

Special Educational Needs Report



Inclusion and Pastoral Lead: Mrs Cath McManus

Including SENCo, Pupil Premium, English as an Additional Language, Looked After Children, More Able, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

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Earls Barton Primary School

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Northamptonshire

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Specialism: Primary 4-11

<http://www.earlsbartonprimary.org.uk/>

Head teacher: Miss M.Lally

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Inspection details

Date of last inspection: Sept 2023

Outcome of last inspection: Good

School Information



KS1 and EYFS building



KS2 building

How we support a parent/carer with a concern or a young person who are worried about their learning

Parents who are concerned about their child's learning should initially contact the class teacher. A conversation can take place and next steps can then be decided.

The school aims to work in partnership with parents and carers. We do so by:

- working effectively with all other agencies supporting children and their parents
- giving parents and carers opportunities to play an active and valued role in their child's education
- making parents and carers feel welcome
- encouraging parents and carers to inform school of any difficulties they perceive their child may be having or other needs the child may have which need addressing
- instilling confidence that the school will listen and act appropriately
- focusing on the child's strengths as well as areas of additional need
- allowing parents and carers opportunities to discuss ways in which they and the school can help their child
- agreeing next steps for all pupils, in particular, those not making expected progress, those in receipt of pupil premium funding, those with English as an additional language. For some pupils identified as having special educational needs, an ILP (Individual Learning Plan) will be drawn up, involving parents when deciding the key areas of focus and monitoring progress against targets within these plans.
- keeping parents and carers informed and giving support during assessment and any related decision-making process
- making parents and carers aware of the support available as part of the Local Offer.
- providing all information in an accessible way, including, where necessary, translated information for parents with English as an Additional Language.



Pupils with SEN along with their peers are assessed termly by the class teacher and this information is used to update interventions and the support needed. This will give parents the opportunity to record their concerns, be updated on their child's progress/attainment and help to agree outcomes for the pupil in order to prepare them for the next phase of education e.g. Foundation Stage to KS1, KS1 to KS2, KS2 to KS3.

Our arrangements for consulting parents of children with SEN and involving them in their child's education

The school works closely with parents and carers in the support of those children with special educational needs.

We encourage an active partnership through an ongoing dialogue with parents and carers. The home-school agreement is central to this. Parents and carers have much to contribute to our support for children with special educational needs.

Two named governors take a particular interest in special needs and are always willing to talk to parents and carers.

We have regular opportunities each term to share the progress of special needs children with their parents or carers. There are a range of opportunities for parents to discuss progress including Parents Evenings, formal reports and meetings with the class teacher or Senco (which can be arranged at any time) and a half termly Tea & Talk session with inclusion staff. Staff are happy to make themselves available to discuss any pupils including those with SEND, if an appointment is made through the school office.

If the pupil is identified as having special education needs then they will have an ILP (Individual Learning Plan) and Pupil Passport written by their class teacher in conjunction with the Inclusion lead. This information will be shared with parents electronically three times a year through discussion of the ILP review at Parents Evenings twice yearly and the third instance by telephone communication. Parents of pupils with SEND also have 24/7 access to our provision mapping tool where all plans and provisions can be viewed.

Involvement of Pupils

We recognise that all pupils have the right to be involved in making decisions and exercising choice. In most lessons, all pupils are involved in monitoring and reviewing their progress through the use of differentiated learning activities and feedback information from the class teacher. We endeavour to fully involve all pupils by encouraging them to:

- state their views about their education and learning
- identify and celebrate their strengths
- identify their own needs and learn about learning
- self-review their progress and identify next steps

- For some pupils with special educational needs monitor their success at achieving the targets on their Individual Learning Plan. Pupils are also involved in a pupil voice session with their teacher/TA to create and/or update their Pupil Passport twice yearly.

Our arrangements for consulting young people with SEN and involving them in their education

Pupils are asked to comment on and review their progress at the end of each full term and through Annual Reviews of Education Health Care Plans.

Pupils voice is also recorded twice yearly through the writing and updating of the pupil passport.

The ideal is to lead up to 'real participation' where the children have an idea of the areas of difficulty and where they want to be by the end of KS2. Obviously, the younger the child, the more adult initiated this will be.

