

ROCKMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Meeting the Needs of Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
September 2021

All Croydon Schools are committed to and adopt a similar approach to meeting the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs. There is a shared expectation that all pupils, regardless of their specific needs, will benefit from inclusive teaching which will enable them to make the best possible progress in school, ensure they can actively participate in the wider aspects of school life and support readiness for the next phase of education and preparation for adulthood.

Rockmount School is whole heartedly committed to an inclusive approach in all aspects of school life. We welcome everyone into our school community and ensure that we offer the best education for all children, enabling them to achieve their full potential in all areas of personal development.

Educational inclusion is about equal opportunities for all members of the school community. We are a reflective school, continually adapting our practice in order to meet the needs of our pupils, staff and community members. All our children should play a positive role in society where diversity is recognised and respected. We believe that every person should be valued equally and should have the same opportunity to realise his or her potential.

We carefully monitor the achievement and wellbeing of different groups of learners in order to make appropriate provision for ever-changing needs. We use varied access arrangements and teaching styles to ensure that all pupils are provided with an appropriate and accessible curriculum which allows them to develop and progress at their own level.

What support do we offer?

The school will use its best endeavours to ensure the necessary provision is made for any pupil with SEND. In doing so, we will fulfil the statutory duties and best practice guidelines set out in the Department for Education Code of Practice for SEN, January 2015.

Roles and responsibilities

Who should I contact to discuss the concerns or needs of my child?

Class teacher

He/she is responsible for:

- Adapting and refining the curriculum to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils.
- Checking on the progress of your child, identifying specific needs, planning and ensuring the delivery of any additional support required.
- Contributing to devising personalised learning plans / individual education plans to prioritise and focus on the next steps required for your child to improve learning
- Applying the school's SEND Policy

Special Educational Needs
Coordinators (SENCOs)

If you have concerns about your child, you should speak to your child's class teacher first. Depending on the outcomes of these discussions you may have a follow up meeting with a Learning and Teaching Leader or the SENCO.

Amber Pearless and Hayley Gorman

The SENCO is responsible for:

- Coordinating provision for children with SEND and developing the school's SEND policy
- Ensuring that parents are:

amberv@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

hgorman2.306@lgflmail.org

Co-Headteachers
Tracey Langridge and Helen Carvall

tlangridge@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

hcarvall@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

Assistant Headteachers
Amber Pearless and Viv Bull

amberv@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

vbull@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk

SEND Governor
Sarah Hubbard
(office@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk)

- Involved in discussions to identify key strengths and areas of difficulty
- Involved in planning provision to overcome barriers to learning
- Regularly included in reviewing how well their child is doing
- Consulted about planning successful transition to a new class or school
- Liaising with a range of agencies outside of school who can offer advice and support to help pupils overcome any difficulties
- Providing specialist advice and facilitating training to ensure that all staff are skilled and confident about meeting a range of SEND

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The day to day management of all aspects of the school, including the provision made for pupils with SEND

The Assistant Headteachers for Inclusion are responsible for:

- Coordinating inclusive practice across the school

The SEND Governor is responsible for:

- Supporting the school to develop quality provision and evaluate the impact of it for pupils with SEN across the school.

SEN Support - Assessment, Planning and Review

How will the school decide if my child needs extra help? How can I find out about how well my child is doing?

Class teachers are responsible for identifying pupils who are not making appropriate progress. Formal meetings are held each term between class teachers and senior leaders to look at the progress of all pupils across the school.

Where there are concerns that a pupil is not making progress, further assessments will take place. Following discussions with key staff and parents/carers, additional support or intervention programmes may be put in place. Short term targets will be agreed prioritising the key areas of learning which have been identified for your child. Appropriate provision will be put in place to support your child to achieve these targets and this will be recorded on a Provision Map. The impact of any additional support will be reviewed regularly and you will be kept informed regarding the progress your child is making. Pupils are, wherever possible, involved in discussions regarding their targets, the support they receive and the progress they are making.

