



## Bridgewater Primary School

### Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information

*At Bridgewater we will ensure each child meets their full potential and will experience a range of opportunities which will raise their aspirations. Through strong links with a range of partners, we will ensure children leave us having been taught to think, problem solve, work collaboratively, express themselves showing respect so they are capable, confident individuals.  
Our vision is to ensure outstanding outcomes for our children by "working together to improve learning for all" which summarises our common values.*

Our mission statement is the back drop for all we do in school, including our work with our children with additional learning needs. This document gives families information about the variety of ways we ensure we support our children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to achieve their potential. We provide a full range of educational and pastoral support to all and our children with SEND make very good progress.

The information here is general; each child is an individual and will receive unique provision and resources where necessary.

If you would like further information, or a chat, please contact our SENDCO, Jenn Stoker or our assistant SENDCO Karen McIver, by email [admin@bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk) or phone on 0191 2745290. At Bridgewater we also have an Early Years Assessment Additional Resource Centre (ARC). The teachers in charge are Liz Humby and Deborah Campbell. Our 0-3 SENDCO is Wendy Harker. They can be contacted on the above email and telephone number.

#### **There are a number of reasons why a child may be identified as having SEND:**

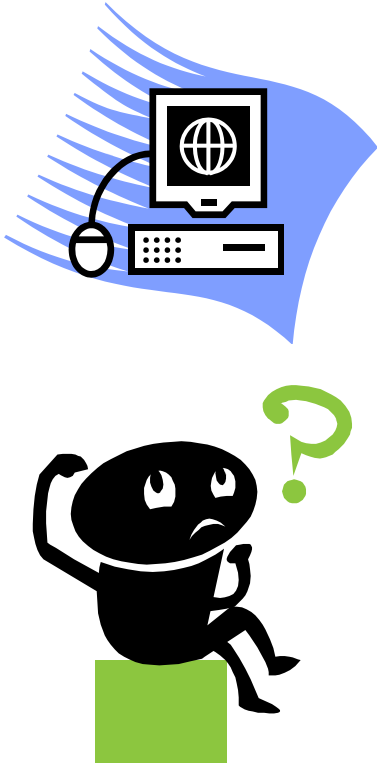
- They are having significant difficulty with their learning and making far less progress than would be expected.
- They have a specific learning difficulty, for example dyslexia.
- They have emotional or mental health difficulties.
- They have difficulties with social communication and interaction.
- They have sensory and/or physical needs, for example a hearing impairment.
- They have a physical disability.

## **For all children at Bridgewater School who have an additional need we:**

- Recognise that the family is the expert on their child and work in partnership with them.
- Deliver high quality teaching, adapting the curriculum and our resources to ensure children can access the learning.
- Employ a fully qualified Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO) to lead on SEND provision across the school, an assistant SENDCO, a lead teacher in our ARC provision and a senior SENDCO Early Years Practitioner in our 0-3 provision.
- Employ a full-time Family Support Worker who supports parents with the SEND processes and to attend meetings.
- Employ a part-time Wellbeing Officer to support children with with emotional and mental health difficulties.
- Employ an Educational Psychologist half a day per week to offer advice and support to staff as well as offering assessment and interventions.
- Employ a Speech and Language Therapist two days per week to provide support programmes for individual children and support staff with strategies to develop speech and language skills across the school.
- Employ an Occupational Therapist half a day per week and a School Nurse half a day per week to provide assessment and support programmes for individual children and groups of children.
- Assess and review the learning of our SEND children, using that information to inform future planning and teaching.
- Provide teaching assistants in class who work with SEND children and also, importantly, support other children so that the teacher has more opportunities to work with the SEND children.
- Hold regular meetings for teaching assistants and teachers with the SENDCO, to review children, interventions and resources and to adapt provision where necessary.
- Support our families with children with SEND, formally through review meetings and informally through our “open door” approach. Families are also advised of other services and organisations which may offer further advice and support.
- Seek advice from outside agencies to ensure each child’s needs are fully identified and understood and to learn from specialists how best to support our SEND children. (Link: Outside Agencies)
- We evaluate intervention groups and strategies on a half termly & termly basis.
- Regularly evaluate our teaching resources to ensure they are accessible to all SEND children.
- Ensure our school activities and trips, are accessible to all our SEND children.
- Hold termly review meetings with families for children with a higher level of SEND.
- Provide on-going SEND training and information for teachers and teaching assistants
- Liaise closely with secondary schools at transition times to ensure SEND pupil information is clearly communicated and recommendations heard so that the move to secondary school is as smooth as possible.

*(Link: SEND Policy)*

Specific provision is also provided for the different areas of need. The table below explains the detail of this support.

