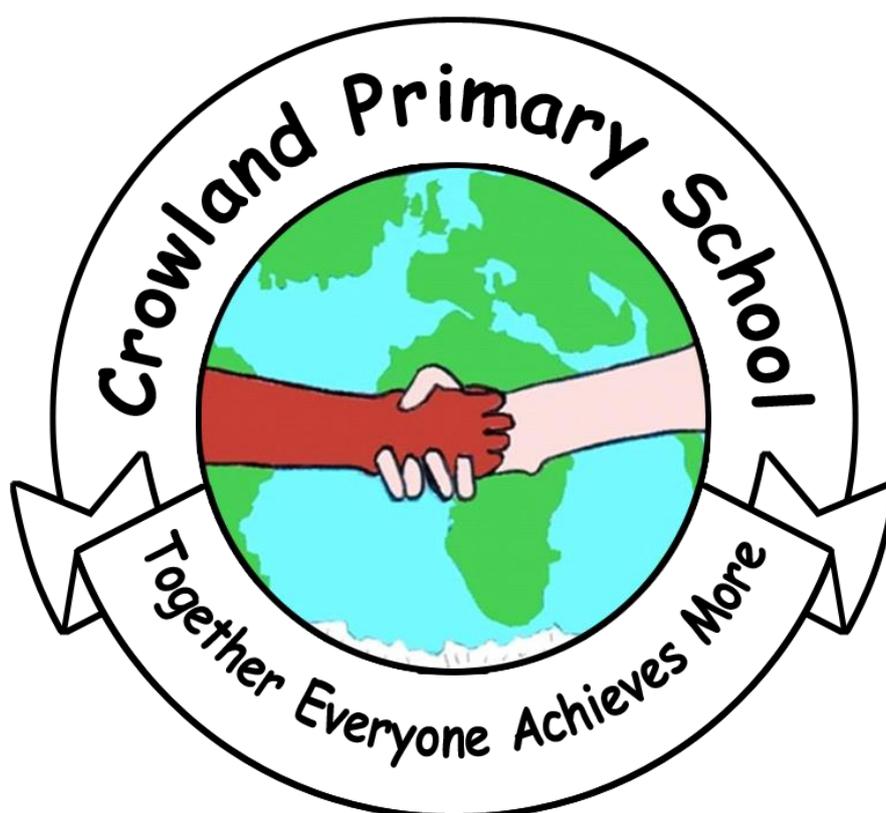


# CROWLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



SEND Policy 2014

# **Crowland Primary school**

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy**

### **Introduction**

Crowland primary School has a named Assistant Head for Inclusion (Maureen Dyer and a named Governor responsible for SEND (Ms Katherine Hills). They ensure that the Crowland Special Educational Needs policy works within the guidelines and inclusion policies of the Code of Practice (2014), the Local Education Authority and other policies current within the school.

Here it is the belief that all children have an equal right to a full and rounded education which will enable them to achieve their full potential. We use our best endeavours to secure special educational provision for pupils for whom this is required, that is 'additional to and different from' that provided within the differentiated curriculum to better respond to the four areas of need identified in the new Code of Practice (September 2014).

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Social, mental and emotional health
- Sensory/physical

### **What are special educational needs?**

A child or young person 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 learning difficulty or disability is a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age. Special educational provision means educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for others of the same age in a mainstream setting in England. Health care provision or social care provision which educates or trains a child or young person is to be treated as special educational provision. Code of Practice 2014

This SEND policy details how, at Crowland, we will do our best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs and that those needs are known to all who are likely to work with them. We will ensure that teachers are able to identify and provide for those pupils with special educational needs, allowing them to join in all school activities together with pupils who do not have special educational needs. Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

### **Aims and objectives**

The aims of this policy are:

- to create an environment that meets the special educational needs of each child in order that they can achieve their learning potential and engage in activities alongside pupils who do not have SEND

- To request, monitor and respond to parents/carers and pupils views in order to evidence high levels of confidence and partnership
- To make clear the expectations of all partners in the process
- To ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need, through well targeted continuing professional development
- To ensure support for pupils with medical conditions full inclusion in all school activities by ensuring consultation with health and social care professionals
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of all staff in providing for children's special educational needs
- Through reasonable adjustments to enable all children to have full access to all elements of the school curriculum
- to work in cooperation and productive partnerships with the Local Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners

### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

Through all subjects we ensure that the school meets the needs of all, taking account of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, language, sexual orientation, age, ability, disability and social circumstances. It is important that in this school we meet the diverse needs of pupils to ensure inclusion for all and that all pupils are prepared for full participation in a multi-ethnic society. At Crowland Primary School, staff and governors work within the Equality Act 2010.

