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True Mind, True Heart, True Spirit

St Edward's Catholic Academy SEN Information Report

What are Special Educational Needs Disability

SEND means special educational needs and disabilities. Children have a special need if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made. This will be if the child:

Has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age.

We provide SEN support for pupils with significant needs in the following areas:-

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, mental and emotional health
- Sensory and/or Physical

How will you let me know about my child's support?

Attainments towards the identified outcomes will be shared with parents through feedback at the review meetings and also through Parents' Evenings. Parents may also find a home-school diary a useful tool to use to communicate with academy staff on a more regular basis, or for occasional notes, they may use the reading record.

Parents are encouraged to arrange an appointment to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher, the SENCo, or a member of the senior leadership team at any time when they feel concerned or have information they feel they would like to share that could impact on their child's success. Please contact the academy office who will arrange this appointment for you. The contact number is 01283 216721. Mrs Cashmore may also be emailed directly on sen@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk

How can I help to support my child`s learning?

The class teacher or SENCo may suggest ways of supporting your child`s learning at the review meetings and also through Parents` Evenings. The academy organises parent workshops throughout the year. These are advertised in the academy newsletter and on our website and aim to provide useful opportunities for parents to learn more about how to support their child`s learning. Also try to encourage your child to engage in after-school clubs.

What should I do if I think my child has SEN or disability?

If parents have concerns relating to their child`s learning then please discuss these with your child`s teacher. This may result in a referral to the academy SENCo whose name is Ann Cashmore if there are still concerns, whose contact details are 01283 216721 or you may email on sen@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk Parents may also contact the SENCo or the Headteacher directly if they feel this is more appropriate.

What support will there be to support my child`s overall well-being?

The academy offers a variety of pastoral support for pupils.

These include:

- Positive play interventions to support pupils` wellbeing and improving self-esteem. This aims to support and improve interaction skills, emotional resilience and well-being.
- Pupils who find outside class times difficult are provided with alternative opportunities within the academy and action is taken to develop their social interaction skills.
- The academy has an Anti-Bullying Academy Policy which is regularly updated for its provision with regard to ensuring pupils safety and well-being.

How will you know if my child needs extra help?

Whole academy tracking of attainment or termly monitoring can highlight a lack of progress or concerns may be raised by parents/carers, external agencies or teachers, regarding a pupil`s rate of progress. If you think your child may have special educational needs talk to your child`s teacher or SENCO.

How does the academy allocate resources to match the needs of children with SEN?

The academy receives funding to respond to the needs of pupils with SEND from a number of sources, these include:-

- A proportion of the funds allocated, per pupil to the academy, to provide for their education called the Age Weighted Pupil Unit.
- The Notional SEN budget. This is a fund devolved to schools and academies to support them to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
- Currently the Local Authority reimburse additional funding with Statements/EHCP over and above the first 9.5 hours of the academy's allocated budget.
- Pupil Premium funding provides additional funding for pupils who are claiming Free School Meals, those children who are in the care of the local authority or adopted from Care or whose parents are in the Armed Services.

If parents wish to discuss the options available for their child, they are welcome to make an appointment to see the Head Teacher or SENCo.

How will you make decisions about how much support my child will receive?

- For pupils with SEN but without a statement of educational need/EHCP, the decision regarding the support provided will be taken at joint meetings with the SENCo, class teacher and parent.
- For pupils with a statement of educational need/EHCP, this decision is reached by the Local Authority and is discussed with parents when the Statement/EHCP is being formulated or at the annual review.
- Risk assessments are carried out and procedures are put in place to enable all children to participate in all academy activities.
- The academy ensures it has sufficient staff expertise to ensure that no child with SEND is excluded from any academy provided activity.

How will you support my child in starting school and moving on?

A number of strategies are in place to enable effective pupil transition these may include:-

- A home visit is arranged between our Reception Class Teacher and Teaching Assistant, to ensure that the academy is fully aware of any children who may have special educational needs.
- Parents/carers are invited to a meeting at the academy and are provided with a range of information to support them in enabling their child to settle into the academy routine.
- If pupils are transferring from another setting, the previous school records will be requested immediately and a meeting arranged with parents to identify and reduce any concerns.

- Transition to the next school: The transition programme in place for pupils with SEND provides a number of opportunities for pupils and parents to meet staff in the new school. The annual review in Y5 for pupils with a statement of educational need or an EHCP begins the process where parents are supported to make decisions regarding their secondary school choice.
- Parents will be encouraged to consider options for the next phase of education and the academy will involve outside agencies, as appropriate.
- Accompanied visits to other providers may be arranged, as appropriate for pupils transferring to local schools, the SENCos of both schools will meet to discuss the needs of pupils with SEN in order to ensure a smooth transition.

What specialist services could be available for my child?

