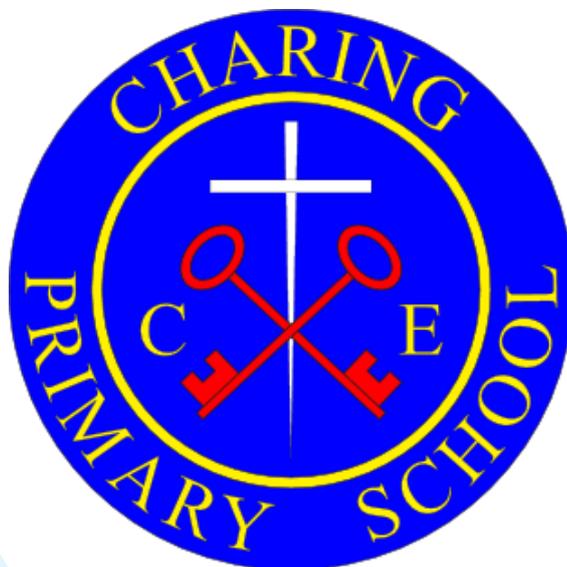


*'...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow
weary,
they will walk and not be faint.'* Isaiah 40:31

connect | nurture | aspire | learn | excel | hope



Charing Church of England Primary School

SEN and Disability Policy 2017

Date of next Review: September 2019

Date Adopted by Local Governing Body: November 2017

*“Through faith and inspired learning we unlock every child’s
ability to achieve beyond his or her expectations”*

Love **Friendship** **Kindness** **Truth** **Hope**

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

This policy is written in line with the requirements of:-

- Children and Families Act 2014
- SEN Code of Practice January 2015
 - SI 2014 1530 Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
 - Part 3 Duties on Schools – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators
 - Schedule 1 regulation 51– Information to be included in the SEN information report
 - Schedule 2 regulation 53 – Information to be published by a local authority in its local offer
- Equality Act 2010
- Schools Admissions Code, DfE 1 Feb 2012
- SI 2012 1124 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012
- SI 2013 758 The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

Behaviour Policy, Equalities Statement, Safeguarding Policy, Homework Policy, Complaints Policy.

This policy was developed in consultation with parents/ carers, both with children with special educational needs and without, with representatives from the governing body and will be reviewed annually.

Definition of SEN

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.

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

- (a) Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others 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 or mainstream post-16 institutions. *SEN Code of Practice (2015, p 16)*

Definition of disability

Many children and young people who have SEN may also have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is ‘...a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities’. This definition provides a relatively low threshold and includes more children than many realise: ‘long-term’ is defined as ‘a year or more’ and ‘substantial’ is defined as ‘more than minor or trivial’ *SEN Code of Practice (2015, p16)*

1 The kinds of special educational need for which provision is made at the school

At Charing C.E. Primary School we can make provision for every kind of frequently occurring special educational need without a Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP), for instance dyslexia, dyspraxia, speech and language needs, autism, Asperger’s syndrome, physical and learning difficulties and social, emotional and mental health difficulties including difficulties that result in challenging behaviours. There are other kinds of special educational need which do not occur as frequently and with which the school is less familiar, but we are able to access training and advice so that these kinds of needs can be met.

The school also currently meets the needs of pupils with an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP) with the following kinds of special educational need: Communication and Interaction, Cognition and Learning, Social, Emotional and Mental Health and Physical and Sensory. Decisions on the admission of pupils with an

Education, Health Care plan (EHCP) are made by the Local Authority.

The admission arrangements for pupils without an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP) do not discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.

2 Information about the policy for the identification and assessment of pupils with SEN

At Charing C.E. Primary School we monitor the progress of all pupils six times a year in order to review their academic progress. We also use a range of assessments with all the pupils at various points eg LanguageLink in Year R, the Y1 phonics screening, Y2 phonics re-screen, Speechlink, Language Link and assessment against the National Curriculum Programmes of Study.

