



Greenfield Community College
A Specialist Arts & Science School

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy

1. Definition of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

For the purposes of this policy, we have used the term Special Educational Needs as defined by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 implemented in September 2014.

A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. (*Code of Practice D.F.E. 2014*)

A child of compulsory school age has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- a. has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of pupils of the same age;
or
- b. has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools; and
- c. are under compulsory school age and fall within the definition at (a) or (b) above or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them.

Pupils must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

The SEND policy details how Greenfield Community College will do its best to ensure that the necessary provisions made for any pupil who has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities and that those are made known to all who are likely to teach them. The school will do its best to ensure that teachers in the school are able to identify and provide for those pupils who have SEND. The school will do its best to allow pupils with SEND to join in the activities within the school with pupils who do not have SEND, so far as is reasonably practical and compatible with the child receiving the special educational provision and the efficient education of the pupils with whom they are educated.

The school will have regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out its duties toward all pupils with SEND and ensure that parents are notified of a decision by the school that SEND provision is being made for their child.

2. Principles

As stated in the SEND Code of Practice, 2014:

'All children and young people are entitled to an appropriate education, one that is appropriate to their needs, promotes high standards and fulfilment of potential.

This should enable them to:

- achieve their best
- become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and
- make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education'

Our vision for our school is:

To be an exceptional school, where we offer extraordinary opportunities, that each and every student takes advantage of, to develop fully their potential as ambitious, confident, self-led learners.

Our Mission:

- We create a self-improving culture of learning across our organisation.
- We provide an inclusive curriculum promoting a strong student voice and can-do attitude.
- We work together to realise an outstanding learning experience for our young people.
All together we are a caring inclusive and creative organisation and are values are:
- to try
- to achieve
- to inspire

To do this we will provide quality teaching and learning so that all students make at least expected progress in Maths and English [and an increasing number make more than expected progress] and achieve strong outcomes across all subjects; raise the aspirations and lift the expectations of students, staff, parents/carers and the wider communities; strive for excellence for all, through a 'no excuses' and creative approach ['so what now what'] to barriers to learning and success. Enhance curiosity, wonder and love of learning through enquiry, questions and exploration, supported by T4S and our Arts and Science specialism. Engender a harmonious school community, underpinned by tolerance and respect so that students are well prepared for life in modern Britain and for contributing to the global community.

At Greenfield Community College, we are committed to the equal inclusion of all pupils in all areas of college life. We recognise the diverse and individual needs of all of our pupils and take into account the additional support required by those children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities.

Inclusion for All

In planning an inclusive learning environment, the governors recognise that some students may be particularly vulnerable to underachievement. While not having Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) as such (Ofsted 2000) students from the following groups might have Additional Educational Needs (AEN):

- Minority ethnic and faith groups; travellers, asylum seekers and refugees
- Students who need support to learn English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Gifted and Talented students
- Children looked after by the Local Authority (LAC)
- Children with persistent medical and/or mental health needs
- Young carers and children from families under stress
- Pregnant schoolgirls and teenage parents
- Students at risk of disaffection and exclusion

Admission Arrangements (also see school admission policy)

The arrangements for learners with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities but who do not have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are the same as those for all learners. Where a child has an EHCP the LA negotiates a place at the school of the parents/carers choice.

Contact can be made directly to either the Shildon or Newton Aycliffe SENCO to discuss possible provision before the admissions request is completed. A look around the appropriate location and a discussion meeting is advised.

Parents/carers seeking the admission of a child with mobility difficulties are advised to approach the school well in advance so that consultation can take place in liaison with the LA.

3. Objectives

The aims of the SEND Policy marry with the whole aims and ethos of Greenfield Community College. The core purpose of the SEND Team is to ensure that all children with SEND receive the appropriate support, which empowers them to achieve their potential as individual learners. In order to meet the individual needs of every student we need to continue to achieve the following:

