

NOVA PRIMARY ACADEMY SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) INFORMATION REPORT

All Keys Academies Trust academies are committed to ensuring good or better outcomes and experiences for children and young people with SEN and disabilities.

At Nova Primary Academy, we are here to help parents and carers understand how they can support their child if they have a special educational need and /or a disability. Staff are passionate about ensuring that the learning environment is inclusive and meets the needs of all our pupils.

Careful consideration is given to the curriculum to maintain high aspirations and expectations for all learners whilst ensuring that the right support and scaffolding is in place so that success is achieved by all.

Staff at Nova Primary Academy focus on preparing pupils for new learning and do so through a range of strategies including formative assessment, pre-teaching and using our knowledge of each child when planning interventions to give opportunities for overlearning. Targeted interventions are chosen carefully to maximise impact on pupil progress.

Positive partnerships with external agencies are used effectively to ensure that the graduated response is followed consistently for all pupils and advice given from professionals is acted upon.

The academy aims for an inclusive learning environment, with a strong, experienced leadership team who provide staff with regular CPD opportunities so that they can ensure that the curriculum on offer is appropriate and responsive to the needs of all learners.

Staff are approachable and care for the children and the community that we serve. Families are at the heart of SEND provision and the voice of each parent is highly valued and sought regularly throughout the year as we value them as partners in their child's learning.

KEY ACADEMY STAFF

The first point of contact for any concern should be your child's class teacher.

All staff listed below can be contacted via the academy office:

NAME	ROLE
Vicky Wells	SEND/CO
Fiona McCallum	SEN/Pastoral team
Daniel Saull	Headteacher
Julie Aubert	Deputy Headteacher
Becky Marshall	Family Engagement Lead
Natasha Jones	Family Partnership Officer
Jemma Simper	Safeguarding Lead and Assistant Head
Jude Macdonald	Trust Director of Inclusion

WHAT KINDS OF SEND ARE PROVIDED FOR?

TYPE OF NEED	EXAMPLES
Communication and Interaction	Speech, language, and communication difficulties. Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). Low levels of receptive language. Difficulty in understanding and processing language. Individual communication systems, for example PECs.
Cognition and Learning	A specific learning difficulty, for example dyslexia or dyspraxia. Mild but persistent difficulties in aspects of literacy, numeracy, or motor coordination. Moderate learning difficulties. Low levels of working memory. Difficulty processing information, making decisions and problem solving.
Social, Emotional, Mental Health (SEMH)	ADHD. Low levels of self esteem which may lead to behaviour that challenges. Anxiety and depression. Behavioural difficulties. M from CAMH.
Sensory and / or physical needs	Visual or hearing impairments. Physical disabilities. Epilepsy.

HOW ARE SEN/D NEEDS IDENTIFIED AND ASSESSED?

Careful baselines are carried out annually. The information from this baseline is considered alongside evidence from previous settings, key stages, and years. Teachers regularly assess students in a wide variety of ways, and are best placed to identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly lower than that of their peers starting from a similar baseline.
- Fails to match or better the individual's previous rates of progress.
- Fails to close the attainment gap with peers despite intervention.
- Widens the attainment gap.

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.

Slower progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN. When deciding whether special educational provision is required, the academy will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents / carers. Academy staff will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether it can be provided by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

At Nova Primary Academy, children are identified as having Special Educational Needs and/or a disability in a wide range of ways, including:

- Liaison with the previous setting.
- Transition arrangements, such as home visits.
- Children performing below age related expectations.
- Concerns raised by parents/carers.

- Concerns raised by staff.
- Concerns raised through co-ordinated approaches in regular Vulnerable Pupil meetings with the DSL, SEND and Pastoral teams.
- Concerns raised with Trust leaders at Behaviour, Attendance, SEND and Safeguarding meetings.
- Liaison with external agencies.
- Referrals from The Health Visitor / Academy Nurse.
- Health diagnosis through a paediatrician.
- Their academic performance.
- Clinical Psychologist diagnosis.
- Educational Psychologist diagnostic assessment.
- Speech and Language assessment.
- In academy assessment e.g. NFER tests, BPVS, TONi, speech and language screens,
- Screening, for example for dyslexia.
- Accessing Peterborough Hubs for support and guidance.
- Through the Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle.
- Pastoral concerns.
- Data analysis by the academy Raising Standards Lead.

