



St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

**An Introduction to Special Educational Needs and
Disabilities (SEND) – Parent/Carer Guide**

2025 - 2026



What is SEND?

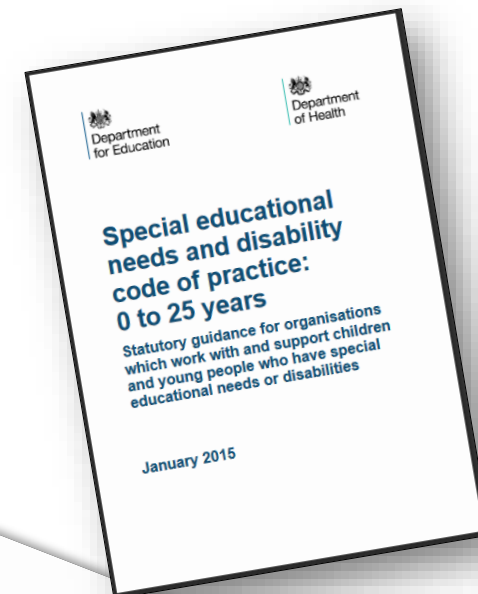


Diocese of Norwich
St Benet's
Multi Academy Trust

The SEND Code of Practice 2015 says a child or young person has a special educational need (SEN) if they have a **learning difficulty or disability** which calls for special educational provision to be made for them which is ***different from or additional to*** that normally available to pupils of the same age.

The Equality Act 2010 says a child is disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a long term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

There is a significant overlap between these two groups, who we refer to as pupils with SEND.

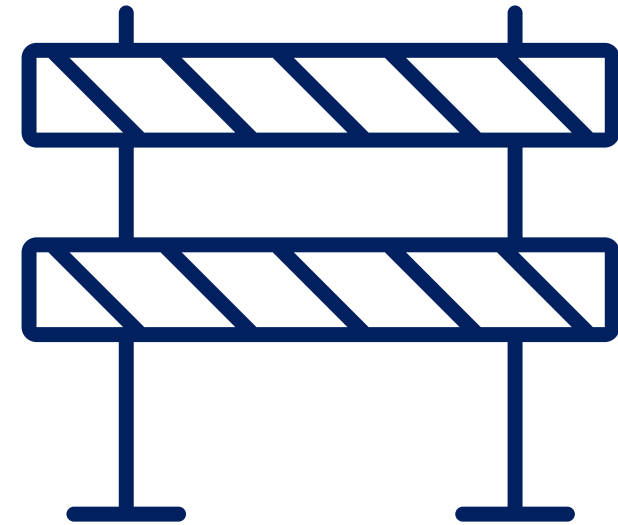




Barriers to Learning

In January 2024, **18.4%** of pupils in schools in England were reported to have some type of Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND). That's approximately five children in every class. Typical difficulties may be with:

- Reading, writing or mathematics
- Understanding information
- Expressing themselves
- Social communication
- Organization and planning
- Processing new information
- Self-regulation
- Sensory processing
- Social, emotional and mental health needs





The Graduated Approach

These difficulties can cause barriers to learning. We focus on identifying a child's strengths as well as the extra provision that is needed to help them overcome and remove these barriers. We record this information in a **7 Cs SEND Support Plan**.

As described in the SEND Code of Practice (2015) we follow the Graduated Approach of **Assess, Plan, Do & Review (APDR)**, to ensure that support given is having a positive impact on progress and outcomes.





