



SEND Policy and Information Report

2025-26

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At Oulton Primary School, we ensure the curriculum is developed and adapted to meet specific needs. Taking individual starting points into account, personalised curriculums allow pupils to experience success and be supported to achieve outcomes academically as well as across other strands of development. We are proud to be an inclusive school where everyone is valued and their strengths and ambitions are celebrated. We recognise the importance of all pupils fully participating in school life and to support this, ensure that the Special Educational Needs of children are identified, assessed and provisioned to the best of our ability.

Aims:

This SEN policy and information report aims to:

- Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEND

Legislation:

This policy and information report is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

- [Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEND co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the SEND information report

Definitions:

A pupil has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

They have a learning difficulty or disability if they have:

- A significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of the others of the same age, or

- A disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

Special educational provision is educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

SEND provision:

All children receive quality first teaching, where the teacher has the highest expectations for each child and all the pupils in their class. Teaching staff check understanding and identify any gaps where extra support is needed. Any adaptations needed for the lesson or environment is put in place to help them make the best possible progress.

If specific gaps occur that need to be addressed through targeted support in smaller groups, this provision is also put in place. Interventions are usually planned in phases and this would include any child who requires intervention. Interventions used at Oulton are specific evidence-based interventions which are overseen by leaders and the SENDCo.

Some children require a personalised approach to teaching and learning and specific provision or interventions to be in place which is additional to or different from the provision described above.

Underpinning all our provision in school is the graduated approach cycle:



We identify children's needs from ongoing assessment as well as from feedback from teachers and parents.

Through initial discussions, teachers can highlight the primary areas of concern, which supports the SENDCo to establish specific needs and strategies that could be implemented to enhance quality first teaching in the first instance. We also use C-POMs for staff to log concerns around SEND. Adaptations may include:

- Adapting the curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- Using physical resources to support learning (e.g. counters, Numicon, pencil grips etc.)



- Using visual prompts, such as visual timetables, checklists, word banks, 'Now and Next' prompts, planning prompts etc.
- Adapting resources and staffing
- Using recommended aids/ specialist equipment, such as laptops, coloured overlays, larger fonts, wobble cushions, weighted blankets, fidget and sensory toys/ supports
- Adapting the teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, chunking instructions, etc.

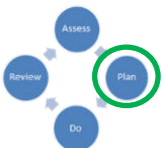
Interventions:

Children identified as having SEND may also participate in a range of interventions in school. Intervention groups are in place to support the diverse needs of the children within our school and some are run by TAs and HLTAs. We adapt and change who attends these groups regularly, based on need. These interventions are timetabled carefully, to ensure that pupils still have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. For quality assurance, the phase/ subject lead or SENCo may oversee an intervention group and join in with the children to ensure that it is pitched correctly and that learning is taking place, in line with whole school teaching and learning approaches. The range of interventions that we currently run are as follows:

- *1:1 RWI tutoring*
- *1:1 coaching*
- *Socially Speaking*
- *Time to Talk*
- *Colourful Semantics*
- *ELSA*
- *Project Mentor*
- *Personalised interventions recommended by SaLT, Physio, OT, SENIT, Educational Psychology etc*

Depending on need, some children may be assessed using the SENIT Developmental Journal (EYFS) / Stages not ages materials. These support teachers to adapt the curriculum at an age-appropriate level for pupils with SEN who are working well below age-related expectations. They provide ongoing assessment, helping to inform planning and target set whilst tracking and demonstrating small steps in progress. These materials are used as a working document.

Throughout the year, children receiving SEND support have specific targets set through their Individual Provision Map (IPM). These targets are set by the class teacher or key professionals involved and are worked on with the child through quality first teaching as well as specific interventions.



The Individual Provision Maps used throughout school ensure staff are aware of particular children's needs and the current support in place. This one page document supports implementation of a robust graduated approach cycle. All staff are expected to refer to these profiles to inform planning and provision / the use of effective strategies on a regular basis.



Ensuring quality first teaching meets the needs of all children remains a school priority. The SENDCo, Phase Leaders and Senior Leadership Team support teachers where needed to ensure assessment information is used to plan and differentiate lessons effectively. Observation and assessment is also used to ensure appropriate teaching strategies and scaffolds are used to support curriculum access and participation for all children. Where additional interventions are in place, outcomes from interventions are integrated into classroom teaching and teachers capitalise on learning from interventions in whole-class and small group teaching.

