

Crockenhill Primary School



Learning together. Working together. Achieving together.

SEN & Disability Policy

Date: March 2021

Reviewed: March 2022

This policy is written in line with the requirements of:-

- Children and Families Act 2014
- SEN Code of Practice 2015
 - SI 2014 1530 Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
 - Part 3 Duties on Schools – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators
 - Schedule 1 regulation 51– Information to be included in the SEN information report
 - Schedule 2 regulation 53 – Information to be published by a local authority in its local offer
- Equality Act 2010
- Schools Admissions Code, DfE 1 Feb 2012
- SI 2012 1124 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012
- SI 2013 758 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies

List other linked policies – Behaviour/Discipline Policy, Equalities Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Homework Policy and Complaints Policy

This policy was developed with consultation with parents/carers, representatives from the governing body and parent teachers association and parents of children with special educational needs and will be reviewed annually.

Definition of SEN

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 if he or she:

- (a) Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- (b) 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 or mainstream post-16 institutions. *SEN Code of Practice (2015, p 15)*

Definition of disability

Many children and young people who have SEN may also have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is '...a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. This definition provides a relatively low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and

'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial' *SEN Code of Practice (2015, p16)*

1 The kinds of special educational need for which provision is made

At Crockenhill Primary School, we can make provision for every kind of frequently occurring special educational need without a statement of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plan, for instance dyslexia, dyspraxia, speech and language needs, autism, Asperger's syndrome, ADHD, learning difficulties, behaviour difficulties or Social Emotional Mental Health. There are other kinds of special educational need, which do not occur as frequently and with which the school is less familiar, but we can access training and advice so that these kinds of needs can be met.

The school also currently meets the needs of pupils with a statement of special educational need / Education, Health and Care plan with the following kinds of special educational need: Specific or moderate learning difficulties and medical needs. Decisions on the admission of pupils with a statement of special educational need / Education, Health and Care plan are made by the Local Authority.

The admission arrangements for pupils without a statement of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plan do not discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.

2 Information about the policy for identification and assessment of pupils with SEN

At Crockenhill Primary School, we monitor the progress of all pupils at least three times a year to review their academic progress. We use teacher assessment alongside more formative assessments throughout the year, including Baseline EYFS assessment, KS1 phonic assessments, practise tests and personalised, computer based learning programs. Speech link and Language link will be used across the school to identify any areas of need.

Where progress is not sufficient, even if a special educational need has not been identified, we put in place extra support to enable the pupil to catch up. Examples of extra support include: small group learning sessions, ability grouped booster lessons, additional ICT program based sessions, additional homework to reinforce learning, Speech and Language sessions with a trained TA, Social communication groups, Gross and fine motor control groups, Wellbeing sessions with a TA or play therapy.

Some pupils may continue to make inadequate progress, despite high-quality teaching targeted at their areas of weakness. For these pupils, and in consultation with parents, we will use a range assessment tools to determine the cause of the learning difficulty. At Crockenhill Primary School we are experienced in using the following assessment tools: YARC, BVPS, Lucid Dyslexia screening, Dyscalculia solutions and Dyslexia portfolio. We have access to external advisors who are able to use a range of other assessment tools.

The purpose of this more detailed assessment is to understand what additional resources and different approaches are required to enable the pupil to make better progress. These will be shared with parents, put into a SEN support plan, reviewed regularly and refined / revised if necessary. At this point, we will have identified that the pupil has a special educational need because the school is making special educational provision for the pupil which is additional and different to what is normally available.

If the pupil is able to make good progress using this additional and different resource (but would not be able to maintain this good progress without it), we will continue to identify the pupil as having a special educational need. If the pupil is able to maintain good progress without the additional and different resources, he or she will not be identified with special educational needs. When any change in identification of SEN is changed, parents will be notified.

We will ensure that all teachers and support staff who work with the pupil are aware of the support to be provided and the teaching approaches to be used.