- Regard SEND as a whole College issue directly related to curriculum, teaching and learning and raising achievement.
- Adopt a range of teaching and learning styles across all curriculum areas.
- Work in partnership with pupils, parents, teachers, governors, partner agencies and outside agencies.
- Develop effective communications within school, with parents, with partner and with outside agencies
- Follow a system of monitoring, target setting and reviewing progress that meets the needs of the individual learner and follows national and local guidelines.
- Ensure that learning experiences and the monitoring of progress and achievement is pupil centred.
- Allow pupils with SEND to fully partake in all school activities (so far as is reasonably practical and compatible with the child)
- Ensure that all pupils with SEND reach their full potential, make progress and achieve at the highest possible level for their ability
- Provide an appropriate curriculum which prepares students for life beyond school.
- Ensure that transfer to Greenfield Community College is a smooth process, which reassures children and their families and enables the best start to Secondary education.
- Ensure that post 16 transfer is appropriate to the needs of the young person and ensures continued education and or training
- Offer regular Staff inset.
- Provide an adequately resourced SEND Department that can effectively support students and their teachers.
- Liaise regularly with the Assistant Head teacher for Progress and Head of School to review the progress of SEND pupils.
- Record the names of SEND pupils on the College's SEND Register and regularly review this register.
- Maintain up to date information on MOODLE for all staff to access.
- Issue support plans or Pupil Profiles for those pupils identified on the SEND register.
- Make appropriate provision for those pupils whose needs are greatest.
- Support the College's Reading, Writing, Communication and Maths Policy Ensure that strategic and proactive intervention is in place via effective liaison with SEND Team.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governors' role

The Governing body will do its best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any child who has SEND. The name of the governor with specific responsibility for SEND is Mrs Fiona Brown. She liaises between the Governing body and the school on all matters related to SEND, ensuring that the Governing body plays an active part in developing and monitoring the school's SEND policy.

The role of the SENCO

The school has two Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCO):

Mrs Patricia Etherington	Newton Aycliffe Site
Mrs Lisa Lumsdon	Shildon Site

The following responsibilities will be undertaken by the SENCo's:

1. Oversee the day to day operation of the schools SEND policy and line manage the SEND team.
2. Liaise with the relevant Designated teacher where a looked after student has SEND.
3. Advise teachers on using a graduated approach to providing SEN support.
4. Advise on the deployment of the schools delegated budget and other resources to meet the student's needs effectively.
5. Liaise with and provide a point of contact for parents/carers of students with SEND who can telephone the school on (01325) 300378 (Newton Aycliffe) or (01388) 772526 (Shildon) or email contact@greenfieldschool.net
6. Liaise with and be a point of contact for external agencies.
7. Liaise with previous and potential next providers of education to ensure students and their parents are informed about options and the smooth transition is planned.
8. Ensure that the schools keeps the records of all SEND students up to date.
9. Work with the Executive Head Teacher and school Governors to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.
10. Work with the Executive Head teacher and governing board to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regards to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.

The SENCo's are line managed by the Assistant Headteacher Mrs Melanie Stubbs.
The school also has a SEND Teaching and Learning Consultant, Mr Colin Fowler.

The role of Class Teachers

All teachers are teachers of students with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. Teaching students with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities is a whole-school responsibility, requiring a whole school response. Central to the work of every and every subject, is a continuous cycle of planning, teaching, assessment and evaluation that takes account of the wide range of abilities, aptitudes and interests of the pupils. The majority of pupils will learn and progress within these arrangements. However, for pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, there is a need to provide an enhanced level of provision that supports and promotes their learning abilities.

5. Staffing

The teaching and learning requirements of all children with SEND is primarily the responsibility of the class teacher with support from their curriculum area with advice and support from the SEND Department. This reflects the principle that SEND is a whole school issue and a recognised aspect of all curriculum planning. All staff at Greenfield Community College are expected to teach pupils with SEND.

The SEND Department is led by Mrs Etherington, SEND Lead at Newton Aycliffe and Mrs Lumsdon SEND Lead at Shildon. Mrs Lumsdon also works with the year 10 and 11 students who commute from Shildon to Newton Aycliffe. There are nine Teaching Assistants who work within the department, some of whom work across both sites of the school.

The school also has a School Counsellor and Transition worker who works across both school site communities.

6. Identification of SEND

Pupils with SEND are identified from information supplied by:

- Primary Partner Schools.
- Standardised tests, (including literacy/numeracy tests, reading age tests and SATs results).
- Individual teachers and departments.
- Parents/carers.
- Outside Agencies.
- Pupils themselves.

- In-College monitoring.
- SEND Team
- Progress and Guidance Department

The school is committed to the early identification of Special Education Needs and adopts a graduated response to meeting Special Educational Needs in line with the SEND Code of Practice 0-25 years 2014.

