



## SEN and Disability Policy September 2023

**Be courageous; be strong.  
Do everything in love.**

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

The SEND policy should be read in consultation with the Accessibility Plan, Annual SEN Report and the Parents/Carers' SEN Information Guide. Together they include details of:

- The school's admission arrangements for pupils with SEN or disabilities
- The steps school have taken to prevent pupils with SEN or disabilities from being treated less favourably than other pupils
- The facilities provided to assist access to the school by pupils with SEN and disabilities.

*(Children and Families Act 2014, Part 3)*

### **Name of SENCOs and contact details:**

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### **The policy was developed through consultation with staff, governors and parents.**

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:10-11 NIV)

Archbishop Runcie First School is a Church of England Voluntary Aided school which caters for children between the ages of three and nine years, drawing its pupils from a broad spectrum of society. In harmony with the Christian ethos of the school we offer all pupils unconditional welcome, valuing and celebrating their uniqueness as created beings. We offer the opportunity to experience the richness and diversity of God's creation through the curriculum we offer and as we celebrate their God-given gifts and talents. In this way they are encouraged to explore values and beliefs and to identify with, and empathise with, those of other cultures. We are firm in our belief that we have all been given different talents, gifts and abilities. God works in different ways through each of us, and we all serve him faithfully as we use our gifts to glorify him. We should invest the gifts that God has blessed us with wisely.

## **SEN and Disability Policy**

### **Rationale:**

At Archbishop Runcie C of E First School, every child is equal, valued and unique. We aim to provide an environment where all pupils feel safe and can flourish. We will respond to individuals in ways which take into account their varied life experiences and particular needs.

Throughout this policy, and the following policies, we will ensure steps are taken to prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favourably than others: Accessibility Plan, Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy, Parents/Carers' SEN Information Guide, SEN Policy and Annual SEN Report.

Archbishop Runcie C of E First School is committed to providing an education that enables all pupils to make progress so that they achieve their best, become confident individuals living fulfilling lives and make a successful transition to their new school.

### **Objectives:**

- To ensure equality of provision for pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND).
- To take into account legislation related to SEN and Disabilities, including part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, The SEN Code of Practice 2014, The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, The Special Educational Needs (Personal Budgets and Direct Payments) Regulations, Section 49, The Order setting out transitional arrangements, Section 137, Equality Act 2010, The Mental Capacity Act 2005, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019, Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions 2015.
- To provide full access for all pupils to a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To ensure that the needs of pupils with SEN are identified, assessed, planned for and regularly reviewed to improve outcomes.
- To enable pupils with SEND to achieve their potential.
- To ensure parents / carers are fully engaged in decision making.
- To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of pupils.
- To provide advice and support for all staff working with pupils with SEND.
- To provide detailed information about the arrangements for identifying, assessing and making provision for pupils with SEND.

### **Admission Arrangements:**

Please refer to the information contained in school's Admissions Policy which can be accessed on the school website. The admission arrangements for all pupils are in accordance with national legislation, including the Equality Act 2010. This includes pupils with any level of SEND.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs):

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the policy
- coordinating provision for pupils with SEND
- liaising with the Designated Teacher where a looked after pupil has SEND

- advising on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- liaising with parents of pupils with SEND
- liaising with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies
- being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- liaising with potential next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- working with the head teacher and school governors to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- ensuring that the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date

The class/subject teacher:

- Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils
- Promote good progress and outcomes for pupils
- Plan and teach lessons in which teaching responds to the strengths and needs of pupils with SEND
- Work closely with support staff in the planning and monitoring of interventions
- Make accurate and productive use of assessment to inform the four part cycle
- Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment
- Fulfil wider professional responsibilities in relation to SEN e.g. the effective deployment of support staff, professional development, acting on specialist advice
- Communicate effectively with parents with regard to pupils achievements and pupils well-being

The Teaching Assistants support individuals and groups of pupils at SEN support level of provision, both in class and through withdrawal for targeted interventions/ programmes.

Mrs Massey is also the Headteacher.

The governor responsible for SEND is Sarah Macrae.

The designated members of staff for child protection are Kate Massey, Vicky Ravel, Kathleen Francis and Emily Willett.