3 Information about our policies for provision for pupils with special educational needs whether or not they have EHC Plans, including

3a. How we evaluate the effectiveness of provision for such pupils

Each review of the SEN support plan will be informed by the views of the pupils and class teachers including assessment information. Parents will have opportunities to discuss their child's provision and ask questions about the plans.

The *SEN Code of Practice (2015, 6.17)* describes inadequate progress thus:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
- Fails to close the attainment gap between rate of progress
- Widens the attainment

For pupils with or without a statement of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plan there will be an annual review of the provision made for the child, which will enable an evaluation of the effectiveness of the special provision. The collation of all annual review evaluations of effectiveness will be reported to the governing body.

3b Our arrangements for assessing and reviewing the progress of pupils with special educational needs

Every pupil in the Crockenhill Primary school has their progress at least three times per year. In addition to this, pupils with special educational needs may have more frequent

assessments depending on their needs and areas of difficulty. The assessments we use at Crockenhill Primary School are listed in section 2. Using these it will be possible to see if pupils are increasing their level of skills in key areas.

If these assessments do not show adequate progress is being made the SEN support plan will be reviewed and adjusted.

3c Our approach to teaching pupils with special educational needs

High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching. We regularly and carefully review the quality of teaching for all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered *SEN Code of Practice (2015, 6.37)*

In Crockenhill Primary School, the quality of teaching was judged to be at least good in our last Ofsted inspection and the school is working closely with the Local Authority to improve this to good with outstanding features.

We follow the Mainstream Core Standards and advice developed by Kent County Council to ensure that our teaching conforms to best practice.

Mainstream core standards available from: <https://www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/special-educational-needs/the-mainstream-core-standards>

In meeting the Mainstream Core Standards, we employ additional teaching approaches, as advised by internal and external assessments e.g. one to one tutoring / precision teaching / mentoring, small group teaching, use of ICT software learning packages. These are delivered by additional staff employed through the funding provided to us, as 'notional SEN funding.'

3d How we adapt the curriculum and learning environment for pupils with special educational needs

At Crockenhill Primary School, we follow the advice in the Mainstream Core Standards on how to adapt the curriculum and the learning environment for pupils with special educational needs. We also incorporate the advice provided as a result of assessments, both internal and external, and the strategies described in statements of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plans.

As part of our requirement to keep the appropriateness of our curriculum and learning environment under review, the Governors have recently made the following improvements as part of the school's accessibility planning:

- **Play equipment and play areas maintenance reviews taking place annually.**
- **Successful use of interventions and support as directed by SENCo and external agencies.**
- **Development of Pupil progress meetings.**
- **Whole school curriculum map.**
- **Continued work alongside 'Young Carers.'**
- **Pastoral support developed across the school including FLO, counsellors and in school support.**
- **Improved connections with local support services and training.**
- **Increased FLO time supporting families.**
- **Assemblies to raise awareness of special days and events.**
- **PSHCE curriculum review.**
- **Introduction of Zoom and Google classroom for home learning.**

We have identified that the following aspects of the school need to be improved:

- **Ensure specific elements of the accessibility plan are reviewed at premises meetings.**
- **Ensure steps have necessary markings to help with visibility.**
- **Continue to provide training for CTs and TAs – Main stream core standards / Personalised plans / Specific SEND interventions – fine and gross motor, sensory processing, Speech and Language**
- **Continue to develop the monitoring of the foundation curriculum, coverage and standards.**
- **Promote the use of the class laptop/ ICT areas, the use of alternative recording methods depending on the needs of the children.**
- **Continue to monitor and improve the pastoral support available in school.**
- **Continue to develop playtime and unstructured time support for those who have a need.**
- **FLO to continue to support families with attendance issues.**
- **Monitor and review the whole school curriculum map.**

3e Additional support for learning that is available to pupils with special educational needs

As part of our budget we receive 'notional SEN funding'. This funding is used to ensure that the quality of teaching is good in the school and that there are sufficient resources to deploy additional and different teaching for pupils requiring SEN support. The amount of support required for each pupil to make good progress will be different in each case and a full list of the interventions we can offer is on our provision map. In very few cases a very high level of resource is required. The funding arrangements require schools to provide up to £6000 per year of resource for pupils with high needs, and above that amount, the Local Authority should provide top up to the school. High needs top up funding may be applied for.