We adopt a graduated response approach to meeting a pupil's special educational needs and/or disabilities, which is called 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review'. This means that we will:

- **Assess** a child's special educational needs.
- **Plan** the provisions to meet your child's aspirations and agreed outcomes.
- **Do** put the provision in place to meet those outcomes.
- **Review** the support and progress

Initial Identification

If a concern is raised about a pupil, then an Early Identification Referral Form is completed which adopts the 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' approach to meeting their needs. It is important to note that not all pupils referred to the SEND team will be SEN pupils; any support and guidance may be short, medium or long term. Our referral and identification system is outlined as an attachment to this policy.

When a pupil is identified as having special educational needs, Greenfield Community College will provide interventions and support that are additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's usual differentiated curriculum. This intervention will be described as SEN Support. The level of additional intervention and support will depend on the individual pupil need. The pupil will be placed on the SEN Register and parents/carers will be informed. For these pupils, either a SEN Pupil Profile or SEN Support Plan will be produced. This will provide details of the provision that we will make to meet a pupil's special educational needs and agreed outcomes.

Links with Outside Agencies

Despite receiving additional intervention and support from the school, it may be necessary for the SENCo, in partnership with parents/carers and the child, to refer to outside agencies. Outside agencies will usually see the child, so that they can advise on strategies and provide more specialist assessments that can inform planning and the measurement of a pupil's progress, give advice on the use of new or specialist strategies or materials, and in some cases provide support for particular activities.

School Request for Statutory Assessment: Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

For a small number of pupils the help given by Greenfield Community College and from outside agencies may not be sufficient to enable the pupil to make adequate progress. It will then be necessary for the school, in consultation with the parents/carers and any external agencies already involved, to consider whether to ask the LA to initiate a statutory assessment. Where a request for a statutory assessment is made to the LA, the pupil will have demonstrated significant cause for concern and be making little or no progress while accessing additional intervention/s.

We will provide written evidence as required by Durham LA detailing:

- Records of intervention, strategies, reviews and their outcomes
- Provision map record
- National Curriculum level attainments
- Other assessment data
- Written reports from an advisory specialist support teacher or an educational psychologist if available
- Views of the parents and of the pupil
- The involvement of any other professionals
- Any known involvement by social services or education welfare service

- Educational Advice: providing information relating to concerns, difficulties and all strategies and interventions implemented

Depending upon the outcome of such a request, statutory assessment may take place. Parents will be offered a Key Worker to help them through the statutory assessment process. Following statutory assessment, the LA may issue an EHC Plan outlining the young person's special educational needs.

An EHC Plan will last until the young person is 25 years old, or until all outcomes are met.

Annual Reviews

All statements and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) will be reviewed at least annually with the parents/carers, the pupil and any external agency to consider whether any amendments need to be made to the description of the pupil's needs or to the special education provision specified in the plan. The annual review will focus on what the young person has achieved as well as on difficulties that need to be resolved.

Termly reviews will be held for those children identified as SEN Support. Parents/carers, the child and any outside agencies, where appropriate are invited to these. Some reviews are part of the Parent/Teacher evenings set throughout the academic year.

7. Teaching and Support Arrangements

For the most part, pupils with SEND will be taught in the classroom, alongside their peers. Staff will use a variety of teaching strategies and techniques within each class, including differentiated resources and learning tasks, to accommodate pupils with special needs wherever appropriate and necessary.

- **In-class support**

In-class support will be targeted within the timetable to maximise curriculum access and consequently pupil progress. The SEND department aims to give consistency of support personnel across teaching groups where practical within subject areas. TA's support pupils and their work under the direction of the class teacher.

- **Withdrawal from Mainstream Teaching**

Pupils with SEN spend the majority of their time in mainstream lessons with their peers. However, withdrawal lessons provide opportunities to ensure that they can develop their basic skills. Withdrawal lessons can also take place before and after school as well as in Time 4 Success. Depending on need, the withdrawal can be short, medium or long term. It can also be delivered to an individual or group by the SENCo or Teaching Assistants. We also have a full time school counsellor and the Progress and Guidance Department who sometimes work with specific pupils outside of the mainstream classes.