Where progress is not sufficient, even if a special educational need has not been identified, extra provision is put into action in order to enable the pupil to catch up. Examples of extra support are small group or 1:1 interventions such as phonics, individual reading, focus or booster groups in writing, mathematics, handwriting, Write from the Start, Precision monitoring, Power of 2, BEAM, Language for Learning, speech therapy including cued articulation, language support, Fizzy, Clever Hands, Lego therapy, Sensory Circuits, Play Therapy, social skills groups, circle time empathy groups, and targeted support in class.

Some pupils may continue to make inadequate progress, despite high-quality teaching targeted at their areas of weakness. For these pupils, and in consultation with parents, we will use a range assessment tools to determine the cause of the learning difficulty. At Charing C.E. Primary School we are experienced in using the following assessment tools: Mainstream Core Standards, Language for Learning, in-depth phonics screening, Lucid Rapid for dyslexia screening, Language Link, Speechlink and British Picture Vocabulary Scale. We also have access to external advisors who are able to use appropriate assessment tools accessed through LIFT meetings (Local Inclusion Forum Team), who include S&L (Speech & Language Therapists), EP's (Educational Psychologists) and STLS (Specialist Teaching and Learning Service).

The purpose of this more detailed assessment is to understand what additional resources and different approaches are required to enable the pupil to make better progress. These will be shared with parents, put into a SEN support plan, reviewed regularly, reviewed and revised as necessary. At this point we will have identified that the pupil has a special educational need because the school is making special educational provision for the pupil which is additional and different to what is normally available.

If the pupil is able to make good progress using additional or different personal resources (but would not be able to maintain this good progress without) we will continue to identify the pupil as having a special educational need. If the pupil is able to maintain good progress without the additional and different resources he or she will **not** be identified with special educational needs. When any change in identification of SEN is made parents will be notified by letter.

We will ensure that all teachers and support staff who work with the pupil are aware of the support to be provided and the teaching approaches to be used.

3 Information about the school's policies for making provision for pupils with special educational needs whether or not they have EHC Plans, including:

a) How the school evaluates the effectiveness of its provision for such pupils

Each review of the SEN support plan will be informed by the views of the pupil, parents and class teachers and the assessment information from teachers which will show whether adequate progress is being made.

The *SEN Code of Practice (2015, 6.17, p.95)* describes inadequate progress thus:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
- Fails to close the attainment gap between rate of progress
- Widens the attainment gap

For pupils with or without an Education, Health Care Plan there will be an annual review of the provision made for the child, which will enable an evaluation of the effectiveness of the special provision. The collation of all annual review evaluations of effectiveness will be reported to the governing body – *I don't understand what*

this means?

b) The school's arrangements for assessing and reviewing the progress of pupils with special educational needs

Every pupil in the school has their progress tracked six times per year. In addition to this, pupils with special educational needs may have more frequent assessments. It will be possible to see if pupils are increasing their level of skills in key areas.

If these assessments do not show adequate progress is being made, the SEN support plan will be reviewed and adjusted.

c) The school's approach to teaching pupils with special educational needs

High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to all pupils including those who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching. Schools should regularly and carefully review the quality of teaching for all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered *SEN Code of Practice (2015, 6.37)*.

At Charing C.E. Primary School the quality of teaching is judged to be good (Ofsted March 2017)

We follow the Mainstream Core Standards

(http://www.kelsi.org.uk/pupil_support_and_wellbeing/targeted_support/inclusion/inclusion_and_achievement/publications_and_documents.aspx) advice developed by Kent County Council to ensure that our teaching conforms to best practice.

In meeting the Mainstream Core Standards the school employs some additional teaching approaches, as advised by internal and external assessments e.g. one to one support / precision teaching / mentoring, small group teaching, use of ICT software learning packages. These are delivered by additional staff who may be employed through the funding provided to the school as 'notional SEN funding'

d) How the school adapts the curriculum and learning environment for pupils with special educational needs

At Charing C.E. Primary School we follow the advice in the Mainstream Core Standards on how to adapt the curriculum and the learning environment for pupils with special educational needs. We also incorporate the advice provided as a result of assessments, both internal and external, and the strategies described in Education, Health, Care Plans (EHCP).

