets which will assist the pupil to progress in their learning;
 - to be effective, these outcomes are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound (SMART);
 - Target sheets are on-going, working documents. As targets are achieved, new ones are added;
 - targets are part of the planning and work in mainstream lessons as well as in individual support lessons;
 - the staff, parents and the child are aware of, contribute to and review progress towards the outcomes on the Target sheets. Target sheets are shown to parents at Parents' Evening each term;
 - Target sheets are easily accessible for reference in mainstream class lessons and are taken to lessons with the Learning Support teacher(s);
 - Target sheets form part of the evidence of the child's progress.
- 4.1.4 When arranging individual lessons we aim to avoid withdrawing the child from core Literacy or Numeracy lessons. We arrange these lessons on an individual basis listening to the needs and voice of the child. Some of the children who have specific needs are also talented in other areas such as music and art. Parents are informed of the timing of the individual lessons and what is being missed.

4.2 **Do**

- 4.2.1 Having planned appropriately (see 3.2.2 above), teachers respond to pupils' needs by:
- acknowledging that pupils acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates;
 - acknowledging that pupils need a positive, encouraging, sensitive environment which values the 'whole person', their contribution and their views;
 - helping children to manage their behaviour and develop social skills to take part in learning effectively and safely;
 - helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning;
 - differentiating work/activities appropriately (including homework);
 - using assessment to inform the next stage of learning.
 - having good communication and a positive working relationship with parents to aid learning in and out of School.

4.3 **Review**

- 4.3.1 Interventions for each child are reviewed regularly to assess their impact, the pupil's progress and the views of the pupil, their teachers and their parents.
- Targets are reviewed on a 'rolling' basis- see Section 3.2.3 above;
 - progress and provision are formally reviewed 3 times a year at Parent's evening by the class teacher;
 - specialist teachers review progress in individual lessons towards the end of each set of 10 lessons;
 - the Head of ALD monitors the progress of the children on the ALD Provision List;
 - the Head of ALD and the Headteacher hold weekly meetings to review SEND and ALD issues in the School;
 - class teachers, the Headteacher and the Director of Studies monitor CAT results (Year 3 Summer and Y5 Autumn)– picking up on discrepancies in scores within the different types of Reasoning tests and discrepancies between reasoning scores and performance in class, tests and other work. They discuss their findings with the Head of ALD as appropriate.

5 **Disapplication and modification**

- 5.1 The school can, where necessary, modify or disapply part of its curriculum and/or its assessment arrangements for a particular pupil. Our school policy is to do this only in exceptional circumstances.

The school makes every effort to meet the learning needs of all its children without recourse to disapplication or modification. We achieve this through greater differentiation of the child's work, or through the provision of additional learning resources. When necessary, we also support learning through appropriate external specialists. In such cases, teachers work closely with these agencies to support the child.

- 5.2 In exceptional circumstances we may decide that modification or disapplication is the correct procedure to follow. We would only do this after detailed consultation with parents. The SENDCo would also be closely involved in this process. We would ensure that every effort had been made to provide the necessary support from within the school's resources before considering such action.

6 Early Years Foundation Stage

The Nursery/Reception follow the guidelines and processes outlined in this policy. The following points are particular to Early Years.

- 6.1 EYFS is our starting point for planning that meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. When planning, staff set suitable learning challenges and respond to children's diverse learning needs. Some children may have barriers to learning that mean they have special needs and require particular action by the nursery. These children may have a special Learning Plan to plan for and guide provision for their particular needs.
- 6.2 Liaison with the Local Authority Area SENDO (applicable to Nursery only). The area SENDO can be consulted as necessary by the Nursery Manager to discuss the progress of any children needing support (with parents' permission). Following this consultation the Nursery Manager updates the School SENDCo accordingly. The Area SENDO helps make the links between education, health and social care to facilitate appropriate early provision for children with Additional needs and their transition to compulsory schooling.

Typically, the role of the Area SENDO includes:

- providing advice and practical support to early years providers about approaches to identification, assessment and intervention within the SEND Code of Practice
- strengthening the links between the settings, parents, schools, Early help, social care and health services
- developing and disseminating good practice
- supporting the development and delivery of training both for individual settings and on a wider basis
- providing advice and support to ensure smooth transition between Early Years settings and reception classes

- 6.3 The SENDCo and the Nursery Manager meet regularly to discuss the provision in the Nursery.

7 Training

- 7.1 All teachers and learning support staff annually meet with the SENDCo to explain the systems and structures in place around the school's SEND and ALD provision and practice.
- 7.2 Teaching staff and Nursery staff are encouraged to participate in courses offered in and out of the School for training in SEND matters. Training related to SEND and ALD issues is delivered to the whole staff via experts who are asked into school and the SENDCo on a regular basis as part of our ongoing programme of INSET. The SENDCo has also attended the training offered by the LEA relating to SEND, including Early Years, the Common Assessment Framework and Lead Professional training.

8 Roles and Responsibilities

- 8.1 The SENDCo:
- manages the day-to-day operation of this policy;

- co-ordinates the provision for, and manages the responses to children's special educational needs/disabilities including any recommended and agreed access arrangements;
- supports and advises colleagues;
- maintains the ALD Provision List;
- contributes to and manages the records of all children on the ALD Provision List;
- manages the relevant School-based assessment and completes the documentation required by outside agencies including the Common Assessment Framework (CAF);
- supports the class teacher in communications with parents;
- liaises with the Local Authority (EYFS) area SENDO as necessary alongside the Nursery Manager;
- acts as the link with SEND external agencies and other support agencies;
- manages a range of resources, human and material, linked to children with SEND;
- checks for any outside agency involvement/CAF assessment and acts as Lead Professional if required for multi-agency assessments and support;
- implements appropriate provisions in the School/Nursery's accessibility plan.

8.2 The Headteacher:

- is the advocate on the Senior Staff Team for SEND/ALD matters;
- holds regular meetings with the SENDCo;
- monitors CAT results (Year 3 Summer and Y5 Autumn) and other Assessment data along with the Director of Studies and the class teachers;
- monitors all referrals and discusses provision and progress with teachers, SENDCo and parents as appropriate.

9 Partnership with parents

- 9.1 Partnership with parents is essential. Parents are a particularly valuable information source and provide fundamental support for their children.
- 9.2 The Parents' Handbook contains the main points relating to ALD/SEND including details of payment for individual lessons with the Learning Support Teachers.
- 9.3 At all stages of the ALD/SEND process, the School keeps parents fully informed and involved.
- 9.4 Meetings are held each term with parents, in which progress and new targets are discussed.

10 Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs

- 10.1 The arrangements for supporting children with medical needs are laid out in the School's Health & Safety Policy.
- 10.2 The School/Nursery recognises its duties under the Equality Act 2010. For further details see the Accessibility Plan.

11 Concerns

If parents have concerns about the provision arranged for their child they can discuss the matter with the class teacher or Nursery Manager (in the first instance) and/or the Headteacher. The Headteacher, class teacher/Nursery Manager will then liaise, as appropriate, with the SENDCo.

12 Further Information

- 12.1 The SENDCo can provide information and links to websites where details/advice regarding specific special needs and disabilities can be found.
- 12.2 Access to further information and guidance is available via the LEA local offer, the 'Parent Carer Forum' and other parent support networks using the following link:

<http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/ChildrenEducation/LocalOffer/LocalOffer.aspx>

- 13 This policy and other publications produced by the School are available in large print or alternative media if required.**

Signed:

Date: