

The Swan School

SEND Information Report

July 2020



These pages set out information about our provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). They are updated annually each September

About our school

The Swan School is a mainstream secondary school providing for pupils with a wide range of special educational needs including those with:

- Communication and interaction needs; this includes pupils who have speech, language and communication difficulties, including autistic spectrum conditions.
- Cognition and Learning needs; this includes pupils who have learning difficulties and specific learning difficulties like dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia.
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs.
- Sensory and/or Physical needs; this includes pupils who have visual or hearing needs or a physical disability that affects their learning.

Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is: Ms Louise Siddle

She can be contacted on: 01865 416070 (Thursdays 8.30am-3.50pm), or please email louise.siddle@theswanschool.org.uk (any time)

Our governor with responsibility for SEN is: Rachael McMullen

She can be contacted on rachelmcmullen@theswanschool.org.uk

Our SEND Policy can be found here: [SEND Policy](#)

How do we identify and give extra help to children with SEND?

The school uses the Oxfordshire County Council's guidance 'Identifying and Supporting Special Educational Needs in Oxfordshire Schools and Settings'.

The guidance sets out:

- How we identify if a pupil has a special educational need.
- How we assess pupils and plan for their special educational needs, and how we adapt our teaching.
- Ways in which we can adapt our school environment to meet each pupil's needs.
- How we review progress, agree on outcomes and involve you and your child in this.

Click here to read it:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/default/files/folders/documents/childreneducationandfamilies/educationandlearning/specialeducationalneeds/SEND/CompilationFoundationYearsandPrimary.pdf>

How do we work with parents and children?

We will always contact parents if we have a concern that a pupil may have a special educational need. We work closely with pupils with SEND to support them with their learning; with their parents to agree on outcomes and how we will all work towards these; then we review progress. We do this by holding regular meetings, in line with parent evening meetings, using a home/school diary (if appropriate), scheduled phone calls, etc.

Adapting the curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils, including those with SEND. Details are published on the school website.

We use a reading and writing intervention programme (Fresh Start), which supports pupils with literacy difficulties. The programme is delivered in small, differentiated groups on a daily basis by the school's Accelerated Learning Champions (ALCs). ALCs also run handwriting/fine motor skills groups.

Mr James Macnaughton, Deputy Headteacher and maths specialist delivers small group maths interventions on a daily basis, covering the same content as in the main group, but with more scaffold and support.

Our Pastoral Support Champion, Ms Kathryn Walton, supports pupils with a range of issues, including anxiety, low self-esteem, emotional and mental health difficulties.

What expertise can we offer?

Our SENCo has many years' experience in the role. She also works in other Oxfordshire schools - leading on inclusion, and she has worked for the Local Authority as a Special Needs Advisor.

Our Accelerated Learning Champions are experienced in working with young people and have been trained in delivering specialist SEN interventions.

Our Deputy Headteacher is a maths specialist, teaching maths in a variety of schools for 8 years up to GCSE and A level, which means that our maths intervention work is of a particularly high standard and tailored to the needs of the individuals within the small group sessions.

Our Pastoral Support Champion has a background in supporting university students with mental health, recovering from sexual violence, and general wellbeing. She is extremely passionate about safeguarding, student welfare and social/emotional development.

We also have access to a range of specialist support services including

- SENSS, who support pupils with communication and language, sensory needs and physical needs
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Therapy services, including speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy
- Children's Social Care
- Family Solutions

Information about these services and what they offer can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council SEN web pages:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-sen>

We always discuss the involvement of specialist SEND services with parents first. We also work with other services and organisations that are involved with a family, with the family's permission.

How do we know if SEN provision is effective?

The progress of all pupils is tracked throughout the school, with formal checks 3 times a year. In addition, for pupils with SEND, we regularly review progress towards agreed outcomes; assessing whether the support which is in place has made a difference. We evaluate this progress against age-related expectations and then decide what to do next.

When we run special intervention programmes for groups of pupils, we assess how successful they have been and use the information to decide how best to run them in the future.

The governing body is involved in evaluating the success of the education that is provided for pupils with SEND, with the SENCo and SEND Governor meeting regularly throughout the year. The SEND Governor reports to the full Governing Body on the provision and progress of children with SEND.

How are pupils with SEND helped to access activities outside of the classroom?

The Swan school offers a unique elective system, where all students take part in 2 extracurricular activities per week, as part of the school day. Students choose to pursue their interests, and are offered support in choosing options. All SEND students are included in this process and do not miss electives for any interventions.

All pupils are included in activities and trips following risk assessments where needed and in accordance with duties under the Equalities Act 2010. We talk to parents and pupils when planning trips so that everyone is clear about what will happen.

There is information about activities and events for disabled children and those with SEN in Oxfordshire in the Family Information Directory:

<http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities.page>

Oxfordshire's accessibility strategy can be read at:

http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/schools/files/folders/folders/documents/S_EN/guidance/Schools_Accessibility_Strategy.pdf

What do we do to support the wellbeing of pupils with SEND?

All pupils have the opportunity to share their views and their concerns through their school council representatives.

We always listen to the views of all pupils and we take bullying very seriously. We

have an anti-bullying policy and teachers address issues through the pastoral curriculum and whole-class discussions.

We have high expectations of all students and behaviour, and clear routines which are consistently enforced. This creates a calm and nurturing environment, where SEND students learn free from disruption.

Vulnerable pupils are amongst those who receive mentoring sessions in school, which provide an opportunity to raise/discuss issues worrying them with a known and trusted adult in a small group, or on an individual basis.

Joining the school and moving on.

We encourage all new pupils to visit the school before starting. For pupils with SEND, there are opportunities for a phone call or meetings with parents to discuss the needs of their child and opportunities for additional visits for the pupil.

Transfer days from primary to secondary school are organised in the summer term for year 6 pupils, with vulnerable pupils being offered additional visits. School staff will visit the primary schools to speak to the pupils, the class teacher and SENCo to give as much information and to gather as much information as possible.

Who to contact

If you are concerned about your child, please speak to their class teacher in the first instance. If necessary, the teacher will speak to the SENCo and arrange a meeting for you.

If you would like to feedback, including compliments and complaints, about SEND provision, please contact the Deputy Headteacher, Mr Macnaughton, or the Headteacher, Ms Kay Wood via the school office by emailing office@theswanschool.org.uk or by calling 01865 416070.

We aim to respond to any questions or complaints within 7 days. If you would like impartial advice from SENDIASS, Oxfordshire's parent support service, contact sendiass@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you would like to know more about opportunities for children with SEND and their families, support groups or information about SEND these are listed in the Family Information Directory:

<http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities.page>

Oxfordshire's Local Offer contains lots of information for parents. Click here to see it: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-sen>.

Our school has contributed to the county's Local Offer through attendance at a training workshop and through trialling of new guidance and system.