In some cases, it may be necessary to increase or change the nature and level of support to help your child to make progress. This may involve seeking help and advice from a range of specialist agencies such as the Educational Psychology Service or Speech and Language Service. A referral for support from an outside agency will only be made with your consent.

If your child does not make appropriate progress despite an increased level of support, the decision may be made to request an Education, Health and Care Plan. The SENCO will discuss this process with you

and explain how it may benefit your child. You will also be given details of parent/carer organisations which can offer you advice and support.

Tests and Examinations: Access Arrangement

For some pupils, additional arrangements and adjustments can be made to enable them to fully access statutory tests. This might include additional time; rest breaks or use of a scribe.

The SENCO will talk to you if she feels that your child would benefit from these additional arrangements.

Curriculum and Teaching Methods (including groupings and interventions)

How will teaching be adapted to meet the needs of my child?

Teaching is adapted to meet the diverse range of needs in each class. Daily planning takes into account the needs and requirements of individual pupils. Differentiation is approached in a range of ways to support access and ensure that all pupils can experience success and challenge in their learning.

Flexible grouping arrangements and support from additional adults are used to help groups and individual pupils, with a long-term goal of encouraging and developing independent learning skills.

If required, more specific interventions are available to support groups and individuals to develop key areas of their learning and development. Details of the additional support offered to your child will be included in their Individual Education Plan and will be discussed with you.

A range of interventions and support are available to promote progress in specific areas of identified need:

Interventions and Support

Cognition and Learning:

- Curriculum access support
- Literacy Support
- Numeracy Support
- Homework Club
- Home/School Support Pack
- Home/School Contact Book
- Read Write Inc. Phonics scheme
- Reading support
- Dyslexia support
- Higher Level Challenge
- Educational Psychologist services

Social Mental and Emotional Health/ Wellbeing

- Social Skills Groups
- Target Support Card
- Learning Mentor support
- Pastoral Support Plan
- Behaviour Support groups
- Nurture Groups
- Conflict Resolution support
- Alternative lunchtime club
- CAMHS
- Specialist assessment tools
- Trailblazers
- Croydon MHST

Sensory and Physical:

- Handwriting programmes
- Gross motor skills support
- Fine motor skills support
- Sensory resources
- Visual Impairment support
- Hearing Impairment support
- Physiotherapy services
- Occupational Therapy services
- Specialist equipment

Communication and Interaction:

- Speech and Language programmes
- Partners in Talking Programme
- Specific vocabulary support
- Visual Timetables/Cue Cards
- Speech and Language Therapy Services
- Words with Symbols (ICT)
- Adapt to Learn – ASD Support

Access

What arrangements are made to enable my child to benefit and take advantage of the full school curriculum and extra curriculum activities?

We have an Accessibility Plan in place to ensure that pupils with SEN and Disability can take part in all aspects of school life and that any reasonable adaptations are made to support this. The school's Accessibility Plan is updated annually.

Depending upon the specific needs of your child, a more personalised access plan or medical plan may

be drawn up in consultation with you. This will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. We undertake additional planning and risk assessments to ensure that pupils with SEND can take part in the wide range of extra-curricular activities the school offers including school clubs, educational visits and residential trips.

Staffing Expertise

How skilled are staff in meeting the needs of my child?

Provision for pupils with SEND is included in our regular monitoring of the quality of teaching across the school. This helps to identify priorities for our ongoing programme of staff professional development and training and ensures that all teachers and support staff have appropriate skills and knowledge to support provision for children with additional needs.

SENCOs actively engage in a range of opportunities to share best practice and keep abreast of current local and national initiatives and policies to support pupils with additional needs.

The school also seeks advice and guidance from relevant agencies to support staff to evaluate and develop provision for pupils who have the most complex needs.