### **Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that children:**

- have different educational and behavioural needs and aspirations
- require different strategies for learning
- acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates
- need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences

### **Teachers respond to children's needs by:**

- providing support for children who need help with communication, language and literacy
  - planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all available senses and experiences
  - planning for children's full participation in learning, and in physical and practical activities
- Special Educational Needs (SEND) Policy
- helping children to manage and own their behaviour and to take part in learning effectively and safely
  - helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning

### **Identification, Assessment and Provision**

Under the new code of practice, there are 4 categories of need or difficulty:

1. Communication and Interaction
2. Cognition and learning

3. Social emotional and mental development
4. Sensory and /or physical needs.

At Crowland we recognise that early identification, assessment and provision for SEND are very important.

Provision for children with special educational needs is a matter for the whole school.

The governing body, the school's head teacher, the SENCO and all other members of staff, particularly class teachers and teaching assistants, have important day-to-day responsibilities. All teachers are teachers of children with special educational needs. The school will assess each child's current levels of attainment on entry in order to ensure that they build on the patterns of learning and experience already established during the child's pre-school years. If the child already has an identified special educational need, this information may be transferred from other partners in their Early Years setting and the class teacher and SENCO will use this information to:

- Provide starting points for the development of an appropriate curriculum.
- Identify and focus attention on action to support the child within the class.
- Use the assessment processes to identify any learning difficulties.
- Ensure ongoing observation and assessments provide regular feedback about the child's achievements and experiences to form the basis for planning the next steps of the child's learning.

The identification and assessment of the special educational needs of children whose first language is not English requires particular care. Where there is uncertainty about a particular child, a teacher will look carefully at all aspects of the child's performance in different subjects to establish whether the problems are due to limitations in their command of English or arises from special educational needs.

## **Admission**

Children are admitted to Crowland on the availability of places. In order to ensure inclusion each child's particular needs are considered upon entry to school. We may need to have detailed meetings with families, outside agencies and the previous school to ensure we cater fully for a child with SEN's needs, prior to the child starting.

Crowland Primary School does not discriminate against children with SEN. In our admission arrangements, we ensure that all reasonable adjustments are made, in consultation with the LA, to meet their requirements.

## **The Role of the Assistant Head for Inclusion**

The Assistant Head for Inclusion [SENCO] responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEND provision.
- Co-ordinating provision for children with SEND.
- Liaising with and advising staff.

- responsible for the records of all children with SEND.
  - Liaising with parents of children with SEND.
  - Contributing to the in-service training of staff.
  - Liaising with local secondary schools to support transition
  - Liaising with external agencies including the LA's support and educational psychology services, health and social services and voluntary bodies.
  - Co-ordinating and developing school based strategies for the identification and review of children with SEND.
  - Making regular visits to classrooms to monitor the progress of children on the Special Educational Needs Register
- Providing specialist support for SEND children

### **Monitoring Children's progress**

During Pupil progress meetings class teachers discuss the progress of all their pupils with the Head teacher and SENCO. Additional class review meetings can be set up if need be. The children currently on the SEND register and any other children who are causing concern are discussed. Decisions will be made as to whether to add or remove children from the SEND register. During the Pupil Progress Meetings use of teaching assistants allocated to the class to support children with SEND is also discussed and additional time is set aside to do this if need be.

All children should be involved in every stage of the SEND procedure including review meetings where targets are set and reviewed. At Crowland Primary School we recognise that some children's level of involvement will be limited, particularly in the Foundation Stage. We also understand that this involvement may be confusing and stressful for some children and appreciate the need not to overburden them.

The child can be invited in for the final five minutes of a meeting or to the whole meeting to share their views and discuss any concerns. This gives the adults involved an opportunity to discuss and share new targets and support arrangements with them. However if the SENCO, parent/carer or class teacher consider this to be too disruptive, the decisions taken will be shared and discussed with the child at a more appropriate time.

The school's system for observing and assessing the progress of individual children will provide information about areas where a child is not progressing satisfactorily. Under these circumstances, teachers may need to consult the SENCO to consider what else might be done. This review might lead to the conclusion that the pupil requires help over and above that which is normally available within the particular class or subject.

The key test of the need for action is that current rates of progress are inadequate.

Adequate progress can be identified as that which:

- Prevents the attainment gap between the child and his peers from widening.
- Closes the attainment gap between the child and his peers.
- Better the child's previous rate of progress.

- Ensures access to the full curriculum.
- Demonstrates an improvement in self-help, social or personal skills.
- Demonstrates improvements in the child's behaviour.

In order to help children with special educational needs, Crowland will adopt a graduated response. This may see us using specialist expertise if as a school we feel that our interventions are still not having an impact on the individual. The school will record the steps taken to meet the needs of individual children through the use of a Provision Map and the SENCO will have responsibility for ensuring that records are kept and available when needed. If we refer a child for statutory assessment/Education Health and Care Plan, we will provide the LEA with a record of our work with the child to date.

### **Procedure for Concern**

When any concern is initially noticed it is the responsibility of the class teacher to take steps to address the issue. An initial concern form should be completed by the class teacher (see attached). The class teacher will collate information relating to any difficulties. The child's progress is then monitored over half a term. Parents may be consulted and specific intervention put in place and monitored for a period of up to 6 weeks. If no progress is noted after this time the child may be added to the school SEND register, as SEN support.

The class teacher after discussion with the SENCO will then provide additional interventions that are additional to those provided as part of the school's differentiated curriculum and the child will be given a provision map with individual learning targets which will be applied within the classroom. These targets will be monitored by the class teacher and teaching assistants within the class and reviewed formally with the SENCO, parents and in some cases the young person.

### **Reasons for a child being added to the SEND register may include the fact that he/she:**

- Makes little or no progress, even when teaching approaches are targeted particularly in a child's identified area of weakness.
- Shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematics skills which result in poor attainment in some curriculum areas.
- Presents persistent emotional or behavioural difficulties which are not improved by the behaviour management techniques usually employed in the school.
- Has sensory or physical problems, and continues to make little or no progress, despite the provision of specialist equipment.
- Has communication and / or interaction difficulties, and continues to make little or no progress.

### **Parental Involvement**

Parental involvement plays a key role in enabling children and young people with SEND to achieve their potential. Parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of a child's needs. All parents of children with special educational needs will be treated as partners given support to play an active and valued role in their child's education.

Children and young people with special educational needs often have a unique knowledge of their own needs and their views about what sort of help they would like. They will be encouraged to contribute to the assessment of their needs, the review and transition process. The school website contains details of local offer, including the arrangements made for children in our school with special educational needs.

At all stages of the special needs process, the school keeps parents fully informed and involved. We take account of the wishes, feelings and knowledge of parents at all stages.

We encourage parents to make an active contribution to their child's education and have regular meetings each half term to share the progress of special needs children with their parents. We inform the parents of any outside intervention, and share the process of decision-making by providing clear information relating to the education of their child.

## **Interventions**

The SENCO and the child's class teacher will decide on the action needed to help the child progress in the light of earlier assessments. This may include:

- Different learning materials or specialist equipment.
- Some group or individual support, which may involve small groups of children being withdrawn to work with the SENCO; or, with TA support.
- Extra adult time to devise/administer the nature of the planned intervention and also to monitor its effectiveness.
- Staff development and training to introduce more effective strategies.

After initial discussions with the SENCO, the child's class teacher will be responsible for working with the child, ensuring delivery of any individualised programme in the classroom. Parents will continue to be consulted and kept informed of the action taken to help their child, and of the outcome of any action. Parents will be invited to meet regularly with the class teacher and SENCO and they will have specific time slots to discuss Individual Learning targets and progress with the SENCO on termly basis.

The SENCO will support further assessment of the child where necessary, assisting in planning for their future needs in discussion with colleagues and parents.

## **The use of outside agencies**

The school has links with a wide range of support services including the Educational Psychologist, Haringey Language Support Team, Speech and Language Therapy, the Educational Welfare Office, Family Support Workers, CAMHS, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Autism Team, the school nurse, Social Services and voluntary organisations

such as Mark field and Resources for Autism.

These services may become involved if a child continues to make little or no progress despite considerable input and adaptations. They will use the child's records in order to establish which strategies have already been employed and which targets have previously been set.

The external specialist may act in an advisory capacity, or provide additional specialist assessment or be involved in teaching the child directly. The child's Individual targets will set out strategies for supporting the child's progress. These will be implemented, at least in part, in the normal classroom setting. The delivery of the interventions recorded in the provision map continues to be the responsibility of the class teacher.

### **Outside agencies may become involved if the child:**

- Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period.
- Continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age.
- Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematical skills.
- Has emotional or behavioural difficulties which regularly and substantially interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class group.
- Has sensory or physical needs and requires additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service.
- Has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and cause substantial barriers to learning.
- Despite having received intervention, the child continues to fall behind the level of his peers.

### **School Request for Statutory Assessment or Education Health and Care Plans (From September 2014)**

A request will be made by the school to the LEA if the child has demonstrated significant cause for concern. The LEA will be given information about the child's progress over time, and will also receive documentation in relation to the child's special educational needs and any other action taken to deal with those needs, including any resources or special arrangements put in place.

The evidence will include:

- Previous provision plans and targets for the pupil.
- Records of regular reviews and their outcomes.
- Records of the child's health and medical history where appropriate.
- National Curriculum attainment levels in literacy and numeracy.
- Education and other assessments, for example from an advisory specialist support teacher or educational psychologist.
- Views of the parents.

The parents of any child who is referred for statutory assessment will be kept fully informed of the progress of the referral. Children with a statement of special educational needs will be reviewed each half term in addition to the statutory annual assessment. When this coincides with transfer to high school, the SENCO from the high school will be informed of the outcome of the review.

## **Provision Plans**

Strategies employed to enable the child to progress will be recorded in a provision Plan which will include information about:

- The short term targets set for the child.
- The teaching strategies to be used.
- The provision to be put in place.
- How the targets will help the child in their learning
- What they are responsible for
- How the child can be successful
- The review date.
- Mid-point review sheets are stored on the school system and updated regularly by teachers and teaching assistants
- The child's views will be sought and taken into account, as will those of the parents, whose support is vital if progress is to be achieved and maintained.

## **Access to the Curriculum**

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable children to understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities and experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.

Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs.

Lessons have clear learning objectives and staff differentiate work appropriately, and use assessment to inform the next stage of learning. All staff use different 'Teaching and Learning styles' and brain friendly learning that has led to members of staff planning lessons that incorporate the different learning styles that children have Individual education plans, which employ a small-steps approach, feature significantly in the provision that we make in the school. By breaking down the existing levels of attainment into finely graded steps and targets, we ensure that children experience success. All children on the special needs register have a provision plan with individual targets.

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom situation. There are times though when, to maximise learning, we ask the children to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom.

## **Allocation of resources**

The SENCO is responsible for the operational management of the specified and agreed resourcing for special needs provision within the school, including the provision for children with statements of special educational needs and Education Health and Care plans.

The head teacher informs the governing body of how the funding allocated to support special educational needs has been employed.

The head teacher and the SENCO meet annually to agree on how to use funds directly related to statements. The head teacher has overall responsibility for SEND throughout the school.

### **The role of the governing body**

The governing body challenges the school and its members to secure necessary provision for any pupil identified as having special educational needs. They ask probing questions to ensure all teachers are aware of the importance of providing for these children and ensure that funds and resources are used effectively. The Governing Body reviews this policy annually and considers any amendments in light of the annual review findings. The Head teacher reports the outcome of the review to the full governing body.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

The SENCO monitors the movement of children within the SEND system in school and provides staff and governors with regular summaries of the impact of the policy on the practice of the school. They are involved in supporting teachers and in drawing up Provision Plans for children. The SENCO and the head teacher hold regular meetings to review the work of the school in this area. In addition the SENCO and the named governor with responsibility for special needs also hold regular meeting

### **Complaints**

If a parent is dissatisfied with Crowland's approach to their child's Special Educational Need, they should first discuss it with the SENCO or Head teacher. Further advice and support can be gained from the SEND Department of Children and Young People's Services based in Haringey.

### **Inset/Staff development**

The SENCO will attend regular conferences and meetings organised by the LA and relevant information is shared with staff.

### **Transition Arrangements**

When children already identified as having a disability or special educational needs transfer from other schools, to ensure continuity of learning we will use their records. We will also arrange a meeting with the families to discuss provision at the school and as a basis for future partnerships. If necessary we will contact staff at the previous school. Similarly, when children

leave Crowland the SENCO will forward information promptly and arrange to talk to staff about the child's needs as necessary.

At the Year 5 Annual Review of a child's Statement of Special Educational need, discussions will take place about what kind of provision will be needed at secondary school and indicate parental preferences of secondary school.

In Year 6 the SENCO will make links with the SENCO at the prospective secondary school to enable them to make plans appropriate to the child's needs.

September 2014

Written by: Maureen Dyer

Review Date: September 2016