The kinds of Special Educational Needs which are provided for in our school :

As an inclusive school we do not seek to closely define the special educational needs for which we will make provision. We aim to provide for a wide range of different needs. This includes pupils with:

- Dyslexia
- Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Dyspraxia
- Visual Impairment
- Hearing Impairment, including the use of FM systems and audio aids.
- Medical Needs impacting on learning
- Significant speech delay
- Physical disability
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

In admitting pupils with special educational needs we would expect to have informative discussions with both the pupil's family and the local authority (where appropriate) to ascertain the suitability of our provision. We understand that it is initially our responsibility to make provision for a pupil with special educational needs through the school's devolved SEN budget. Thereafter we are aware of the process of applying for Early Help Locality Funding if the pupil's needs make that a necessity. As a mainstream school it can be difficult for us to make provision for pupils whose needs and/or demands are significant, severe or profound – to the extent that it could be argued that they would be most appropriately placed in a special school. However, we do not rule this out and would make a careful assessment of the needs of each pupil in constructive conversation with other agencies.

Our policies for identifying children and young people with SEN and assessing their needs

The benefits of Early Identification are widely recognised. Special Educational Needs mean that a pupil requires different from, or additional to, that which is normally available to all pupils. Class Teachers will use their assessments to identify pupils whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers.
- Fails to match the child's previous rate of progress.
- Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers.
- Widens the attainment gap.

Our first response to a pupil's learning will always be quality first teaching which will be targeted at areas of difficulty. If the gap continues to widen, the pupil will be monitored by gathering evidence compared to the work of their peers and this will include the views of the parents and the pupil. During the information gathering period, interventions will be put in place to secure better progress and discussions will occur between parents and the class teacher in the first instance. Termly conversations occur through pupil progress meetings with the class teacher to monitor these children and parents involved when necessary.

At Earls Barton Primary School, the Inclusion Lead has access to a range of different assessment materials which she will use to help identify strengths and weaknesses of the child's learning profile. This includes literacy, maths, phonics assessments, a dyslexia screener tool and speech and language assessments. In accordance with the 2015 SEND Code of Practice as part of the 2014 Children and Families Act, this follows the graduated approach of 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review.



Support, strategies and interventions will then be put in place. For those children who are not on the SEN Support list but who have been highlighted as not making expected progress, details will be documented on the whole school provision map. For those children on the SEND Support list provisions will also be documented on their individual learning plan.

If a pupil continues to make less than expected progress or continues to work at levels substantially lower than that of their peers, despite support and interventions then an external agency will be involved. The Inclusion Lead will work in conjunction with the class teacher to gather evidence and decide which external agency would best fit to suit the individual needs of that pupil.

The Role of the Senco:

- Oversee the day-to-day operation of the SEND policy.
- Coordinates provision for pupils.
- Liaise with parents of pupils with SEN.
- Liaise with Early Years providers, next phase settings and external agencies.
- Ensure that records are kept up to date.

Our arrangements for assessing and reviewing children and young people's progress towards outcomes

Pupils with SEND along with their peers are assessed termly and this information is used to update interventions and the support needed. This information will be shared with parents according to the data cycle. This will give parents the opportunity to record their concerns, be updated on their child's progress/attainment and help to agree outcomes for the pupil in order to prepare them for the next phase of education e.g. FS to KS1, KS1 to KS2, KS2 to KS3.



If required, for a child with communication difficulties, a Home/School book will be used for information about things that may have happened at school and for the parent to share any information about things that have happened at home.

For pupils with SEN, if additional learning is to be completed i.e. for their targets on their Individual Learning Plan, then this will be discussed and recorded in the termly ILP Reviews.

How children and young people with SEN are enabled to engage in activities available with children and young people in the school who do not have SEN

As an inclusive school, we do everything we can to ensure that pupils of all abilities and needs are fully included in the life of the school.

Where appropriate and legitimate, we endeavour to provide different ways for all learners to access the same learning experience, rather than withdrawing pupils and providing an entirely different activity.



Our deployment of additional staffing and resources funded from our devolved additional needs budget through the Local Offer, ensure that all curriculum experiences are available to all pupils in the school (e.g. educational visits, extra-curricular activities), particularly where a voluntary financial contribution from parents is required for the activity to run. This is in compliance with the Equality Act 2010.

We are fully committed to promoting equal opportunities throughout the school and children with SEND have access to the same activities as those children without SEND. Risk assessments are carried out and the same opportunities are offered to children with SEND who may need additional support with the activity. This is carried out in partnership with parents/carers.

All lesson planning seeks to address the learning needs of all pupils in the class. Teachers receive regular training and support to ensure they are skilled in differentiating the curriculum for vulnerable learners. When subject coordinators monitor planning, work and progress data and when they or senior leaders carry out observations of teaching and learning in classrooms, particular attention is given to whether the ongoing learning offer is inclusive.