As part of our requirement to keep the appropriateness of our curriculum and learning environment under review the Governors have recently made the following improvements as part of the school's accessibility planning: disabled toilet, improved access to the Foundation Stage classroom, the KS 2 classrooms and the hall and have identified that the following aspects of the school need to be improved: ground level access to SENCo/ FLO and Family Room.

e) Additional support for learning that is available to pupils with special educational needs

As part of our budget we receive 'notional SEN funding'. This funding is used to ensure that the quality of teaching is good in the school and that there are sufficient resources to deploy additional and different teaching for pupils requiring SEN support. The amount of support required for each pupil to make good progress will be different in each individual case. In a few cases a very high level of resource or provision is required. The funding arrangements require schools to provide up to £6000 per year of resource for pupils with high needs, and above that amount the Local Authority should provide top up to the school (KCC's Schools Funding Forum has developed a system for this which was implemented in April 2015)

f) How the school enables pupils with special educational needs to engage in activities of the school (including physical activities) together with children who do not have special educational needs

All clubs, trips and activities offered to pupils at Charing C.E. Primary School are available to pupils with special educational needs either with or an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP). Where it is necessary, the school will use the resources available to it to provide additional adult support to enable the safe participation

of the pupil in the activity.

g) Support that is available for improving the emotional and social development of pupils with special educational needs

At Charing C.E. Primary School we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all pupils to develop emotional resilience and social skills, both through direct teaching for instance PSHE (Personal, Health and Social Education), the use of the FLO (Family Liaison Officer), and indirectly through every conversation adults have with pupils throughout the day.

For pupils who have significant social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs we are also able to provide the following: access to counsellor, mentor time with member of senior leadership team, external referral to CAMH's (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service), play therapy, a time-out space for pupil to use when upset or agitated or bespoke sessions with the Pastoral Support Manager.

Pupils with SEN in the early stages of emotional and social development will be supported to enable them to develop and mature appropriately. This will usually require additional and different resources beyond that required by other pupils of the same age.

4 The name and contact details of the SEN Co-ordinator

The SENCO at Charing C.E. Primary School is Mrs Samantha Wright, who is a qualified teacher and has undertaken the National Award for SEN Co-ordination. She also holds the following qualifications: BAed (Hons) Primary Education and Geography.

Samantha Wright is available on 01233 712277 or senco@charing.kent.sch.uk.

5 Information about the expertise and training of staff in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and how specialist expertise will be secured

All teachers and teaching assistants have had the following awareness training: Team Teach, e-safety, child protection, FGM, Prevent, safeguarding, Mainstream Core Standards, dyslexia, GRT, Precision Monitoring, behaviour strategies including understanding behaviour, the use of the Incredible 5 Point Scale, de-escalation techniques, early reading, phonics and emergent writing.

Where a training need is identified beyond this we will find a provider who is able to deliver it. Training providers we can approach are: Goldwyn School, Wyvern Special School, Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, Educational Psychologist, Speech and language therapist, occupational therapists, physiotherapist, School nursing, CHYPS (Children and Young Persons Services), CHATS (Children & Adult Therapy Service), Young Healthy Minds and Young Carers. The cost of training is covered by the notional SEN funding.

6 Information about how equipment and facilities to support children and young people with special educational needs will be secured

Where external advisors recommend the use of equipment or facilities which the school does not have, we will purchase it using the notional SEN funding, or seek it by loan. For highly specialist communication equipment the school will seek the advice of the KCC Communication and Assistive Technology team.

7 The arrangements for consulting parents of children with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education

All parents of pupils at Charing C.E. Primary School are invited to discuss the progress of their children on three occasions each year and receive a written report once per year. In addition we are happy to arrange meetings outside these times. As part of our normal teaching arrangements, all pupils will access some additional teaching to help them catch-up if the progress monitoring indicates that this is necessary; this will not imply that the pupil has a special educational need. All such provision will be recorded, tracked and

evaluated on a Provision Map which will be shared with parents three times per year.