HOW ARE PUPILS / STUDENTS AND PARENTS / CARERS CONSULTED AND INVOLVED?

Parent / carer partnership is encouraged through regular consultations, annual reports, SEND reviews and informal discussions.

The children and parents / carers are at the heart of decision making, ensuring high quality individual education at the academy is carefully planned around the specific needs of the child. As far as possible, the academy will accommodate parental availability when planning meetings.

Phone and email contact are maintained which ensures that difficulties and anxieties can be resolved swiftly. As soon as there is a concern about a child's needs, an early discussion with the pupil and their parents / carers will be held to identify whether they need special educational provision.

These conversations will make sure that:

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty.
- Parent / carer concerns are considered.
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child.
- Everyone is clear on the next steps required.

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record and given to their parents / carers. The academy will formally notify parents when it is decided that a pupil will receive SEN support.

Parents / carers will always be consulted to obtain permission for referrals to outside agencies for example; speech and language therapy, educational psychology. They will be invited to attend any professionals or review meeting where appropriate that will help support their child.

No pupil will access a high needs classroom without agreement with the parents / carers.

HOW THE ACADEMY ASSESSES AND REVIEWS PROGRESS TOWARDS OUTCOMES

The academy uses a wide range of monitoring systems to assess the impact of all strategies. These include:

- Provision Maps, reviewed regularly.
- A tracking system to monitor children's progress against national/age expected levels and targets.
- Regular NfER assessments (termly).
- Regular reading and phonics assessments through RWI.
- Termly APDR reviews for children who required specialist intervention and children on EHC plans.
- Pupil Profiles.
- End of term report.
- Raising standards meetings.
- Phonics assessments.
- Evidence from assess, Plan, Do, Review cycles.
- Attendance, behaviour and suspension data.
- Liaison with providers of alternative provision.

Children may move off the SEND register when they have made sufficient progress. They will then be tracked on the inclusion register for up to six months to ensure that the reduction of provision is not causing a fall in attainment or wellbeing.

SUPPORT FOR TRANSITION

The academy liaises closely with staff when receiving and transferring children to different schools, ensuring all the relevant paperwork is passed on and all needs are discussed and understood. A transition programme runs during the summer term annually, which allows pupils to experience the new academy environment and meet new staff.

The academy has an open evening and parents / carers are warmly invited to attend the evening and any subsequent open days, to support families in making decisions about their child's schooling.

For children with SEND, it may be appropriate to encourage and facilitate further visits to the academy assist with transition process. The academy and/or parents may also feel the need to arrange additional transition meetings between setting to alleviate concerns.

Transition between year groups is carefully planned for to ensure a smooth process for the children. Teachers meet on a number of occasions to hand over relevant information about the children in their class and in turn receive information from teachers for the class coming up using the provision map information. Additional SEND information is also transferred via the SENCO and relevant reports and advice are shared. Pupils visit their new classrooms and teachers during the end of summer term, helping them to familiarise with the new space.

When a child moves from primary to secondary academy, any open assessments to external professionals, or on-going Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycles are shared and appropriate planning shared with staff.

Secondary students are encouraged to access college open evenings and supported with applications to their new settings. Where a child has additional needs, these will be communicated to the receiving educational provider.

As with all children, relevant safeguarding files will be passed to the child's new academy at the point of transition.

HOW PUPILS / STUDENTS WITH SEN/D ARE TAUGHT

In line with SEN Code of Practice Jan 2015, Nova Primary Academy believes that "all teachers are teachers of pupils with special educational needs". As such, the academy adopts "a graduated approach" that places quality first teaching at the heart of all lessons.

Staff receive a range of specialist training to empower them in delivering good or better lessons which meet the needs of pupils with special needs, and the SENDCO holds an advisory role across all staff in promoting good to outstanding teaching strategies which meet the individual needs of pupils.

Quality First Teaching and inclusive classroom practice is a high priority at the academy. Teachers are supported by the senior leadership team and members of the SEND team to ensure the learning environment is accessible to pupils with special educational needs. If a pupil is struggling in a particular area of the curriculum, the teacher and pupil are supported to explore ways the environment, resources and delivery can be adapted to enable progress.