Pupils are encouraged to analyse how they themselves learn and there is an ongoing dialogue about this in our classroom. Pupils are given the opportunity and support to develop age appropriate self-help strategies to ensure their full access to the curriculum.

Admission Arrangements

No child will be refused admission to school on the basis of his or her special educational need, ethnicity or language need. In line with the Equalities Act 2010, we do not discriminate against disabled children and we will take all reasonable steps to provide effective educational provision (see Admission policy for the school, as agreed with the Local Authority)

Our approach to teaching children and young people with SEN

When a pupil has been recognised as having Special Educational Needs, the first step is to target their areas of difficulty through quality first teaching and this is to be differentiated so that the pupil's individual needs are addressed.

If the pupil requires additional support and intervention, this will be planned by the teacher, phase lead, SENCO, Senior Leadership team (where needed) and intervention lead TA.

The pupil will have an Individual Learning plan which will provide details of the views of the pupil, their attainment over time, key provision details, reasonable adjustments and individualised targets.

For children with more complex needs, who may need Early Help Locality Funding or a Request for Statutory Assessment, in which the Local Authority undertake a full assessment of the child's need to ascertain whether they need an Education, health and Care Plan, it may be decided that an Educational Psychology Assessment should be commissioned to support this process.

All lessons are differentiated at Earls Barton Primary School which enables all abilities to achieve in lessons.

How we make adaptations to the curriculum and our learning environments:

Our Mission Statement talks about the commitment the school has to giving all of our children every opportunity to achieve their potential. We do this by taking account of pupils' varied life experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum and have high expectations for all children. The achievements, attitudes and wellbeing of all our children matter. This policy helps to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.

The National Curriculum is our starting point for planning a curriculum that meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. We meet these needs through;

- setting suitable learning challenges;
- responding to children's diverse learning needs;
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils;
- providing other curricular opportunities outside the National Curriculum to meet the needs of individuals or groups.

We achieve educational inclusion by continually reviewing what we do, through asking ourselves these key questions:

- do all our children achieve their best?
- are there differences in the achievement of different groups of children?
- what are we doing for those children who we know are not achieving their best?
- are our actions effective?
- Are we successful in promoting racial harmony and preparing pupils to live in a diverse society?

We aim to give all our children the opportunity to succeed and reach the highest level of personal achievement. We analyse the attainment of different groups of pupils to ensure that all pupils are achieving as much as they can. We also make ongoing assessments of each child's progress. Teachers use this information when planning their lessons. It enables them to take into account the abilities of all their children. We also have several evidence based interventions that can be adapted to meet the pupil's individual needs.

When the attainment of a child falls significantly below the expected level, teachers enable the child to succeed by planning work that is in line with that child's individual needs. Where the attainment of a child significantly exceeds the expected level of attainment teachers extend the breadth of work within the area or areas for which the child shows particular aptitude.

Reasonable adjustments can also be made to learning environments, including use of ramps and disabled toilets alongside aids for learning e.g. laptops, chairs etc. to ensure that all children are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum.

We recognise that children are individuals and they learn in different ways and different paces.

The task for the teachers is to fully engage all children in the learning process, and for those children who find learning more challenging, the approaches need to be adapted to enable this engagement to be possible. We do this by varying the resources that children can use, e.g. use of different colour paper (typically for those children with dyslexia traits). Using alternative means of recording if handwriting is an issue. Visual resources will be heavily used for those children who need extra visual support e.g. use of concrete maths apparatus, pictures to support vocabulary used in lessons etc.



What is our expertise in school to support children and young people with SEN and how we secure specialist expertise?

The Inclusion Lead has successfully completed the National Award for SEN coordination at Northampton University (PGCert). She regularly attends county training, conferences and senco forums.

Within Earls Barton Primary School it has been identified we have a specific need for Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) input. The school employs Beth Shelley beth@traintalk.org.uk a qualified SALT for one afternoon every two weeks to support specific children and liaise with the specialist TA delivering 1:1 and small group speech and language interventions.

All staff will be trained in how to best support all vulnerable learners in order to maximise their achievement as part of the school development plan and annual schedule of continuous professional development. Specific training needs will be identified and met through the appraisal/performance management process.

Specialist advice and expertise in relation to assessment and support of individual pupils is commissioned by the school from the open market, accessing, as far as possible, services available as part of the Local Offer. Service level agreements and quality assurance criteria are put in place at the point of commissioning and the headteacher and senior leaders are responsible for reporting to governors on the efficacy of these arrangements (including value for money).

