











SEND Support at Highwood Primary School

? What is SEND?

Your child may have special educational needs (SEN) if they find learning more challenging than others and need extra support to achieve their full potential. For example, they may have difficulty with their:

-  Behaviour or ability to socialise
-  Reading and writing
-  communication and interaction
-  Concentration levels
-  Physical ability

We will assess all children to identify their strengths, needs and how we can best support them. Children who need extra help with their learning may receive additional support under 1 of the following categories:

-  Ordinarily Available Provision
-  SEN support
-  An education, health and care (EHC) plan



What is Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP)?

Pupils needing OAP support might get the following to help them access the curriculum:

- Quality First Teaching** – lessons adapted to meet different learning needs.
- Differentiated tasks and resources** (e.g., simplified instructions, visual supports).
- Flexible grouping** (working in small groups, pairs, or one-to-one when needed).
- Scaffolding learning** (using writing frames, checklists, sentence starters).
- Extra time to process information** and opportunities to revisit key ideas.
- Use of technology** (e.g., laptops, reading software, voice-to-text tools).

Visual timetables and prompts to support understanding and independence.

Movement breaks or access to a quiet area for regulation.

Support for social and emotional needs (e.g., check-ins with a trusted adult, social skills groups).

Targeted interventions for literacy, numeracy, or speech and language, alongside class teaching.

Adjustments to the classroom environment (e.g., seating position, reduced distractions, sensory tools).

We will regularly reassess your child's needs and, with your input, decide what level of support they'll need going forward.



What is SEN support?

Pupils needing SEN support might get the following to help them access the curriculum:

Individualised targets and support plans (e.g., Individual Education Plan IEP)

More frequent or intensive interventions for literacy, numeracy, or speech and language.

Small group or 1:1 teaching to pre-teach, overlearn, or reinforce concepts.

Adapted resources (e.g., coloured overlays, large-print text, tactile resources).

Specialist input or advice from external professionals (e.g., Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist).

Personalised strategies for communication, sensory needs, or emotional regulation.

Access to specific programmes (e.g., social communication groups, phonics or reading recovery programmes, therapy-based activities).

Adjustments to assessments and exams (extra time, scribes, readers, rest breaks).

Close monitoring and regular review meetings with parents/carers and staff to evaluate progress and next steps.

You'll be involved in making decisions about the types of support we will offer your child.

Pupils' needs change over time, and your child may only need SEN support for a short time. We will regularly reassess your child's needs and, with your input, decide what level of support they'll need going forward.



What are EHC plans?

If your child's needs can't be met with the level of support we typically offer in school, we will work with you to ask the local authority (LA) to assess your child for an EHC plan.

These plans are legally binding documents that set out the support that education, health and care providers must provide. Pupils who have an EHC plan are entitled to extra funding from the LA to help them get the specialist support they need.

FAQs



How will the school decide what type of support my child receives?

Every child's needs are different, and these may change over time.

We will try our best to match the support we offer to the needs of your child. We do this by making regular assessments of their strengths and difficulties. We will then put some support in place and see if that support helps them make progress in school. We will have regular meetings with you to discuss what's working and what isn't and refine our support based on that.



How do I know if my child needs SEN support?

If your child is not making expected progress for their year group, they may need SEN support. We will discuss your child's needs with you before placing your child on SEN support.



What if I think my child needs further support?

Please initially speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns. We will review the support we have in place. If we are doing all we can, but still feel that we aren't meeting all of your child's needs, we may recommend carrying out an EHC needs assessment.



OAP vs SEN Support

Aspect	Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP)	SEN Support
Who it's for	All pupils, including those with mild or temporary additional needs	Pupils with identified special educational needs (SEN) but without an EHCP
Level of support	Support expected in every classroom as part of Quality First Teaching	Additional to or different from OAP, more targeted and personalised
Examples of support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adapted tasks & resources - Visual timetables & prompts - Scaffolding (checklists, sentence starters) - Flexible grouping - Short interventions - Seating adjustments - Movement breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individualised targets and support plans - More frequent or intensive interventions - TA in-class support - Small group or 1:1 teaching - Input from external professionals (EP) - Exam access arrangements
Planning	Part of whole-class teaching; adjustments made by the teacher	Individualised plans reviewed regularly (Assess-Plan-Do-Review)

Monitoring	Teacher tracks progress as part of everyday assessment	SENCO coordinates with staff, parents, and professionals; reviews at least termly
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Where can I find out more information?



Go to the school website

If you want to know more, take a look at the SEN information report on our website. It explains our approach to supporting pupils with SEN in greater detail.

You can also read our special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) policy to get a better idea of the legislation and guidance we follow, as well as the roles and responsibilities of our staff.

You can access this information on our website here: [Policies - Highwood Primary School](#)



Contact us

If you have any questions about the support your child is receiving, or about SEND in general, please speak to your child's class teacher or **Lindsay Padbury**, our school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO).



See what's on offer locally

Read Wokingham Borough Council's local offer, to see what support is available to you and your child, here: [SEND Local Offer](#)



External links

See the government's guide for parents and carers of children with SEND at: <https://www.gov.uk/children-with-special-educational-needs>