The academy hosts the Local Authority's Deaf Hub. Guidance and admissions are agreed with the LA and can be summarised as follows:

Primary Deaf Hub placements are usually agreed for the phase of education e.g. end of Year 6. Transition planning to secondary school must commence at the child's Year 5 annual review and should parental preference be to transfer to a secondary deaf Hub the request will be considered at SEND panel. If there is a significant change to the child or young person's main presenting need the suitability of continued placement at the Hub will be discussed at an interim or annual review.

The principal aim of a Hub placement is to support the child and young person to ensure, with tailored intervention their deaf needs are well met within a mainstream environment, and to develop their daily independent living skills to prepare them for adulthood.

Admission Guidance for the Hub at Nova Primary Academy

Children and young people will have severe/very significant needs as a result of their deafness. Deafness will be their primary area of need. Their deafness will be impacting significantly on their communication development and their ability to make progress. Children and young people will require some or all of the following:

- A high level of specialist support and intervention targeting communication
- Access to interventions targeting social and emotional development that may include access to deaf peers or role models.
- Access to specialist communication support that may include signed communication support.
- A permanent, bilateral, hearing loss that continues to significantly impact on their language development and curriculum access.

- A possible additional diagnosis or secondary Special Educational Need (SEND) in the areas of sensory, physical, social and emotional or cognition and learning.
- Child/ young person who requires significant access to specialist adult support and /or technology in order to record their learning in a way which enables full participation in an age/ stage appropriate National Curriculum.

There will be clear evidence that the child and young person’s school have used the Sensory and Physical Support Service (Teachers of the Deaf) to advise them on strategies to support the Child and Young Person in their current setting and this has been implemented through a sustained Assess-Plan-Do-Review approach. Despite this, the deafness has impacted, or would impact, significantly on educational progress.

The academy has a high needs classroom, known as the Atom room. The guidance for this room is set in line with the Trust Guide to High Needs Classrooms, and can be summarised as follows:

Nova Primary Academy Admissions Guidance for Atom Room 2025-26

SESSION 1: 2 HOURS P/D 10.00 to 12.00 a.m.

Admissions Guidance: Session 1

- Year 1 to Year 3.
- EHCP with Element 3 funding or Element 3 has been requested
- Broadly able to manage intimate care, sometimes with adult support.
- Broadly within EYFS Curriculum for communication and interaction.
- Pupils will be pre- or non-verbal, or minimally speaking with significant developmental delay in language

Curriculum Offer: Session 1

The curriculum is based around the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the UL EYFS planning linked to core stories.

Registration and phonics will be delivered prior to Session 1 starting. Pupils will continue to access assemblies, PE and music with their chronological year group.

Activity	Time
Welcome routine and sing – day of the week / emotion coaching colour monsters	10 minutes
Sensory circuits	20 minutes
Fine Motor Dough Disco	10 mins
Communication, Language and Literacy - UL Curriculum	15 minutes
Mathematics – White Rose or Mastery linked to UL Curriculum	15 minutes
Understanding the world, expressive art and design, physical development through continuous provision linked to learning.	30 mins
Attention Autism Programme	15 minutes

Staffing – session 1

1 unqualified teacher

1 FTE TA

SESSION 2: 1 HOURS P/D 1.00 to 2.00 p.m.

Admissions Guidance: Session 2

- Year 1 to Year 3.
- On pathway for Statutory Assessment or evidence currently being gathered
- Broadly able to manage intimate care, sometimes with adult support.
- Diagnosed with ASD, or on the neuro pathway.
- Pupils will be developing their receptive and expressive language skills with significant delay in understanding or vocabulary. SALT targets to be addressed through the group

Curriculum Offer: Session 2

The curriculum is based around the pupil's individual targets in their APDR plans and their targets set by speech and language therapy service.

Activity	Time
Welcome routine and sing – day of the week / emotion coaching colour monsters	15 minutes
Fine Motor Dough Disco/ social communication games (alt days)	15 mins
Communication, Language and Literacy - UL Curriculum - 'Wonderful words' approach	15 minutes
Attention Autism Programme	15 minutes

STAFFING for session 2

1 unqualified teacher

ADAPTION OF CURRICULUM AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUSION FOR SEND

Teachers are expected to plan work pitched at an appropriate level so that all pupils can access the curriculum according to their specific needs. This might mean that in a lesson there would be different levels of work set for the class, however if needed then work is individually scaffolded.