Reviewing progress and the impact of the provision in place may be done in a number of ways:

- 
- *Regular Team Around the Child meetings/ Discussion at Phase Meetings*
 - *Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals*
 - *Assessing progress using SENIT Developmental Journal / Stages not Ages*
 - *Reviewing the impact of interventions at regular points*
 - *Parents' evenings at key points where parents and teachers can discuss a child's progress. Additional parents' reviews are held for children receiving SEND support*
 - *Classroom observations to assess the impact of the learning environment and how this supports the child*
 - *Reviewing alongside external agencies / key professionals involved*

We evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEN by:

- *Working with professionals such as SaLT to review progress towards specific targets*
- *Holding termly ISAR and SEND Support (IPM) Reviews*
- *Holding annual reviews for pupils with EHC plans*

Through all methods of reviewing, impact/progress takes into account pupil and parent voice, moderation of pupil's work and data where appropriate.

Education Health Care Plans:

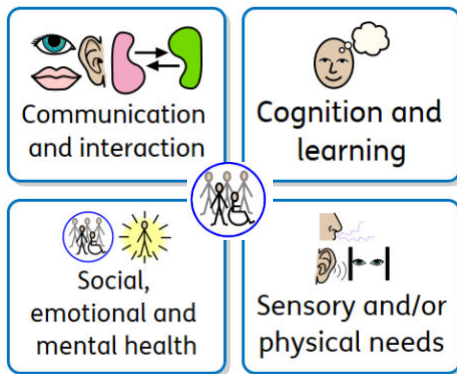
If a child has a high level of need and they are only making limited progress, despite school following the graduated response to their SEND needs, it may be appropriate to apply for an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). This is a legal document that details any special needs a child has and the support and provisions that must be in place to help them learn. School will do this in discussion with parents.

More information on the Education, Healthcare Needs assessment and plans can be found here:



A child's SEN needs:

Areas of SEN, support and provision can be considered as falling under four broad areas:



Our school currently provides additional and/or different provision for a range of needs, including:

- Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum condition, speech and language difficulties
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, this also includes: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
- Moderate/severe/profound and multiple learning difficulties for example, down syndrome



We place a high priority on ensuring a strengths based and holistic approach to SEND across school. Fostering an understanding of the child, placing importance on talents, interests and what the individual 'can do' as a starting point, rather than their challenges, is key to informing the provision in place.

For all our pupils, developing positive self-esteem, motivation, and resilience underpins our SEND offer and commitment to the development and well-being of all pupils.

The school provision map (Appendix 1) provides an overview of the type of provision currently in place.

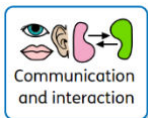
There are currently 83 children receiving some form of SEN support or have an EHCP.

School SEN Support (current)	School EHCP (current)	National Average SEN Support 2024	National Average EHCP 2024
64 (20.3%)	18 (6.0%)	14.8%	6%
26.4%			

On our SEND register, we have a number of children with a significant level of complex needs. Although the number of children with EHCPs is equivalent to the national average, this is partially due to the funding arrangements, specific to Leeds, for children with high needs as an EHCP is not necessary for this. As Leeds continue the SEND and inclusion transformation programme, the number of EHCPs in school will significantly increase. There are currently 47 children being monitored as part of the graduated approach.

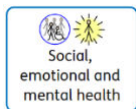
We have a range of professionals within school who, alongside teaching staff, share their expertise in developing learning and teaching for children. This includes the Headteacher, Deputy Head, SENCo, and key members of our pastoral team.

Where the school needs to access additional advice or expertise, we are able to refer to a range of professionals including the Educational Psychologist, Complex Needs Team and Speech and Language Therapist. We are also able to refer children with other needs to the AIP (Area inclusion partnership) or our Cluster Guidance and Support Group. Through this, we are able to access additional targeted support such as outreach for SEMH needs, therapeutic support and counselling.



Across school, our highest area of need are children requiring additional Speech and Language support. To support this need, in addition to accessing NHS Speech and Language Therapy support, we have bought in additional traded time with Chatterbugs. We currently have a Speech and Language Therapist working in school for 1 day a week and a Communication and Language Assistant working in school for a day each week. This is to deliver 1:1 and group therapy sessions, assess and review need and to work with staff to support their skills in supporting pupils/ delivering therapy programmes.