Type of SEND	Support provided in school
<p data-bbox="250 268 760 380"><b>Communication and Interaction</b> Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Speech, Language and Communication Needs</p> 	<ul data-bbox="867 268 1458 1602" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We use visual timetables when needed to support children to understand what will happen and when.</li> <li>• We provide areas with reduced distractions and low stimulus</li> <li>• We offer additional support during break and lunch time when appropriate.</li> <li>• We use social stories to help children learn how to approach different social situations.</li> <li>• We run small groups focusing on friendship</li> <li>• We have a variety of resources available to use, depending on a child’s sensory difficulties.</li> <li>• Time is spent with children helping them to identify situations that cause anxiety and finding ways to relieve that anxiety.</li> <li>• We run small group speech and language sessions.</li> <li>• We run Lego Therapy sessions to support children with communication needs.</li> <li>• Our Speech and Language Therapist supports with individual programmes and with upskilling our staff to enhance provision.</li> <li>• Our Early Years Professionals run language groups which are overseen by the Speech and Language Therapist.</li> <li>• Small group talk boost and word aware sessions and pre-teaching vocabulary.</li> <li>• We access the expertise and advice of the local authority Speech, Language and Social Communication team.</li> </ul>
<p data-bbox="224 1610 704 1722"><b>Cognition and Learning Needs</b> Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) Specific Learning Difficulties ( SpLD)</p>	<ul data-bbox="867 1610 1458 1953" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We access the expertise and advice of the Special Educational Needs Teaching and Support Service (SENTASS) to ensure the needs of children are clearly identified.</li> <li>• We provide small group support with a focus on literacy or numeracy skills, depending on need.</li> <li>• Our Educational Psychologists use a range of thorough assessments to support</li> </ul>



children and recommend a range of teaching strategies and therapies.


- We use intervention programmes to improve literacy or numeracy skills- e.g. Lexia, Nessy, Reading Recovery, Read, Write Inc, Freshstart; Plus One and The Power of Two, Numbers Count and first class number.
- We provide resources to support children with specific needs- e.g. coloured overlays and reading rulers to help with reading for our dyslexic children.

### **Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs**

Mental Health Condition  
Social Difficulties  
Emotional Difficulties



- We provide excellent pastoral care for our children including work with our well being officer and family support worker.
- We have a full time Thrive practitioner and all staff are Thrive trained at the first level to understand and support children's emotional development.
- We run one to one sessions focusing on emotional understanding and expression.
- We use the Zones of Regulation across the school to help children to learn to regulate their emotions and understand their own emotions, the emotions of others around them.
- We create behaviour management plans where necessary, to ensure children can access the curriculum and all children remain safe.
- We complete risk assessments and then take action to ensure the safety and inclusion of all children, whenever possible, in all activities
- We provide one to one nurture sessions for vulnerable children.
- Counselling including that for bereavement.
- We run small group sessions with a focus on social skills.
- Peer massage.
- We seek the expert advice and support of outside agencies, including the School Health Advisor and the Children and Young People's Service (CYPS)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our staff are regularly trained in ADHD, ASD and Attachment needs to support children in school.</li> </ul> <p><i>(Link: Anti-Bullying Policy)</i></p>
<p><b>Sensory and Physical Needs</b>  Hearing/Visual Impairment  Physical Disabilities  Multi- Sensory Impairment  Medical Needs</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We provide support and practical aids where appropriate to ensure pupils can access the curriculum.</li> <li>• We seek advice and guidance from school health and hospital staff for pupils with significant medical needs</li> <li>• We run intervention sessions to improve pupil skills, e.g. gross and fine motor skills</li> <li>• We request and act upon advice and guidance from the Newcastle Children’s Vision Team and Hearing Impairment Team.</li> <li>• When it is appropriate we use ICT to enhance pupil’s access to the curriculum including the use of alphasmarts, laptops and ipads.</li> <li>• When required staff receive training in understanding the impact of a physical or sensory need on the teaching of learning of the child.</li> <li>• All the entrances to school have ramps fitted to allow wheelchair access and there are lifts in the building to access the other floors.</li> <li>• Our school has a disabled toilet.</li> <li>• Our staff understand and apply the Medical Conditions Policy.</li> <li>• We ensure that children with disabilities have access to the whole curriculum including school visits and after school clubs. This includes providing equipment and resources to ensure equity and equal opportunity.</li> </ul> <p><i>(Links: Accessibility Policy; Medical Conditions Policy)</i></p>

**If you have any concerns about your child’s learning or well-being please come in to school. We shall be happy to discuss things and work with you as we all seek to support your child in our school.**

