



Special Educational Needs and Disability

- The Wheatfield Offer

All South Gloucestershire maintained schools have a similar approach to meeting the needs of pupils with SEND and we are supported by the local authority to ensure that we provide an appropriate and high quality education for our pupils. Wheatfield is a mainstream school serving our local community in Bradley Stoke. We believe that **every one** of our pupils is entitled to a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum which is accessible to them.

How does the school know if my child needs extra help?

Children may be identified as having SEN through a variety of ways including the following:

- Concerns raised by Parent .
- Liaison with pre-school or previous school.
- Child performing below age expected levels.
- Through Pupil Progress Meetings held between the Teachers / SENCo.
- Concerns raised by teacher, e.g. behaviour or self-esteem is affecting performance.
- Liaison with external agencies, e.g. speech therapist.
- Health diagnosis through paediatrician/doctor.

As a school we measure children's progress in learning against National expectations and age related expectations.

The class teacher continually assesses each child and notes areas where they are improving and where further support is needed. As a school, we track children's progress from entry at Reception through to Year 6, using a variety of different methods.

Children who are not making expected progress are picked up through Pupil Progress meetings with the Class teacher and SENCO. In this meeting a discussion takes place to determine why individual children are experiencing difficulty and what further support can be given to aid their progression.

What should I do if I think my child may have Special Educational needs or a disability?

Please contact us! Start with your child's class teacher. If you require more information or still have a concern, please contact the SENCo or Head Teacher. Remember we also have a governor for SEND who is there to represent you.

The local Parent Partnership Service is <http://www.supportiveparents.org.uk>. They are available to provide information and support to any family of a child who may have SEND. Their support line number is 0117 989 7725.

What support is available for my child at Wheatfield if they have SEND?

Each child with SEND will need provision which is specifically to address their individual needs so this will look different for each child. Wheatfield offers a graduated response which can be described as 'Waves' of provision.

Wave 1: *'Quality First Teaching' through excellent differentiation in lessons for all children.*

Wave 2: *Small group support for children who are achieving below age expected levels.*

Wave 3: *Focussed individual programmes for pupils who are working well below age expected levels or whose emotional/behavioural needs require this provision.*

Wheatfield uses a huge variety of published and in house resources, drawing on the expertise of a range of staff to provide the particular intervention required for a child with SEND. This is subject to continuous monitoring and will be adapted in the light of the evaluation. More detailed information about the provision available at any one time is available from the SENCo.

Staff liaise with external agencies to plan provision for children with a high level of SEND - for example a physiotherapist will provide guidance to school about specific support needed. Some agencies also work directly with children in school - for example a speech therapist might provide 3 sessions of direct therapy in school. In addition, some children with SEND will receive additional help outside school, such as a motor skills group with an Occupational Therapist.

The school's SEND budget allows us to commission specific support for a child with a high level of need if we do not have capacity in our own staff - for example, Art Therapy.

Who is responsible for supporting children with SEND at Wheatfield?

All **teachers** are teachers of children with SEND. At Wheatfield, your child's teacher is responsible for:

- Checking on the progress of your child and identifying planning and delivering any additional help your child may need; this could be things like targeted work or additional support.
- Writing Action Plans and Pupils passports, where appropriate, in consultation with the SENCO and sharing and reviewing these with you to set next steps for your child.
- Ensuring that all staff working with your child in school know and are able to deliver the planned work for your child, so they can achieve the best possible progress. This may involve the use of additional adults, outside specialist help and specially planned work and resources.
- Ensuring that the school's SEND Policy is followed in their classroom and for all the pupils they teach with any SEND.

The school's **Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator** (SENCo) is Mrs Roberts. She is in school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Her email address is: imogen.roberts@wheatfieldprimary.com
Her phone number is 01454 868439. She is responsible for:

- Coordinating all the support for children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and developing the school's SEND Policy to make sure all children get a consistent, high quality response to meeting their needs in school.
- Providing specialist support for teachers and support staff in school so they can help children with SEND achieve the best progress possible.
- Updating the school's SEND register (a system for ensuring all the SEND needs of pupils in this school are known) and making sure that there are excellent records of your child's progress and needs.

- Ensuring you are kept informed about the support your child is getting, are involved in reviewing how they are doing and understand how you can support your child's learning
- Liaising with all those people who may be coming into school to help support your child e.g. Speech and Language Therapist, Education Psychologist etc.

The Head Teacher is Chris Dursley. Our Acting Head is Lois Haydon. They are responsible for the day to day management of the school, including the support given to children with SEND. They are also responsible for ensuring that the Governing body of the school are up to date and involved with any SEND matters. Both can be contacted through the school office.

Our **SEN Governor** is Lynne Watkins . She represents the interests of children with SEND and is in a position to hold staff to account for the provision made. She meets regularly with the SENCo. She can be contacted through the school office.

The school employs **Teaching Assistants** who may support teachers in delivering some of the additional support for pupils with SEND. Many of them have undergone specialist training in the area of SEND and they continue to update their skills. Some of our teaching assistants specialise in particular areas of need for which they receive additional training - for example in Dyslexia, Autism, Language Difficulties, Motor Skills Difficulties or Emotional and Behavioral Difficulties. The school is focused on developing a personalized package of provision for pupils with SEND that includes but is not exclusive to adult support (Teachers and TAs), mentoring, therapeutic interventions, learning support, personalised time-tabling.

Wheatfield's **Pupil and Family Liaison** is Kate Walsh who is in school on Monday, Thursday and Friday. Her email address is: kate.walsh@wheatfieldprimary.com. Her phone number is 01454 868439. Her role is to work with families and outside agencies to ensure the safety and good attendance at school of all children and to work together with parents/carers to overcome any difficulties for children which may be experienced during their time at Wheatfield.

Wheatfield employs **Lunch Break Supervisors** who support children as they eat and then play outside (or inside). Some children with SEND may have a specific key worker to provide extra support at this time. They liaise closely with the other staff who work with your child.

How do staff at school assess and review the progress of children with SEND?

Teachers and Teaching Assistants assess your child's progress constantly using informal and formal methods including observation, dialogue and written methods. Children are also encouraged to self-assess, where appropriate. The information is collated and recorded formally three times each year by the school's Assessment co-ordinator. The progress of children with SEND is also tracked by the SENCo who monitors the targets set, the provision made and the outcomes for your child. If needed, an Individual Plan or Individual Behaviour Plan is written 2 or 3 times per year to support this process. If this tracking indicates that a child may not be making the progress of which they are capable, staff will look at alternative or additional support for them.

How does school evaluate the success of provision for children with SEND?

Staff at Wheatfield make a 'baseline' assessment of a child's level before they start any specific additional support or intervention. At the end of the intervention, this is measured again in order to identify whether progress has been made. This informs further planning for your child.

The SEN governor also meets with the SENCo to keep informed about the progress of the children with SEND.

If a child has extreme needs, they may have a Statement of SEN or an EHC Plan (Education & Health Care Plan). These requires a formal annual review annually with a report produced.

The school is also subject to OFSTED inspections which analyse the progress of children at the school and feed back in a written report to parents.

What specialist services are available for children with SEND?

All teaching staff at Wheatfield have had training in supporting children with SEND and this is ongoing. In addition, the school has access to a very large number of additional specialists. This can be through the Local Authority, the NHS or independent agencies. The most commonly used specialist agencies who work with our school include: Educational Psychology, Community Child Health, South Glos Inclusion Support Service, Social Care, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and the School Health Nursing Service. The school's SENCo works closely with these specialist agencies to make sure that the needs of a child with SEND are fully met. A full list of agencies, together with their contact details is available from the SENCo.

How can I find out more or get involved further with supporting my child?

The school website is used by staff to communicate what the children are learning and what parents can do to support them <http://www.wheatfieldprimary.com>

In addition, our child's class teacher will always be prepared to make an appointment to discuss additional ways in which you can support your child with SEND. The SENCo is also available and can also put you in touch with support organisations outside school.

How are my child's views taken account of?

We value and celebrate each child being able to express their views on all aspects of school life. Each class has regular times for discussions with children about the issues which affect them. Wheatfield also has a School Council to discuss important issues and plan solutions to them.

Children who have Action Plans, Passports or IBPs (Individual Education/Behaviour Plans) discuss and set their targets with their class teacher.

If your child has an EHC Plan, their views will be obtained before any meetings.

Is the school accessible for a child with a physical disability?

There is good physical access at Wheatfield. The school benefits from ramps and a lift to the second floor and accessible toilet facilities for those with physical disabilities. Additional adjustments have been made to support those with a sensory impairment - for example braille signs, writing slopes etc. The outside environment is level and has been planned with the needs of all children in mind. A physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist could assess the environment and advise on any other resources needed for the safe access of your child.

School trips are planned to be accessible to all children. Additional adult support may be put in place. Close liaison with parents ensures confidence.

The school liaises with the Ethnic Minority Achievement service to help us support access to our school for families where English is an additional language.

How does school prepare a child with SEND for starting at Wheatfield, or for leaving to join another school?

Before children start in our Reception classes, the staff team visit their pre-school setting and their home to begin the preparation for coming to Wheatfield. The children are invited for a range of activities to prepare them in the term before they start (story time, lunch etc.).

The SENCo liaises closely with the pre-school and parents to provide a 'transition plan' in order to make this a positive move for your child. She also speaks to any other agencies who may be involved with the family.

If a child with SEND joins school at a different stage, the SENCo takes the lead, with the prospective class teacher, in meeting with the family and finding out about the child's specific needs from the previous setting and any relevant agencies. Visits are planned for the child before they start. If required, additional staff will be allocated to support your child.

For children with SEND leaving Wheatfield, a transition plan is put in place, together with the new school to ensure that the child's views are at the centre of the process and that any additional needs are planned for.

What should I do if I am not happy with the provision at Wheatfield for my child with SEND?

It is important to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns. If you do not feel this has helped, contact the SENCo. The Deputy, Head Teacher and SEND Governor can also be reached through the school office Tel: 01454 868610 or email office@wheatfieldprimary.com. You may also find 'Supportive Parents' helpful.

Please contact South Gloucestershire's Department for Children and Young People for details of their 'Local Offer'.