If following this provision improvements in progress are not seen, we will contact parents to discuss the use of internal or external assessments which will help us to address these needs better. From this point onwards the pupil will be identified as having special educational needs because special educational provision is being made and the parent will be invited to all planning and reviews of this provision. Parents will be actively supported to contribute to assessment, planning and review.

In addition to this, parents of pupils with an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP) will be invited to contribute to and attend an annual review, which, wherever possible will also include other agencies involved with the pupil. Information will be made accessible for parents.

8 The arrangements for consulting young people with special educational needs about, and involving them in, their education

When a pupil has been identified to have special educational needs because special educational provision is being made for him or her, the pupil will be consulted about and involved in the arrangements made for them as part of person-centred planning. Parents are likely to play a more significant role in the childhood years with the young person taking more responsibility and acting with greater independence in later years.

9 The arrangements made by the governing body relating to the treatment of complaints from parents of pupils with special educational needs concerning the provision made at the school

The normal arrangements for the treatment of complaints at Charing C.E. Primary School are used for complaints about provision made for special educational needs. We encourage parents to discuss their concerns in the first instance with the class teacher, then SENCO or SLT (Senior Leadership Team), Head Teacher or FLO to resolve the issue before making the complaint formal to the Chair of the governing body.

If the complaint is not resolved after it has been considered by the governing body, then a disagreement resolution service or mediation service can be contracted. If it remains unresolved after this, the complainant can appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), if the case refers to disability discrimination, or to the Secretary of State for all other cases.

There are some circumstances, usually for children who have an Education Health Care Plan where there is a statutory right for parents to appeal against a decision of the Local Authority. Complaints which fall within this category cannot be investigated by the school.

10 How the governing body supports the school's involvement with other bodies, including health and social services bodies, local authority support services and voluntary organisations, in meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and in supporting the families of such pupils

The governing body have engaged with the following bodies:-

- Free membership of Local Inclusion Forum Team (LIFT) for access to specialist teaching and learning service.
- Access the Kent Educational Psychology Service through LIFT.
- Link to Disabled Children's Service for support to families for some pupils with high needs
- Access the local authority's service level agreement with Speech and Language Therapy Services / Occupational Therapy Services / Physiotherapy Services for pupil with requirement for direct therapy or advice
- Ability to make ad hoc requests for advice from Communication and Assistive Technology Team, etc
- Membership of professional networks for SENCO eg NAS (National Autistic Society), SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) forum, NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs) etc

11 The contact details of support services for the parents of pupils with special educational needs, including those for arrangements made in accordance with clause 32 (Parent Partnership Services)

Kent Parent Partnership Service (KPPS) provides free, impartial, confidential, advice, support and options around educational issues for parents who have children with special educational needs or disabilities (0-19). They empower parents to play an active and informed role in their child's education. They can be contacted on

HELPLINE: 03000 41 3000

Office: 03000 412 412

E-mail: iask@kent.gov.uk

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/iask>

12 The school's arrangements for supporting pupils with special educational needs in transferring between phases of education or in preparing for adulthood and independent living

At Charing C.E. Primary School we work closely with the educational settings used by the pupils before they transfer to us in order to seek the information that will make the transfer as seamless as possible. This involves meeting with setting managers and the SENCo and attending meetings for individual pupils prior to transition, with information sharing and arrangements put into place for a smooth transition. The school has access to confidential email and paper records are sent securely or hand delivered.

We also contribute information to a pupils' onward destination by providing information to the next setting. Meetings are arranged with the SENCo's of individual secondary schools and SEN records are forwarded. When a pupil moves before the end of year 6, records are passed on and contact is made with the SENCo of the new school.

13 Information on where the local authority's local offer is published.

The local authority's local offer is published on the Kelsi Website and parents without internet access should make an appointment with the SENCO for support to gain the information they require.