All staffing appointments to support vulnerable learners will be carried out in accordance with equal opportunities legislation, employment law, safer recruiting policy and best practice. All vacancies will be competitively advertised to ensure our school employs staff of the highest calibre.

The SENCo at Earls Barton Primary School is Cath McManus. Her title as 'Inclusion and Pastoral Lead' incorporates the role of SENCo.

In accordance with Section 6 of the SEN Code of Practice 2014, if appointed after September 2008, our Special Educational Needs Coordinator will be a qualified teacher working at our school and will have statutory accreditation. If a new SENCO is appointed, he/she will gain statutory accreditation within three years of appointment.

All staff are able to access training which will best equip them to cater for all pupils regardless of SEN or ability. If extra training is required to meet a particular pupil's needs, the SENCo/Head teacher will inform the member of staff of the relevant training and ensure their participation which will then be cascaded to all staff if appropriate.

If a pupil is to come to our school whose needs we have not encountered before, we will ensure that we have all the current information from parents and the pupil and any agencies that have been involved and ensure that staff have the relevant training to update their skills so that the child's individual needs will be addressed.



The Inclusion Lead can access a range of external agencies including Health (Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Health, Paediatrician, Physiotherapist, Specialist Health Visitor, CAMHS) Educational Psychology and local authority Outreach services for SEMH and Cognition & Learning.

The following are the training sessions pertaining to SEND that the members of staff have received or are about to receive:

- Epipen
- Team Teach Training
- Speech and Language Training
- Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) programme
- Our new behaviour system, The Empowerment Approach, is based on trauma informed practice.
- Assessment For All training (small steps assessment framework for children pre key stage)
- Attachment Awareness
- Protective Behaviours Training
- Restorative Approach
- Autism/ADHD training
- Numicon Training
- Dyslexia training
- The SEND Code of Practice

How do we evaluate the effectiveness of the provision made for children and young people with SEN

Interventions are monitored by the Intervention Lead, Class Teacher, SENCo, Senior Leadership Team and SEN Governor. The progress of pupils with SEND is analysed termly by the SENCo and SLT. This information is shared with the Governors through the head Teachers report and through the Inclusion Governors who have regular updates from the SENCo.

If the school judges that the impact on learning is not sufficient, we will seek advice from external agencies and from other schools in order for the best fit intervention and support for that individual pupil to be implemented. The parents of the pupil with SEND will be involved at every stage.



How do we provide support for improving emotional and social development including pastoral support

At Earls Barton Primary School, we provide pastoral support through class teachers, SEN Lead TA, Reading Lead TA and in KS1, teaching assistants for all pupils including those with SEND. We also have an ELSA, two Behaviour Support Workers (and Nurture lead), Nurture Assistant and Family Support Worker who support children in school. Arrangements at playtimes for children who struggle to manage unstructured times can be offered if required. We have a School Nurse that we can contact for additional support and advice if required.

More recently the need for a more bespoke provision for younger pupils who are struggling with Emotional and social development has arisen and therefore we have offered an in-school nurture provision, led by one of our BSW and running daily from 8.45-11.30am.

We can refer to the Duty Officer for Social Services via the Designated Senior Person. The Designated Safeguarding Officers are Miss Lally, Headteacher, Mr Morris, Deputy Headteacher, Mrs McManus, SENCo, Mrs Brennan, Family Support Worker. We also offer Early Help Assessments for families who need support. All members of the Pastoral Team have received Designated Safeguarding Lead training.

All members of staff receive Safeguarding training annually.

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

When specialist equipment or a high level of staffing support is required to support a pupil with special educational needs, our school funds this as additional SEN support up to £6,000 per annum for each individual pupil. Thereafter, if the cost is higher and the provision of these facilities is likely to be prolonged, the school can apply to the Local Authority for Early Help Locality Funding.

Specialist equipment and expertise in relation to its use will be purchased/hired/ commissioned by the school from the open market, subject to the usual guarantees, service level agreements and quality assurance criteria.

How we involve other bodies, including health and social care, LA support services and voluntary sector organisations

The governing body have designated governors in charge of SEND at Earls Barton Primary School. These governors meet regularly with the SENCo and are updated in all matters pertaining to SEND at our school. This includes being kept informed of any bodies that are working with the school to assist with particular children.

Our school identifies sources of support as they develop and evolve as the Local Offer is defined through Education, Health and Social Care (including the establishment of joint commissioning arrangements).

