

Nova Primary School Special Education Needs and Disabilities information report

At Nova Primary School, we are committed to raising the aspirations of and expectations for all children, therefore we do our best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any child who has special educational needs and/or disability (SEND). We provide a focus on outcomes for children and young people and not just hours of provision or support. We aim to work in partnership with parents, children and outside agencies in order to achieve the outcomes identified.



Inclusion Leader

Rachel Risley



Lead Learning Mentor

Janet Green



Learning Mentor

Imogen Gray

We are here to help.

Please get in touch via admin@novaprimarieschool.co.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Last updated: September 2021

Who are the best people to talk to in Nova Primary School about my child's difficulties with learning, Special Educational Needs or disability (SEND)?

Class teacher

Responsible for:

- Being the initial point of contact for any parent who is concerned about their child's progress or well-being in school. The teacher can be made available to talk about concerns and meet with parents to discuss additional SEND support if needed.
- Checking on the progress of your child and identifying, planning and delivering any additional help necessary. This could include specific targeted work, possibly with additional support and may involve liaison with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo).
- Making individual education plans (Pupil Passports) where considered necessary. These will be written and agreed in liaison with parents and pupils and reviewed a minimum of three times a year.
- Ensuring that all staff and volunteers working with your child are able to deliver appropriate learning opportunities to achieve the best possible progress.

- Ensuring that the school's SEND Policy is followed.

Special Educational Needs & Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo)

Responsible for:

- Coordinating the support for children with special educational needs or disabilities by liaising with class teachers and teaching assistants in planning appropriate interventions to support your child.
- Developing the school's Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Policy to ensure all children get a consistent, high quality response to meeting their needs in school.
- Ensuring that you are:
 - involved in supporting your child's learning
 - kept informed about the support your child is getting where appropriate
 - involved in reviewing your child's progress
- Liaising with external agencies who may be able to help support your child's learning e.g. Speech and Language Therapy, Educational Psychology etc.
- Updating the school's SEND register, ensuring that the SEND needs of pupils in this school are recorded and your child's progress assessed and reviewed.
- Monitoring the progress of children with SEND, a minimum of three times a year.
- Providing support for teachers and teaching assistants in the school so they can help children with SEND achieve the best progress possible.
- Reporting to the governing body on progress made by pupils with SEND and to keep them updated with issues regarding pupils with SEND.

Lead Learning Mentor/Learning Mentor

Responsible for:

- Working with and supporting children so that they are ready to engage with their learning e.g. providing daily check-ins, working in groups with children, providing 1:1 therapy sessions or ELSA sessions
- Liaising with parents and appropriate school staff who are involved in your child's learning.

Headteacher

Responsible for:

- The day to day management of all aspects of the school which includes support for children with SEND.
- Managing the SENDCo, class teachers and all support staff ensuring that your child's needs are met.
- Ensuring the Governing Body is kept up to date about any issues in the school relating to SEND.

Governors

Responsible for:

- Ensuring that the necessary support is made for any child who has SEND.

- Liaising with the SENDCo and Headteacher to ensure that the school is meeting its statutory duties for SEND provision.

Local Authority SEND team

Responsible for:

- Supporting teachers, teaching assistants, children and parents in the Local Authority.

Parents can contact Bristol SEND team to find out further information on the Bristol Local Offer at <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/web/bristol-local-offer>

How do we identify children with individual Special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND)?

Children are identified as having special educational needs through a variety of ways including the following: -

- Child performing below age expected levels
- Concerns raised by parent
- Concerns raised by teacher, for example behaviour or self-esteem is affecting performance
- Consultations between class teachers and members of the leadership team where progress data is discussed.
- Liaison with external agencies e.g. Educational Psychology Service
- Health diagnosis through a paediatrician
- Liaison with previous school or setting, if applicable

How do we involve children and their parents/carers in identifying SEND and planning to meet them?

- We are a child and family centred school so we aim to involve parents and carers as much as possible regarding the support for your child.
- When we are at the early stages of identifying SEND, we would discuss with you to see if you are seeing similar behaviours and understanding at home. We take this into account and work with you so that we are all working together as a team to support your child.
- For children who are identified as having SEND we may feel it necessary that they are on our school's SEND register if they require additional support that is above and beyond what is available to their peers.
- If a child is on the SEND register, we would likely have an individual education plan for them which we call "Pupil Passports". We establish some targets alongside parents/carers that will be worked on at home and in school.
- A review of these targets takes place at least every two terms with you so that we can discuss the progress and decide on the appropriate next steps of support for your child.

How do we adapt the curriculum so we meet SEND?

- All our staff are trained to differentiate the curriculum (make lessons easier or harder for children as appropriate) so that every child is able to learn at their own pace and in their own way. We will make or provide additional resources required.
- We use additional materials or intervention groups so that children's needs are met and that every child is making the best progress that they are able to.
- Our interventions include but are not limited to: Reading Recovery, Bristol Reading Project, Time to talk, Socially Speaking, mentoring, sensory diets, a variety of social, emotional and mental health groups.

How do we modify teaching approaches?

- All our staff are trained and receive regular opportunities to develop their knowledge on how to best meet the needs of children with SEND.
- We are a dyslexia friendly school and use visual timetables, coloured screens and overlays and specific teaching strategies for dyslexic learners.
- When we are teaching, we use a range of different approaches to cater for all learning styles – visual, auditory, and kinaesthetic.
- Staff have had additional training in dyslexia, social and emotional support, behaviour management, speech and language, Autism Spectrum Conditions and Attachment awareness.

What extra-curricular activities are available for children with SEN/D?

- There are a number of extra-curricular groups that children could attend after school and should necessary adjustments be needed for these we are happy to work with parents in order to allow children to attend.
- We have a breakfast club run by school staff which everyone is welcome to attend. We ask that a donation of 50p is made and that parents stay with their child to enjoy breakfast time and to support the adults who run this provision.
- We regularly have visits to the school linked with the child's Line of Enquiry e.g. firemen and their truck, museum curators, specialist sports coaches. All children are encouraged to be a part of these experiences and appropriate adjustments are made in order to ensure every child's engagement.

How do we support children's transition to school and when they leave us?

- Children who begin at Nova Primary School in Reception receive a variety of transitional activities. We arrange home visits, stay and plays, picnics and a graduated entrance at the beginning of September. We are always willing to adapt our transitional process further to children who may require additional transitional visits and visual resources to help them become familiar with their new space like social stories.

- If a child has SEND a meeting would be arranged between the nursery, class teacher and SENDCO where we would be made aware of their needs, identify if we are an appropriate setting for that child and how we can adapt in order to meet the child's needs appropriately. Additional visits are encouraged for a child with SEND.
- When children leave Nova Primary, we liaise with secondary school staff to ensure all relevant SEND documents are transferred as well as additional visits arranged for those who would benefit. SENCOs from each school would meet and discuss children with specific SEND or EHCP's and how to tailor their transitions.
- In-year transition is supported with extra visits to new classes and new teachers. Some children may require a personalised transition which might include photo books, social stories, spending time with the new class teacher on a 1:1 basis and many other things that we would work with a parent to arrange.

How does additional funding work?

- Schools receive funding for all children, including those with additional needs. A school would assess a child's needs, alongside parents and specialist, to identify if further support or equipment is necessary in order to meet the specific needs of individual children. The local authority may contribute more funding if they feel that the cost of meeting a child's needs is more than £10,000 a year.
- In Bristol, we can apply for Top-Up Funding which would provide additional funding to meet SEND. This must be reviewed annually and can be increased, decreased or ceased depending upon the review and the needs of a child. This process involves completing a comprehensive application and submitting to the Local Authorities top-up funding panel.
- We may also decide that a full assessment of a child's needs is required through an Education, Health and Care needs assessments. Parents, Health, Care and Schools can apply for an Education, health and care needs assessment. The decision to do this would be based on teachers, parents and professionals will discuss whether a child's needs are so significant that they would require this additional support and provision.
- Further information on Bristol's Local Offer can be found on their website:
<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/web/bristol-local-offer>

How can parents/carers get extra support?

- Your views are important to us and we want to listen to them and know that you are satisfied with what happens in school to support your child.
- In School, Mrs Risley is our Special Education Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator, Janet Green is our Lead Learning Mentor and Imogen Gray is our Learning Mentor. They will follow up with any concerns that you have and your views will be taken into account.
- There are a number of parent support groups within Bristol who are also here to help. Bristol supportive parents is a great place to start:
<https://www.supportiveparents.org.uk/> tel: 0117 9897725

What can parents/carers do if they want to seek some further support or advice?

- Your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher. Explain your concerns to them first. The class teacher will then speak to the SENDCO, Lead Learning Mentor or eLearning Mentor and a meeting can be arranged if necessary.
- We have our own Wellbeing page as part of our school website which can sign post you to a range of support services for children and adults:
<https://novaprimarieschool.co.uk/wellbeing/>
- As a school we aim to work together to resolve any misunderstandings or conflict but if you are not satisfied that a concern has been addressed appropriately, you can follow our complaints policy which can be found on our website:
<https://novaprimarieschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Nova-Complaints-Policy-Summer-19.pdf>
- www.supportiveparents.org.uk - an independent organisation offering a free, confidential and impartial service to any parent who has a concern about their child's education. Their aim is to provide you with all the information you need to understand the SEND process and improve your child's education experience
- Information & Support Line is 0117 989 7725. It is available Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am – 2pm during term time, and an answer phone at all other times
- www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk Tel: 01454 416381 SEN & sensory lending library. Family support
- www.bournefamilyproject.org Tel: 0117 9478441 Play therapy, counselling and parent support (contribution required)
- www.help-counselling.org.uk Tel: 0117 950 2511 For 9-25 year olds (contribution required)
- www.otrbristol.org.uk Support for young people 11years+
- www.southernbrooks.org.uk Family support and courses
- www.southglos.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/libraries/recommended-booklist/reading-well-shelf-life - a range of books to help deal with a range of issues, available in the libraries

Nationwide Support

- www.nspcc.org.uk
- www.bullying.co.uk
- www.barnardos.org.uk
- www.parentlineplus.org.uk