Personalised Provision

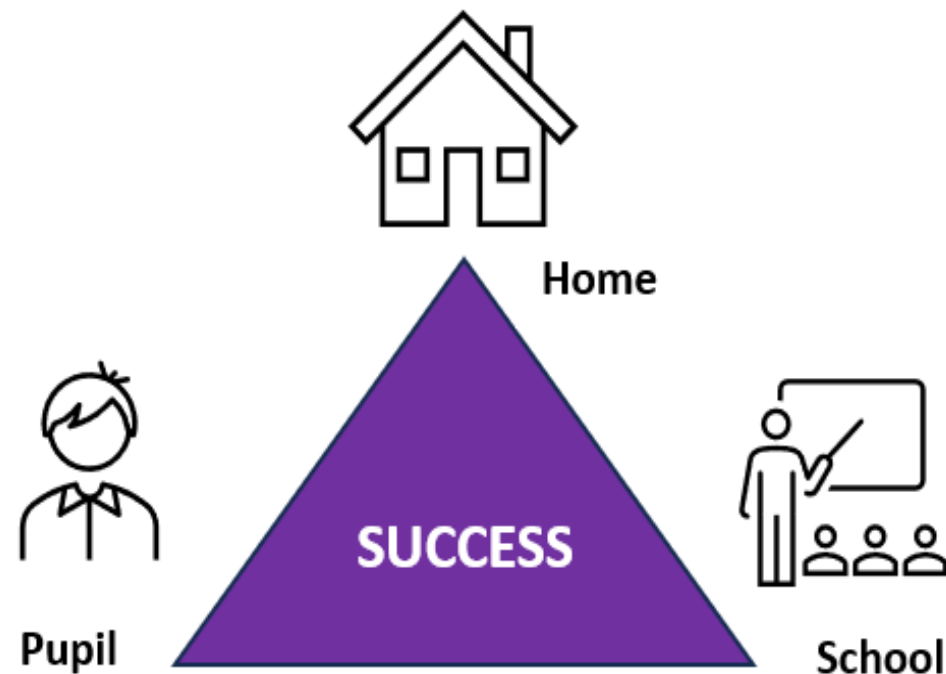
Depending on the individual needs of the child, in addition to our core support, we will provide:

- A personalised or adapted curriculum
- Access to specialist equipment such as ICT and other Tools for Learning
- In-class support from a TA or volunteers
- Group-intervention programmes
- One-to-one intervention programmes
- Special Access Arrangements for exams/tests
- Assessment from a specialist professional such as an Educational Psychologist or Specialist Learning Support Teacher
- Delivery of programmes set by specialist services, such as a Speech and Language Therapist or Occupational Therapist.



Working in Partnership

- We actively seek to involve children in decision making about their own support and learning.
- We aim to develop pupil independence by building a toolbox of strategies they can use.
- We work in partnership with parents/carers and are developing a range of opportunities to include parent/carer voice when reviewing provision.





If you have any concerns

- Speak to your child's class teacher first – they will be able to talk to you about your child's day-to-day school experiences.
- Speak to the SENDCo by contacting the School Office to arrange a phone call / appointment.
- Read our SEND Information Report and look at the Local Offer website.
- Contact SENDIASS for impartial support and guidance.





Our Core Offer for SEND

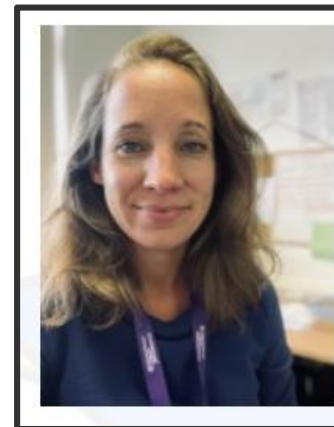
At St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy we aim to:

- Provide high quality, adaptive teaching
- Take a holistic view of children's needs
- Recognise and value neurodiversity
- Work to overcome and remove barriers to learning
- Celebrate strengths and support wellbeing
- Develop pupils' independence
- Support all pupils to be happy and successful learners.





Key Contacts



SENDCo – Mrs Laura Ketley

Headteacher – Miss Laura Richardson

SEND Link Governor - Mrs Gemma Hoskins

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Support Services

The **Norfolk Local Offer** has information about the special needs services available locally:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/send-local-offer

Just One Norfolk is the single point of access for children and young people's health services in Norfolk and Wavney:

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

Norfolk SENDIASS can provide free and impartial information, advice and support about SEND:

www.norfolksendpartnershiassi.org.uk





Further information

- Our **SEND Information Report** (SIR) is reviewed annually and is revised in discussion with parents/carers, pupils, staff and governors.
- Please let us know if you would like to be part of a **SEND Focus Group** to develop and improve our provision. We always welcome your feedback.
- Copies of our **SEND Policy**, SEND Information Report and other useful SEND Information can be accessed through our school website:

<https://www.stmaryscoejunior.co.uk/>