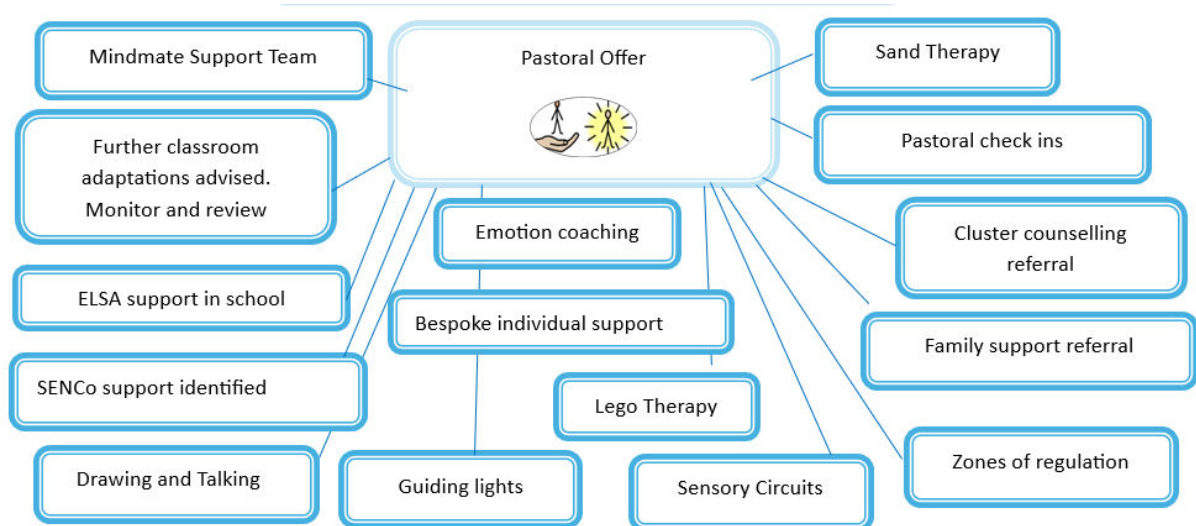
68 children are currently on the Chatter-bug caseload. This includes 7 children who have significant specific speech disorders, 3 of which are also being supported by the NHS SSD pathway which provides regular blocks of therapy.



Our learning and behaviour mentors regularly attend phase meetings to discuss children who may be needing extra support. A decision is then made as to what pathway and support is most suitable for the child. The Deputy Head and SENDCo are involved with regular meetings which oversee the caseload of children and provision in place. Support includes a range of 1:1 and group interventions, such as ELSA, Time to Talk, Socially Speaking, Drawing and Talking, Zones of Regulation, Emotional Check-ins, mindfulness & BUSS.

We have built a system to ensure learning and behaviour mentors are able to follow a graduated response which means their caseload of children stays current and responsive. Prior to Learning Mentor involvement, needs must be assessed, planned for and reviewed. Introduction of interventions that have a pre and post measure help to evaluate the impact of intervention and support in place.

Our current pastoral offer:



Angelfish Provision:

To be able to provide the specialist and bespoke support identified for some of our high support needs learners, we have developed our inclusion provision, Angelfish. This has developed over the last six years and is lead by our SEND Teacher, Miss O'Halloran. To ensure quality of provision, the Angelfish journey has been supported by the Local Authority SENIT and EP team. Children who access Angelfish have personalised timetables which involve a combination of specialist and targeted support within Angelfish alongside supported participation in learning in their mainstream class. Each child in Angelfish has a different timetable and level of support, based on regular assessment of their needs and advice from professionals involved. We currently have 12 children who access Angelfish as part of their core bespoke curriculum. Across the week a further 25 children in school also access small group learning and intervention sessions in Angelfish, this support is linked to their individual needs and SEND targets.

Click here for further details of our [**Angelfish offer**](#)

Working with outside agencies:

Referrals to professionals are usually made by our SENDCo. Agencies who we have worked with over the past year include:

- *SENSAP (special educational needs services)*
- *IAT (Inclusion Advisory Team)*
- *SALTs (speech and language therapists) Both NHS and Chatterbug*

- *EP team (Educational Psychologist) including the Inclusion SEMH team*
- *AIP (Area inclusion partnership) behaviour support and child and family psychotherapy*
- *Therapeutic social workers*
- *Cluster counselling*
- *Cluster Family Support*
- *CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)*
- *Mindmate support team (MMST)*
- *Referrals for cluster support are made by one of our learning mentors, who make up part of the pastoral team.*

Working with pupils and parents/carers of pupils with SEND:

Developing a good level of communication and allowing pupils and parents/carers to meaningfully contribute to shaping the quality of support and provision is a high priority. The following systems are in place to aid the school and parent/carers to work in partnership.

What?	Who?	How often?
Parents Evening	Parent, teacher, child key staff and SENDCo (if requested by the parent)	2 appointments during an academic year
SEND support reviews (all children receiving SEND support in school)	Parent, teacher, key staff and SENDCo <i>External professionals as required</i>	3 reviews during an academic year
Annual reviews (children with an EHCP or receiving top up funding – FFI)	Parent, teacher, key staff and SENDCo <i>External professionals as required</i>	1 review per academic year (termly in EYFS)
ISAR (child with early years top up funding – EYFFI)	Parent, teacher, key staff and SENDCo <i>External professionals as required</i>	Termly
Pupil interviews	SENDCo, teacher, key staff with pupil	Throughout the academic year
Meetings / phone call/ email communication as and when required – based on need	Parent, SENDCo, teacher, key staff	As needed

Funding

Funding is allocated to the school in relation to the number of children with SEND and the nature of these. The school then allocates funding to support across the school.