1. Special Educational Needs Support Service
2. Behaviour Support Service
3. The Dyslexia Centre
4. Autism Outreach Team
5. Hearing Impairment Team
6. Visual Impairment Team
7. Speech and Language Therapy Service
8. Educational Psychologist Service
9. Educational Welfare Officers
10. Social Services
11. School Nurse/GP
12. Community Paediatrician
13. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
14. Occupational Therapy

What training or expertise do your staff have?

Staff have received a range of training on:-

- How to support pupils with dyslexia and literacy difficulties.
- How to support pupils on the autistic spectrum.
- How to support pupils with behavioural difficulties.
- How to support pupils with speech, language and communication difficulties.

The SENCo attends regular training courses from the SSEN Training department

- Attendance at the termly SENCo Update.
- Regular visits from the Autism Outreach teacher, an SEN specialist teacher and an Educational Psychologist, provide advice to support the success and progress of individual pupils.

How will you include my child in activities outside the classroom?

Risk assessments are carried out and procedures are put in place to enable all children to participate in all academy activities. The academy ensures it has sufficient staff expertise to ensure that no child with SEND is excluded from any academy provided activity.

How accessible is the academy environment?

The academy is a single storey building, and has full wheel-chair access.

How will the academy know that its SEN provision is effective?

All pupils will be provided with high quality teaching that is differentiated to meet the diverse needs of all learners.

- Pupils' attainments are tracked using the whole academy tracking system and those failing to make expected levels of progress are identified very quickly. These pupils are then discussed in termly progress meetings that are undertaken between the class teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership team.
- Additional action to increase the rate of progress will be identified and recorded, including a review of the impact of the differentiated teaching being provided to the child.
- Where it is decided during this early discussion that special educational provision is required to support increased rates, parents will be informed that the academy considers their child may require SEN support and their partnership sought in order to improve attainments.
- If progress rates are still judged to be inadequate despite the delivery of high quality interventions, advice will always be sought from external agencies regarding strategies to best meet the specific needs of a pupil. This will only be undertaken after parent permission has been obtained.
- In addition, the academy will involve external agencies as appropriate including health and social services, community and voluntary organisations for advice on meeting the needs of pupils with SEND and in further supporting their families.
- GRIP Funding (Graduated Response for Individual Pupil) - Additional funding in the form of GRIP funding may be applied for from the Local Authority for a period of 12 months, if the child with SEN has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age.
- For a very small percentage of pupils, whose needs are significant and complex and the SEN Support required to meet their needs cannot reasonably be provided from within the academy's own resources; a request will be made to the Local Authority to conduct an assessment of education, health and care needs. This may result in an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan being required.

How will I be involved in discussions about and planning for my child's education?

This will be through:

- Discussions with the class teacher, SENCo or senior leadership team member,
- During parents evenings,
- During review meetings,
- Meetings with support and external agencies.

How will you match the curriculum to my child`s needs?

Teachers plan using pupils' achievement levels, differentiating tasks to ensure progress for every pupil in the classroom.

- When a pupil has been identified as having special educational needs, the curriculum and the learning environment will be further adapted by the class teacher to reduce barriers to learning and enable them to access the curriculum more easily. These adaptations may include strategies suggested by the SENCo and/or external specialists.
- In addition if it is considered appropriate, pupils may be provided with specialised equipment or resources such as ICT and/or additional adult help. All actions taken by the class teacher will be recorded and shared with parents at the review meetings or parents' evenings.

Who can I contact for further information?

Parent Partnership Services (PPS) offer independent advice and support to parents and carers of all children and young people with SEND. They can be located via <http://www.parentpartnership.org.uk/>

The PPS will also provide information on how to access an Independent Supporter for those parents whose children are being assessed for an EHCP. Independent Supporters aim to provide guidance to parents regarding the EHCP process. A FAQ factsheet on Independent supporters is located here <http://preview.tinyurl.com/ox2q3cv>

Parents who are unhappy with the Local Authority or academy responses to their child's SEND, may seek mediation from the regional mediation services. Information on this free service is located at <http://preview.tinyurl.com/qx5a8vg>

Parents and carers can also appeal to the Government's SEND tribunal if you disagree with the Local Authorities decisions about your child's special educational needs. You can also appeal to the tribunal if the academy or council has discriminated against your disabled child. Information on this process is available here <http://preview.tinyurl.com/ovg4so3>

Where can I find information about the Local Offer?

<http://www.derbyshiresendlocaloffer.org/>

What should I do if I have a complaint?

If you wish to discuss your child's special educational needs or are unhappy with any issues or decisions made regarding your child, then please make an appointment with the Class teacher, SENCo or Headteacher, who will be happy to discuss any concerns with you. Please also refer to the Academy Complaints Procedure available via the website or by contacting the academy office.

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