3f How we enable pupils with special educational needs to engage in activities of the school (including physical activities) together with children who do not have special educational needs

All clubs, trips and activities offered to pupils at Crockenhill Primary School are available to pupils with special educational needs either with or without a statement of special educational needs / Education, Health and Care Plan. Where it is necessary, the school will use the resources available to it to provide additional adult support to enable the safe participation of the pupil in the activity

3g Support that is available for improving the emotional and social development of pupils with special educational needs

At Crockenhill Primary School, we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all pupils to develop emotional resilience and social skills, both through direct teaching for instance, PSHE, circle time, story time, group reading, Wellbeing time and indirectly with every conversation adults have with pupils throughout the day.

For some pupils with the most need for help in this area we also can provide the following: - Chatterbox time, Mentoring from a member of the senior leadership team, external referral to CAHMs, external referral to Local Inclusion Forum Team, time-out space/opportunities for pupil to use when upset or agitated, counselling, play therapy or an alternative time table.

(Some of these interventions are under review – due to COVID)

Pupils in the early stages of emotional and social development because of their special educational needs will be supported to enable them to develop and mature appropriately. This will usually require additional and different resources, beyond that required by pupils who do not need this support.

4 The name and contact details of the SEN Co-ordinator

The SENCO at Crockenhill Primary School is Mrs Liz Carter, who is a qualified teacher and has been accredited by the National Award for SEN Co-ordination and also holds the following qualifications: BEd in Educational Studies, MA in Educational Studies and has completed Designated Child protection co-ordinator training.

Mrs Carter is available through the school office on 03000 658 300, office@crockenhill.kent.sch.uk or sen.co@crockenhill.kent.sch.uk (Normal working hours – Monday – Wednesday)

5 Information about the expertise and training of staff in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and how specialist expertise will be secured

All teachers and teaching assistants have had the following awareness training: Child protection, Safeguarding and Health and Safety.

A number of staff members hold Paediatric first aid certificates.

Some teachers have received enhanced and specialist training, including NQT mentor training, NPQH certification, positive handling training and a PG Diploma in Primary Education. Where a training need is identified beyond this, we will find a provider who is able to deliver it. Training providers we can approach are Special schools, Educational Psychologist, Speech and language therapist, occupational therapists, physiotherapist, Specialist teachers. The cost of training is covered by the notional SEN funding.

Additional Educational Psychology and Speech and Language therapy support is provided by the school to develop specific learning and speech programs monitored and delivered by the SENCo, class teachers and TAs.

6 Information about how equipment and facilities to support children and young people with special educational needs will be secured

Where external advisors recommend the use of equipment or facilities, which the school does not have, we will purchase it using the notional SEN funding, or seek it by loan. For highly specialist communication equipment the school will seek the advice of the KCC Communication and Assistive Technology team.

7 The arrangements for consulting parents of children with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education

All parents of pupils at Crockenhill Primary School are invited to discuss the progress of their children on three occasions per year and receive a written report once a year. In addition, we are happy to arrange meetings outside these times. As part of our normal teaching arrangements, all pupils will access some additional teaching to help them catch-up if the progress monitoring indicates that this is necessary; this will not imply that the pupil has a special educational need. All such provision will be recorded, tracked and evaluated on a Provision Map which will be shared with parents three times per year.