- **Discrimination**

At Greenfield Community College we have an Equality Policy, therefore every Greenfield Community College pupil is provided with equal opportunity to access all aspects of our curriculum. We aim to:

- Provide a secure and accessible environment in which all our students can flourish and in which all contributions are considered and valued.
- Include and value the contribution of all families to our understanding of equality and diversity.
- Provide positive non-stereotyping information about gender roles, diverse ethnic and cultural groups and disabled people.
- Improve our knowledge and understanding of issues of anti-discriminatory practice, promoting equality and valuing diversity.
- Make inclusion a thread that runs through all of the activities of the school.

Accessibility

Greenfield Community College is an inclusive school and actively seeks to promote the inclusion of students with SEND. We use our best endeavours to ensure that all students with SEN and disabilities are able to fully participate in the life of the school, both in their learning and in the wider provision and life of the school.

All schools have duties under the Equality Act 2010 towards individual disabled children and young people. They must make reasonable adjustments to prevent them being put at a substantial disadvantage. Schools also have wider duties to prevent discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to foster good relations' (quotations taken from the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years. Published June 2014 for implementation in September 2014).

8. Recording SEND

Records are kept on all pupils with SEN. Records are kept by the SENCo's. Student files are kept up to date by the SENCo's. SEND records are also kept electronically using SIMS and CPOMS.

This SEND register is a record kept by the SENCo's. It indicates which pupils have SEN, what stage they are at, what their area/s of need is/are and information on the barrier/s to learning.

Class Teachers have access to EHCP's and other documents such as Support Plans and Pupil Profiles via Linked Documents on SIMS.

9. INSET and CPD

Greenfield Community College recognises the need to continue to develop the expertise of all staff, whole staff training on issues relevant to the teaching of pupils with SEN is ongoing.

Staff training needs are identified and met through a combination of in-house provision and courses run by the LA and other providers. SEND training sessions are organised as required to meet the current needs of staff and are led by the SEND Team or an appropriate outside agency. Teaching Assistants attend relevant CPD sessions and external courses. The SENCo's attend the Durham LA SEN Network meetings/training sessions, which are usually held termly. Particular CPD sessions are provided for NQT's, other new members of staff and PCGE students.

10. Partnerships

Greenfield Community College works closely with a wide range of agencies in order to provide the highest levels of support for pupils with SEN:

- SEND Team Durham County Council
- Educational Psychology Service
- Education Support Service
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- The Occupational Therapy Service
- The Health Authority: school nurses
- Education Health and Needs Team
- Advisers for Hearing, Physical and Visual Impairment
- The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHs)
- Full Circle
- Educational Social Workers, where appropriate*
- One Point
- Harbour, where appropriate*
- College and Industry links.
- One Point
- Attendance Improvement Team
- Additional Health Needs Team

Parents

Greenfield Community College will have regard to the SEN Code of Practice (2014) when carrying out its duties toward all pupils with special educational needs and ensure that parents are notified of a decision by the school that SEN provision is being made for their child. Partnership with parents/carers plays a key role in enabling children and young people with SEN to achieve their potential. We recognise that parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of a child's needs and the best ways of supporting them. All parents of children with special educational needs will be treated as partners and supported to play an active and valued role in their children's education.

Durham LA's SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SEND IASS) provides information and support to parents of pupils with SEN. A wide range of information and advice may be obtained by contacting this independent service. Contact details are as follows:

- SEND IASS
- Website: www.durhamsendiass.info
- E-mail: sendiass@durham.gov.uk
- Helpline: 0191 5873541

Other Schools and Colleges

When pupils with SEN are transferring to or from other educational establishments, the Progress and Guidance Leader and the SENCo will liaise with all parties concerned to ensure that the transfer is for the benefit of the pupils and disruption to the pupil's education is kept to a minimum. An early review of progress is arranged and parents are invited to join the review.

11. Criteria for evaluating success

There are two aspects to our self-evaluation procedures; an evaluation of policy and procedures, and an evaluation of pupil progress.

The following procedures are used for an evaluation of pupil progress:

- Review of records of pupils moving up and down the stage of the SEND Code of Practice
- Feedback from pupil, parents/carers, teachers/staff and outside agencies
- GCSE and SATs results
- Value added assessments
- Standardised assessments
- SEND reviews

12. Complaints Procedure

Complaints concerning any aspects of Greenfield Community College's SEN Policy should be addressed to The Executive Headteacher, Mr David Priestley.

This policy is mainly informed by:

- SEND Code of Practice 0-25 Years 2014
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- Schools SEN Information Report Regulations (2014)

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