As part of the SEND and Inclusion Transformation Programme, the local authority will be reviewing the support given to all children and young people who currently receive FFI (Funding for Inclusion). This is to check if they might benefit from a full Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) to see if an EHCP would be appropriate for their needs. This is an important step to make sure that children continue to receive the best support as they grow and going forward top up funding will be allocated to an EHCP.

As of April 2026:

	Top up funding in place and an EHCP in place	Top up funding in place EHC needs assessment taking place	Top up funding in place awaiting EHC needs assessment
Number of pupils	18	12	9
Total top up funding currently in place	39 pupils		

How is the SEND budget spent?

- Higher ratio of staffing
- More specialist members of staff (for example, teacher for Angelfish Provision, Behaviour Mentor, staff with medical expertise, traded SaLT time, traded EP time)
- CPD
- Development of the environment / provision in school
- Resources to support interventions
- Equipment needed to support specific needs
- 1:1 support for specific needs/ interventions (such as medical and physical)

This is an area that needs to continue to be looked at with Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Governors to ensure costing is accounted for and impact evaluated. It is important when allocating the budget, levels and areas of need across school is taken into consideration and provision planned for.

At the discretion of our Headteacher, funding is allocated to particular areas of provision, including recruiting support staff if needed, and investing in resources to support our children. We continue to invest in traded services from Chatterbugs (Speech and Language therapy) and the training of staff in specialist interventions and approaches such as ELSA. We have also invested in the development of our Sensory Room, Angelfish provision and over the last year and our outdoor areas.

Staff development

Teachers and teaching assistants receive regular in-service training, which includes effective teaching and learning strategies related to the teaching of children with SEND. This year, we are focusing on the following areas which link to SEND:

- Quality first teaching – Using EEF recommendations to ensure pupils with SEND are supported effectively across the curriculum
- Supporting behaviour – consolidation of a new behaviour policy and using Zones of Regulation to communicate about emotions and support self-regulation

Where more specialist training is needed – for example, in the teaching of children on the autistic spectrum – our teachers and teaching assistants attend courses run by the Local Authority or outside agencies. Our staff also work closely with a range of professionals who come into school to support individual pupils – this is bespoke training to meet individual need but also often gives transferrable knowledge and skills.

Current staffing

At Oulton we believe that all teachers are teachers of SEN and the SENCo, and Senior Leadership team's role is to ensure adaptations to quality first teaching are embedded in our day to day practice. Considerable thought, planning and preparation goes into utilising support staff to ensure children achieve outcomes, gain independence and are prepared for the next phase of their education / adulthood.

	Staff
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator	1
Higher-level teaching assistants (HLTAs)	4
Teaching assistants	12
Learning mentors	2
2:1 medical teaching assistants	4
SEND teacher	2
SEND support assistants	5
Behaviour Mentors	3

Staff Roles and Responsibilities:

The SENDCo is Sarah Starkey

They will:

- *Work with the headteacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school*
- *Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEND, including those who have EHC plans*
- *Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEND receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching*
- *Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support*

- *Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively*
- *Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services*
- *Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements*
- *Ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date*

The SEND governor is Alison Baterip.

The SEND governor will:

- *Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings*
- *Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND and disability provision within the school and update the governing board on this*
- *Work with the headteacher and SENDCo to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school*

The Headteacher is Barry McAlinden

The headteacher will:

- *Work with the SENDCo and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision within the school*
- *Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND and/or a disability*

Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- *The progress and development of every pupil in their class*
- *Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching*
- *Providing regular feedback to parents/ carers regarding their child's progress*
- *Working with the SENDCo to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision*
- *Ensuring they follow this SEND policy*

Complaints

At Oulton, working as a team around your child is key. We pride ourselves on having strong, effective working relationships with parents and carers. Should any worries or concerns arise, we will work with parents/ carers to provide support and resolve these as quickly as possible. If parents do have



concerns, they should raise these initially with the class teacher and then the SENDCo or Senior leader. This can be done through emailing the class email, emailing the SENDCo or phoning school.

There have been no complaints over this academic year around the SEND provision at our school.

A copy of our complaints policy can be found [here](#).



Useful links

Leeds Local Offer - SEND and Inclusion Transformation programme:

