



Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

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Adopted by the Governing Body – 3 August 2012

To be reviewed

Purpose

This school believes that each pupil has individual and unique needs. However, some pupils require more support than others to achieve the five outcomes of Every Child Matters. We acknowledge that a significant proportion of pupils will have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) at some time in their school career. Many of these pupils may require help throughout their time in school, while others may need a little extra support for a short period to help them overcome more temporary needs. If these pupils are to achieve their full potential, we must recognise this and plan accordingly.

This school aims to provide all pupils with strategies for dealing with their needs in a supportive environment, and to give them meaningful access to the wider curriculum on offer in The Da Vinci School. In particular, we aim to:

- Enable every pupil to experience success
- Promote individual confidence and a positive attitude
- Ensure that all pupils, whatever their special educational needs, receive appropriate educational provision through a broad and balanced curriculum that is relevant and differentiated, and that demonstrates coherence and progression in learning
- Give pupils with SEND equal opportunities to take part in all aspects of the school's provision, as far as is appropriate, including work experience and the whole range of extension and enrichment activities
- Ensure that pupils with SEND have opportunities to receive and make known information, to express an opinion, and have that opinion taken into account in any matters affecting them
- Identify, assess, record and regularly review pupils' progress and needs
- Involve parents/carers in planning and supporting at all stages of their child's development
- Work collaboratively with parents, other professionals and support services
- Ensure that the responsibility held by all staff and governors for SEND is implemented and maintained

Main ECM outcomes: all

Relationship to Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policies on teaching and learning, the school curriculum, equality and assessment, recording and reporting. The accessibility plan is an integral part of this policy.

Roles and Responsibilities of Principal, Other Staff, Governors

Provision for pupils with special educational needs is a matter for the school as a whole. It is each teacher's responsibility to provide for pupils with SEND in his/her class, and to be aware that these needs may be present in different learning situations. All staff are responsible for helping to meet an individual's special educational needs and for following the school's procedures for identifying, assessing and making provision to meet those needs.

The governing body, in collaboration with the Principal, has a legal responsibility for determining the policy and provision for pupils with SEND. It maintains a general overview and has appointed a representative governor (the SEND governor), who takes particular interest in this aspect of the school.

The **Principal** has responsibility for:

- The management of all aspects of the school's work, including provision for pupils with SEND
- Keeping the governing body informed about SEND issues
- Working closely with the SEND personnel within the school
- Ensuring that the implementation of this policy and the effects of inclusion policies on the school as a whole are monitored and reported to governors.

The **Governing Body** will ensure that:

- SEND provision is an integral part of the school improvement/development plan
- The necessary provision is made for any pupil with SEND
- All staff are aware of the need to identify and provide for pupils with SEND
- Pupils with SEND join in school activities alongside other pupils, as far as is reasonably practical and compatible with their needs and the efficient education of other pupils
- They report to parents on the implementation of the school's SEND policy
- They have regard to the requirements of the SEND Code of Practice (2001)
- Parents are notified if the school decides to make special educational provision for their child
- They are fully informed about SEND issues, so that they can play a major part in school self-review
- They set up appropriate staffing and funding arrangements, and oversee the school's work for pupils with SEND
- The quality of SEND provision is regularly monitored
- They, and the school as a whole, are involved in the development and monitoring of this policy.

During the first year of operation the School will utilise the services of the NHC **Additional Learning Support team (ALS)**. The ALS team will be responsible for:

- Carrying out detailed assessments and observations of pupils with learning-difficulties
- Providing diagnostic assessments for pupils with specific learning difficulties
- Completing assessments for Access to Examination arrangements
- Supporting class teachers in devising strategies, drawing up Individual Education Plans (IEPs), setting targets appropriate to the needs of the pupils, and advising on appropriate resources and materials for use with pupils with SEND and on the effective use of materials and personnel in the classroom
- Contributing to the in-service training of staff, managing learning support staff/teaching assistants if they are provided by ALS
- Participating in LA SEND moderation.

The member of staff appointed to lead English within The Da Vinci School is also a qualified **SENCO** and will be provided with time to ensure that in his/her role as acting SENCO:

- The day-to-day operation of this policy is overseen
- An agreed, consistent approach is adopted
- Liaising with and advising other staff, including personal coaches
- Helping staff to identify pupils with SEND
- Co-ordinating the provision for pupils with SEND
- Liaising closely with parents of pupils with SEND or briefing their key worker to have this conversation, so that all are aware of the strategies that are being used and are involved as partners in the process
- Maintaining the school's SEND register and records
- Liaising with the SENCOs in receiving schools/and or other primary schools to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the other
- Liaising closely with the linked NHC ALS Co-ordinator

Lead Learning Coaches are responsible for:

- Drawing up provision maps to ensure that the needs of all learners are addressed
- Assisting in the monitoring and evaluation of progress of pupils with SEND through the use of school assessment information, e.g. class-based assessments/records, end of year QCA tests
- Liaising with outside agencies, arranging meetings, and providing a link between these agencies, class teachers and parents

Learning Coaches need to ensure they are:

- Fully including pupils with SEND in all learning experiences, and providing an appropriately differentiated curriculum. They can draw on the SENCO for advice on assessment and strategies to support inclusion
- Making themselves aware of this policy and procedures for identification, monitoring and supporting pupils with SEND
- Giving feedback to parents of pupils with SEND.

Learning Support Staff/Teaching Assistants/Pastoral Coaches should:

- Be fully aware of this policy and the procedures for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with SEND
- Use the school's procedures for giving feedback to learning coaches about pupils' responses to tasks and strategies
- Be prepared to take on a key worker role for nominated statemented, school action or school action plus students, as required by the acting SENCO.

Arrangements for Complaints

Should pupils or parents/carers be unhappy with any aspect of provision they should discuss the problem with a pastoral coach or key worker in the first instance. The Pastoral Coaches and key workers will discuss the issue with the Learning Coaches, who will correspond as appropriate with parents/carers. Anyone who feels unable to talk to the Learning Coach, or is not satisfied with the teacher's comments, should ask to speak to the SENCO. For a problem that might need time to be explored fully, parents/carers should make an appointment rather than rushing the discussion before, or after school.

In the event of a formal complaint parents should follow the procedure in the School's complaints policy.

Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluation

The success of the school's SEND policy and provision is evaluated through school self-evaluation and reporting activities such as:

- Monitoring of classroom practice by the SENCO, ALS and SLG
- Analysis of pupil tracking data and test results for individual pupils and for cohorts
- Value-added data for pupils on the SEND register
- Termly monitoring of procedures and practice by the SEND governor
- The school profile and the prospectus, which contains the required information about the implementation and success of the SEND policy

- The school's annual SEND review, which evaluates the success of the policy and sets new targets for development
- The school improvement plan, which is used for planning and monitoring provision in the school
- Visits from LA personnel and Ofsted inspection arrangements
- Feedback from parents and staff, both formal and informal, following meetings to produce IEPs and targets, revise provision and celebrate success