### **Looked after children (LAC)**

The SENDCo and Headteacher meet on a half termly basis to ensure that arrangements are in place for supporting pupils that are looked after and also have SEN. SEN reviews and PEP meetings are coordinated and where possible meetings are held on the same day.

The designated member of staff for looked after children is Kate Massey.

### **Access to Facilities and Provision:**

Please refer to school's accessibility plans which outlines how we:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment

- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils

The Accessibility plan also details the logistics of where specific provision is, such as disabled toilets, and where medicines stored.

(See Accessibility plan)

### **Allocation of Resources:**

The Headteacher and SENCOs are responsible for the operational management of the budget for SEN provision. The school will use a range of additional funding including the notional SEN budget and, where applicable, pupil premium to provide high quality appropriate support for pupils with SEN. Where a pupil's needs exceed the nationally prescribed threshold (currently £6,000) additional funding will be applied for from the local authority.

### **Access to the Curriculum**

The broad and balanced curriculum is scaffolded where appropriate to enable all children to access the learning. Teachers have high expectations for all pupils. In planning and teaching, teachers meet the pupils' diverse learning needs and work towards removing the barriers to learning. For the majority of the week, pupils with SEND are taught with their peers in mainstream classes. Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils. However, in order to maximize learning, some pupils are withdrawn, individually and in small groups, to take part in targeted interventions planned to meet particular needs. Pupils with SEND are actively encouraged and supported to join in and benefit from additional activities and clubs as well as any wider community activities.

### **Identification, Assessment, Planning and Review Arrangements:**

Archbishop Runcie CE First School follows the graduated approach of assess, plan, do and review as outlined in the Code of Practice (2014). This approach is embedded in whole school practice for all pupils and every teacher is responsible for 'adapting teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils'. (Teachers' Standards 2012)

School assessment data, teacher judgments and, where appropriate, assessments from outside agencies are used to identify pupils who require additional and different provision. A provision map / intervention map outlines all SEN support and is updated each term.

There are 4 broad areas of need:

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

The following are **not** SEN but may impact on progress and attainment:

- Disability
- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Receipt of pupil premium
- Being a looked – after child
- Being a child of service personnel

### **SEN support – four part cycle**

The identification of SEN is built into the overall approach to monitoring the progress and development of all pupils in school. Termly pupil progress meetings support the early identification of pupils who may have SEN. Where concerns are identified, there is discussion with the SENCo for potential SEN identification and families are involved in these discussions as soon as possible.

### **Assess**

The class teacher, working with the SENCos, will carry out a clear analysis of a pupil's needs using the initial concern checklist. This assessment will be reviewed regularly. Where appropriate, professionals will help to inform the assessment. Parents will be asked to contribute to the assessment.

### **Plan**

Parents will be formally notified during a meeting with the class teacher and SENCo, however, they will already have been part of the assessment process. Adjustments, interventions, support and review date will be agreed with staff, parents and pupil. This will be recorded on the school information system. All staff working with the child will be informed of the plan and will record progress towards the targets on the school's information system.

Parents are encouraged to contribute and reinforce progress at home with the support of the class teacher and SENCos.

### **Do**

The class or subject teacher will remain responsible for working with the pupil on a daily basis and retain responsibility for their progress and outcomes. The class or subject teacher will plan and assess the impact of support and interventions with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved. The SENCos will support the class teacher in the further assessment of the child's particular strengths and weaknesses, in problem solving and advising on the effective implementation of support.

### **Review**

The effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed on the agreed date. Reviews will be held with parents at least three times per year. The class teacher or subject teacher, working with the SENCos, will revise the support in light of the pupil's progress. If a pupil does not make expected progress over a sustained period of time school will seek specialist expertise. This will inform future provision. School liaises with many services, including the following: Educational Psychology Service, School Health, School Effectiveness SEN team, SEND Outreach Service (SENDOS) and, when appropriate, Social Services and Looked After Children Team. The school may also liaise with other NHS agencies (e.g. Children and Young People's Service, Occupational Therapy team etc.) and, after discussion with families, private SEND agencies.

Where, despite having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEN of a pupil, the pupil has not made expected progress, then school or parents will consider requesting an Education, Health and Care assessment. School will provide the local authority with evidence of the action taken as part of SEN support.