We have staff with expertise in many areas including:

- Autism and Social Communication difficulties
- Dyslexia (specific literacy difficulties)
- Catch-up Maths programmes
- Speech and Language development
- Language Development and Acquisition
- Medical Needs and Conditions
- Learning Mentor support for the wellbeing and positive mental health of vulnerable pupils
- Mentors trained to use Restorative Approaches to manage conflict
- Wellbeing Practitioners to support emotional needs and mental health issues

External partnerships

What support from outside does the school use to help my child?

The school works with a number of external agencies to seek advice and support to ensure that the needs of all children are fully understood and met. These include:

- Educational Psychology Service
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Early Help Team
- Visual Impairment team
- Hearing Impairment Team
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- Family Lives Parent Partnership Service: Tel: 020 3131 3150 (The Parent Partnership Service provides independent information and advice and guidance for parents /carers of children and young people with SEND)
- Virtual School for Children who are Looked After virtualschool@croydon.gov.uk –(This service oversees and monitors provision for children who are in the care of the Local Authority)

The full range of local support available to support your child both within and outside of school can be found in the Croydon Local Offer for pupils with SEND.

(<http://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs/sen-education/>)

Transition

How will the school help my child to move between year groups and schools?

Children and young people with SEN can become particularly anxious about 'moving on' so we seek to support their wellbeing and positive mental health through successful transition and ensure consistency of support:

When joining our Nursery/Reception Classes:

The Early Years Leader or SENCO will contact the pre-school setting to seek information regarding the nature and level of needs for pupils identified with SEND and the provision that has already been offered to overcome these barriers. Discussions will be held with parents/carers to share information. If the pupil

has more significant needs and /or has support from other professional agencies, more formal transition meetings will be arranged and documented.

When moving to/from another school:

We will contact the School SENCO and share information about special arrangements and support currently in place to help your child achieve their learning goals.

We will ensure that all records are passed between schools as soon as possible.

When moving between classes and phases

An information sharing meeting will take place with the new teacher.

Opportunities will be provided for your child to visit the new class and meet the teacher and other key staff.

When moving to secondary school:

Our SENCO will encourage parents and carers to visit a range of secondary schools and will make contact with the Year 7 leader or SENCO once a school has been named to start planning for transition.

Multi-agency meetings maybe arranged to create a more detailed transition plan. Successful arrangements and interventions currently used to support your child can be shared with the receiving school and additional visits to the new setting may be planned to help your child become familiar with the new setting and to reduce any anxieties.

Your involvement in this process will be critical to supporting a successful move.

Engagement with Pupils and Families

How are children and parents/carers involved in decisions about support and provision?

The views of parents/carers and children are an extremely important part of the process of identification and support of an individual child's Special Educational Need. The school will work in partnership with you to do the very best for your child. Regular meetings will take place to discuss your child's needs, targets, progress and provision. Parents/carers and children (where appropriate) will be involved at every stage and all aspects of the process will be fully explained to you. The school SENCOs will be happy to discuss any issues or concerns you may have.

We are always keen to support parents and carers and to take your views on how we can continue to develop positive experiences and promote wellbeing for SEND pupils at Rockmount. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information or would like to discuss any aspect of our SEND provision.

Arrangements for handling complaints

What should I do if I am unhappy about the support for my child?

If you are unhappy about any aspect of the support given to your child, please speak to the class teacher straightaway. Depending on the nature of your concern, a meeting will be held with the SENCO or one of the senior leaders. We will work with you to resolve any issues and alleviate your concerns. We can also make arrangements for you to discuss concerns with other key professionals such as the Educational Psychologist. If you are still unhappy and do not feel the matter is fully resolved the school will recommend that you seek support from SENDIAS, the local Special Educational Need Information and Advice Service.

If your concern is directly related to decisions around an Education, Health and Care Plan, this will be managed directly by the Croydon SEND Team.

If your concerns are still unresolved you may be advised to make a formal complaint via the school Complaints Procedure which is available on the school website:

www.rockmountprimaryschool.co.uk