In addition, staff work hard to:

- Scaffold the curriculum to ensure all pupils can access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work and teaching style.
- Adapting resources, for example large print for pupils with visual impairment, a microphone and hearing loop for those with a hearing need.
- Deploying staffing effectively to intervene where a child needs additional support, or as determined by the provisions in their EHCP.
- Adapting resources to include key words to support pupils, visuals to aid presentation and symbols to support reading.

- Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font and writing slopes.
- Scaffolding teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, and reading instructions aloud.

The academy has an Accessibility Policy and Plan which is reviewed regularly as the needs of the academy community change.

STAFF EXPERTISE

Staff are well trained and there is a variety of expertise available at the academy. The following interventions can be delivered, as required by a child's EHCP, an Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle, and following discussion with parents / carers:

- National Professional Qualification for SEN Co-ordination.
- Speech and Language interventions.
- BSL small group teaching.
- Referral for Early Help Assessment.
- Mental Health First Aid.
- ELSA support.
- SALT programmes.
- Sensory Circuits.
- Intimate care.
- In-class support.
- Maths, phonics and reading interventions.
- Spelling interventions.
- Medical support.
- Use of hoists and transfer equipment.
- Issuing medication, for example for diabetes.
- Social skills.
- Social stories.
- Sensory Circuit.
- 1-1 Booster sessions in core subjects.
- Intervention programmes from subject areas.
- Break-out rooms for low stimulus interventions.
- Colourful Semantics.
- Shape Coding.
- Read Write Inc
- Attention Autism (stages 1-4).
- Targeted lunchtime club for children who need support with less structured times.

EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

The academy evaluates the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEN by:

- Reviewing pupil progress towards their goals a minimum of three times a year.
- Pupil surveys.
- Parent / carer surveys.
- Monitoring by the SENDCO.
- Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle outcomes.

- Provision mapping.
- Progress reports and parent / carer evenings.
- Reviews / meetings with the Trust Director of Inclusion.
- Internal and external audits.

SUPPORT FOR EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

At Nova Primary Academy the Trust Behaviour Policy and Academy Behaviour Statement aims to support pupils with understanding and displaying pro-social behaviour. Relationships between adults and children are crucial in creating a secure learning environment where pupils feel safe and supported. The following strategies support this aspect of the academy's work:

- Positive tone / body language
- Academy core values:
- Pastoral support.
- Year team meetings and leaders.
- ELSA trained member of the Pastoral team.
- Behaviour reflections.
- Referral to the Local Authority's behaviour panel.
- Careful but appropriate use of alternative provision.
- Reward system.
- Care plans for pupils who need intimate care or medical support.
- Personal / pastoral support plans.
- Playground buddies.
- Class worry boxes.
- Academy trips.
- Consideration of home language and cultural heritage.
- Careful planning of PSHE and SRE linked closely to matters arising locally and within the academy community, for example by reviewing MyConcern patterns.

OUTSIDE AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Nova Primary Academy can access a range of additional services from outside agencies. These may be considered when the usual adaptations are not leading to progress or where a child may need an application for an EHCP. These services include:

- Those provided by the Local Authority:
 - Autism Advisory Teaching Service
 - Pupil Partnership Officer
 - Pupil Referral Service
 - Early Help Team
 - Children's Social Care
 - Behaviour panel
- Those provided by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health Trust:
 - Community Paediatricians
 - ADHD Team
 - Neurodevelopment Service
 - Physiotherapy Service
 - Paediatric Occupational Therapy Team

- Speech and Language
- School Nurse
- CAMHS (child and adult mental health)

- Specialist teachers, for example Teacher of the Deaf or Teacher of the Blind.
- Local Hub Centres of Expertise.
- The support of the Area SENCo.
- Alternative provision, such as Families First, Return2Learn, Oak
- Referral to The Keys Academies Trust Behaviour, Attendance, Safeguarding, SEND (BASS) Panel, with the Trust Directors of Inclusion and Academy Improvement for advice and guidance.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS

The first point of contact would be your child's class teacher to share your concerns. Parents can also arrange to meet our SENDCO or Headteacher.

The Trust SEND Policy and Trust Complaints Policy can also be viewed on the Trust website:
https://www.pkat.co.uk/_site/data/files/users/6/policies/D8AF576D3F20157D52584479E8028213.pdf