The Annual SEN Report includes an evaluation of the impact of the above provision on outcomes for pupils with SEN.

### **Transition Arrangements**

Transition is carefully planned. In order to ensure successful transition both within school and from school to school, parents/carers will be fully involved in the planning for the transfer to the new setting. Key information about SEN provision will be shared with the next school/setting through the review process. The school's feeder Middle School, Gosforth Central Middle, is invited to attend review meetings in Year 4 in the Summer Term.

### **Partnership with Parents/Carers:**

Archbishop Runcie Church of England First School has positive attitudes to parents/carers and values their important role in their child's education. Parents/carers are always informed when their child is placed on the SEN list and the graduated response, outlined in the Code of Practice, is explained to them. Parents are informed about Newcastle Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service. This service provides information, advice and support at any stage of a child or young person's education, and provides an Independent Supporter for families in the process of getting an Education Health and Care Plan. Parents are fully involved in the review process. Written information is in accessible formats and sufficient notice is given for meetings to enable parents/carers time to prepare.

Early Help is used to coordinate support for children and their families who have a range of needs as well as engagement with the school's Family Partner through Children and Families Newcastle.

### **Pupil Participation:**

The views of all pupils are valued. Pupils with SEN are supported to be involved in decision making and to be able to express any concerns. A pupil review sheet is used termly to gather their views on their progress.

### **Monitoring and Evaluating the Success of Provision – for further details see Annual SEN Report:**

A variety of methods are used to monitor and evaluate the provision and achievements for the pupils with SEN:

- Monitoring by senior leaders and middle leaders, including work scrutiny, pupil voice and observation.
- Analysis of assessment data, with high expectations for the progress expected between key stages for all pupils
- Assessment records that illustrate progress over time – e.g. reading ages
- Success rates in respect of individual targets
- Monitoring by the governor with responsibility for SEN
- The views of parents/carers and pupils
- Provision Mapping – used to monitor impact and cost of interventions.

### **Staff Development:**

The Leadership Team reviews the training needs of staff through Performance Management and pupil progress to plan appropriate CPD in relation to SEND as appropriate. The SENCos ensure staff are informed of local and national developments in relation to SEN and Inclusion. Up to date information and CPD is provided through the Gosforth Trust Schools. Where appropriate, specialists are used to deliver the training. Early Career Teachers are offered support and in school training by the SENCos. See the Annual SEN Information Report for details.

### **Medical Conditions**

Archbishop Runcie Church of England First School will follow the recommendations of the Children and Families Act 2014 with regard to arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions. Where

a pupil also has SEN, their provision will be planned and delivered in a coordinated way with their healthcare plan. (See Medicines in Schools Policy).

**The Complaints Procedure:**

Initially, an attempt will be made to resolve a complaint about SEN provision at school level, within one week of the complaint having first been made. The procedure is firstly that the class teacher attempts to resolve matters, then if required the SENCoS and /or Head teacher becomes involved. If the complaint is unresolved, then the person making the complaint is advised of their rights under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act to make a complaint. The Governing Body will consider the complaint, after which, if necessary the LA will become involved. School will inform parents/carers of the local authority’s commissioned independent disagreement resolution service. Details can also be found in the Local Offer. (See Complaints Procedure)

**Date agreed by governing body:** September 2023 (TLA Committee)

**Review due:** September 2024

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reviewed/updated</b>	<b>Staff involved</b>
November 2015	Stakeholders invited to review the policy	Staff and stakeholders
January 2016	Policy updated	B Armstrong (SENCo)
September 2016	Changed SENCo details	J Robson (HT)
November 2017	Policy updated	K Massey (SENCo) Denise Henry (Headteacher & SENCo)
September 2018	Policy updated	K Massey
March 2019	Policy updated	K Massey & J Burns
July 2019	Changed SENCo details	J Burns
November 2019	Revised SENCo and other staffing details	J Booth
September 2020	Revised minor details	J Booth
September 2021	Revised with reference to renamed and reorganized agencies	J Booth
September 2022	Revised minor details	J Booth
February 2023	Updated for new SENCoS	J Booth
September 2023	Updated for new SENCoS	V Ravel