We seek to respond quickly to emerging need and work closely with other agencies including:

- Early Help Assessment (EHA) team
- CAMHS
- Service 6
- Educational Psychology (privately commissioned.)
- Rowengate cognition & Learning Outreach Team.
- Maplefields SEMG Outreach Team.
- Information Advice Support Service for SEND in Northamptonshire (IASS)
- NCC Sensory Impairment team
- Specialist Support Services (SSS)
- Local NHS services
- **Strengthening Families.**
- Educational Inclusion Partnership (EIPT)
- Early Years SEN support service (Including Portage team)
- Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
- Children and Families services
- Northampton Saints Foundation
- Northampton Cobblers
- TRUST programme (New Leaf Learning)
- Forest Schools
- Speech and Language Therapy (privately commissioned)
- Occupational Therapy (privately commissioned)

- Secondary schools and pre-schools or transition purposes.

In accordance with the SEND Code of practice 2015 we invite all relevant agencies to annual review meetings, transition meetings and specific provision planning meetings involving pupils with special educational needs in our school. For pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans, we comply fully with requests from independent facilitators to provide information and cooperate fully with other agencies.

Often at the request of families, we liaise with voluntary bodies in order to be as familiar as possible with best practice when the special educational needs of a pupil are very specific (eg autism, visual impairment etc.).

Contact details for the support services for parents and carers of these pupils, including those for arrangements made in accordance with Section 32 (Children and Families Act 2014)

The SENCO makes the referrals to the appropriate agencies.

Our arrangements for supporting children and young people in moving between phases of education and in preparing for adulthood



Pupils and parents are encouraged to consider all options for the next phase of education and the school will involve outside agencies, as appropriate, to ensure information is comprehensive but easily accessible and understandable. Accompanied visits to other providers may be arranged as appropriate. The school encourages parents of children with SEND to start considering this process in year 5

Support for the pupil in coming to terms with moving on is carefully planned and will include familiarisation visits. Pupils are included in all "class transition days" to the next phase but may also be offered additional transition visits.

We work hard to facilitate a smooth transition into our school from the previous phase of education and from our school into the next phase of education.

When a pupil with SEND is due to transfer to the next phase of education e.g. KS2 to KS3, the Senco will arrange for all pupils with SEND to have additional visits where their questions can be answered in a small group situation. All the information on the specific details of the individual needs of the pupil will be communicated to the next school's Senco. Earls Barton primary school's SENCo will offer to support parents at secondary school transition meetings if required and will arrange a meeting with the parents and the secondary school, if required, so that their concerns will be addressed.

Extra support is also available leading up to the transfer of the school the child may transfer to. It is usual practice for an SEND assistant from the transfer school and any external agencies who are already involved to visit the child prior to transfer.

Timescale - the information is passed to the SENCo of the Secondary School early in the Summer term.

The additional visits usually take place in June and July.

Parents are given a named contact at the next phase provider with whom the SENCo will liaise.

How we contribute to the publication of the local authority's local offer.

Information about this school's Local Offer and other SEN information is published on the school website

Information about the Local Authority's Local Offer can be found by following this link

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

Arrangements made by the governing body or the proprietor relating to the treatment of complaints from parents of pupils with special educational needs concerning the provision made at the school.

If there are any complaints relating to the provision for children with SEND or EAL these will be dealt with in the first instance by the class teacher and Senco then, if unresolved, by the head teacher. The governor with specific responsibility for SEN/inclusion may be involved if necessary. In the case of an unresolved complaint the issue should be taken through the general Governors complaints procedure (see separate Complaints Policy)

Where parents or carers of a pupil with SEND feel that a situation has not been resolved through contact with the class teacher, or that their concern is of a sufficiently serious nature, they should make an appointment to discuss it with the SENCo or headteacher. The SENCo/ headteacher considers any such complaint very seriously and investigates each case thoroughly. Most complaints are normally resolved by this stage.

Should any parents or carers have a complaint about the headteacher, they should first make an informal approach to one of the members of the governing body, who is obliged to investigate it. The governor in question will do all she or he can to resolve the issue through a dialogue with the school, but if parents or carers are unhappy with the outcome, they can make a formal complaint by making it in writing addressed to the Chair of Governors.

We strive to provide a good education for all our children. The head teacher and staff work very hard to build positive relationships with all parents and carers. However, the school is obliged to have procedures in place in case there are complaints by parents or guardians. The following policy sets out the procedures that the school follows in such cases.

We deal with all complaints in accordance with procedures laid down by the LA. If the school itself cannot resolve a complaint, those concerned can refer the matter to the Local Authority.