If following this normal provision improvements in progress are not seen, we will contact parents to discuss the use of internal or external assessments which will help us to address these needs better. From this point onwards the pupil will be identified as having special educational needs because special educational provision is being made and the parent will be invited to all planning and reviews of this provision. Parents will be actively encouraged and supported to contribute to the provision their child receives.

In addition to this, parents of pupils with a statement of SEN / Education, Health and Care Plan will be invited to contribute to and attend an annual review, which, wherever possible

will also include other agencies involved with the pupil. Information will be made accessible for parents.

8 The arrangements for consulting young people with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education

When a pupil has been identified to have special educational needs because special educational provision is being made for him or her, we encourage the pupil to be involved in the arrangements made for them. Parents are likely to play a more significant role in the early childhood years with the young person taking more responsibility and acting with greater independence in later years.

9 The arrangements made by the governing body relating to the treatment of complaints from parents of pupils with special educational needs concerning the provision made at our school

The normal arrangements for the treatment of complaints at Crockenhill Primary School are used for complaints about provision made for special educational needs. We encourage parents to discuss their concerns with the class teacher, SENCO or FLO, Deputy Head or the Headteacher to resolve the issue before making the complaint formal to the Chair of the governing body.

If the complaint is not resolved after it has been considered by the governing body, then a disagreement resolution service or mediation service can be contracted. If it remains unresolved after this, the complainant can appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), if the case refers to disability discrimination, or to the Secretary of State for all other cases.

There are some circumstances, usually for children who have a Statement of SEN where there is a statutory right for parents to appeal against a decision of the Local Authority. Complaints which fall within this category cannot be investigated by the school.

10 How the governing body involves other bodies, including health and social services bodies, local authority support services and voluntary organisations, in meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and in supporting the families of such pupils

The governing body have engaged with the following bodies:-

- Free membership of LIFT for access to specialist teaching and learning service
- A Service Level Agreement with Educational Psychology service for 3 days per year
- Link to Disabled Children's Service for support to families for some pupils with high needs

- Access to local authority's service level agreement with Speech and Language Therapy Services / Occupational Therapy Services / Physiotherapy Services for pupil with requirement for direct therapy or advice
- Ability to make ad hoc requests for advice from Communication and Assistive Technology Team, etc.
- Membership of professional networks for SENCO e.g. NAS, SENCO forum, NASEN etc.

11 The contact details of support services for the parents of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and children and young people with SEND up to age 25 (Code of Practice 2015, 6.39)

Information Advice and Support Kent (IASK) provides a free and confidential, information, advice and support service, for parents of a disabled child or child with special educational needs and to children and young people up to age 25 who have a special educational need or disability.

Trained staff can provide impartial legally based information and support on educational matters relating to special educational needs and disabilities, including health and social care. The aim is to empower parents, children and young people to fully participate in discussions and make informed choices and decisions. Also to feel confident to express their views and wishes about education and future aspirations.

They can be contacted on : **HELPLINE:** 03000 41 3000 **Office:** 03000 412412

E-mail: iask@kent.gov.uk www.kent.gov.uk/iask

12 Our arrangements for supporting pupils with special educational needs in transferring between phases of education or in preparing for adulthood and independent living

At Crockenhill Primary School, we work closely with the educational settings used by the pupils before they transfer to us in order to seek the information that will make the transfer as seamless as possible. The class teachers, SENCO and FLO will liaise with the Secondary school staff to ensure that accurate and relevant information is shared. Crockenhill may also be involved in supporting the Secondary Schools with a transition plan, promoting links with Pastoral teams or holiday clubs where pupils have a specific need or difficulty.

We also contribute information to a pupils' onward destination by providing information to the next setting. This may involve attending transition meetings, completing pupil passports or facilitating Primary and Secondary meetings with parents.

13 Information on where the local authority's local offer is published.

The local authority's local offer is published on <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs/local-offer-your-voice> and parents without internet access should make an appointment with the SENCO for support to gain the information they require.

Approved by the GB on

Next review on