



Pinehurst Primary School

Inclusion Policy

'Experience, Excel and Enjoy'

Version: 2023

Contents

1. **School Aims and Implementation**
2. **Inclusion Policy Introduction**
3. **Meeting Diverse Needs**
4. **Potentially Vulnerable Groups**
5. **Promoting and Supporting Inclusion**
6. **Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)**
7. **The Leadership Team**
8. **Class Teachers**
9. **Learning Support Assistants**
10. **Learning Mentor**
11. **Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)**
12. **What is a disability?**
13. **Identification of Special Educational Needs or Disabilities.**
14. **Outside Agencies who help us achieve inclusive practice and meet specific needs**
15. **High Needs Funding to Support Inclusion**
16. **SENCo**
17. **English as an Additional Language**
18. **Provision for EAL pupils**
19. **Gifted, Able and Talented**

The Head teacher and SLT will monitor the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. The Head teacher will report to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy at least annually and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.

1. School Aims and Implementation

At Pinehurst Primary School we live by our school vision and values of **Experience, Excel and Enjoy**. We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe and stimulating environment in which we can nurture the achievements of every child. We provide an exciting curriculum, where children are encouraged to explore, discover and question through an enriching learning **EXPERIENCE**. We recognise and celebrate the talents of each child, enabling them to grow in confidence and **EXCEL** in both their educational and personal goals.

At Pinehurst Primary School we work closely with parents, carers and families and the wider community to enable our children to achieve. We believe that the children of Pinehurst deserve the very best possible education and to **ENJOY** coming to school each and every day.

2. Inclusion Policy Introduction

'Inclusion is seen to involve the identification and minimising of barriers to learning and participation, and the maximising of resources to support learning participation'

Index for Inclusion – Booth and Ainscow 2000

- Successful inclusion should result in every pupil feeling safe, confident and happy at school. Successful inclusion should see every pupil making the best progress of which they are able and enjoying their time at school - be that in lessons, during their play or lunchtimes or when involved in any of our Extended School activities. Successful inclusion should promote every child's belief in themselves as a learner and valued member of our school community.
- Successful inclusive provision at Pinehurst Primary is seen as the responsibility of the whole school community, permeating all aspects of school life and applicable to all our pupils.

3. Meeting Diverse Needs

At Pinehurst Primary we recognise that in order to achieve the school values we must actively seek to recognise and meet the very diverse needs of our pupils by:

- Monitoring the achievement and well-being of all our pupils and the quality/nature of the learning opportunities they are offered.
- Tracking each child's academic, social and emotional progress and using the resulting knowledge to plan provision for the individual or groups of pupils.
- Correctly identifying and then seeking to overcome potential barriers to pupils' learning or their full participation in school life.
- Developing and deploying our resources to best reflect the various levels of need experienced by pupils.
- Taking care to ensure that vulnerable pupils, including those with additional or Special Educational Need or Disabilities are appropriately supported.

- Sharing any concerns we may have regarding a child with their parents or carers and then seeking to work together with them, for the good of the child.
- Liaising closely with professionals from other Children's Services or Health agencies involved in the care and support of pupils.
- Providing teaching and non-teaching staff with the support and training they need in order that their work promotes the best outcomes for each child.

4. Potentially Vulnerable Groups

There are a number of identified groups of pupils and families for whom this policy is particularly pertinent:

- Pupils with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)
- Pupils whose home language is not English (EAL)
- Pupils who are Gifted, Able and/or talented (GAT)
- Pupils with physical or sensory impairments
- Pupils whose families may be Asylum Seekers or Refugees
- Pupils from Traveller families
- Pupils who might be subject to abuse or harassment, for whatever reason
- Pupils under the care of Social Services or pupils who may be in public care, or living with foster families
- Pupils who are young carers
- Pupils whose family are in crisis or under great stress
- Pupils at risk of significant harm
- Pupils with poor attendance
- Pupils who are at risk of disaffection and exclusion from school.

5. Promoting and Supporting Inclusion

1. Head Teacher, Senior Leaders and our Governing body:

- a) Responsibility for making Pinehurst Primary a truly inclusive school lies with the Head Teacher, Senior Leaders and the Governing Body of the School.
- b) We aim to promote Inclusion at Pinehurst through all of our policies, systems and practices.

2. Personalising the Curriculum

- a) School Leaders at all levels; including Governors, Head teacher, the Senior Leadership Team and Subject Leaders, are responsible for ensuring that the curriculum; in its narrow and broadest senses, is personalised to match the needs of the pupils who attend School.
- b) Pinehurst staff use our Pinehurst Curriculum which has been developed by the teaching staff themselves, resulting in a bespoke and personalised curriculum, unique to our school. This allows staff to plan appropriate, adapted activities for all pupils. This would include staff ensuring appropriate cross-curricular links are made and developing learning to match individual needs.

- c) School Leaders also ensure that the principles of Inclusion are applied to all activities which pupils engage in at School or on Educational Visits;
- d) All members of the School Community are expected and encouraged to adopt behaviours which support the School's Inclusive ethos within both the explicit and hidden curriculum.

6. Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)

Pinehurst Primary has a SENCo who takes the leading role in co-ordinating support and provision for children who are targeted or require specialist Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) provision; including support from outside agencies. The SENCo monitors, advises, evaluates and plans for the development of inclusive practice and provision for targeted or SEND pupils across the school. The SENCo is also a designated person for child protection and the Attendance Lead.

7. The Leadership Team

Pinehurst Primary has a Leadership Team which allows leaders to drive the school forward, with an over-arching view of the school. In addition to the Head teacher, there are two Assistant Head teachers. They are responsible for their own designated areas including Behaviour, SEND, Attendance, EYFS, Safeguarding, LAC and Phonics.

The next tier of Leadership consists of three phase leaders who are each responsible for Curriculum, Assessment and Pupil Premium.

8. Class Teachers

Teachers have overall responsibility for the planning and delivery of lessons to their class. Teachers seek to provide pupils with learning opportunities which will allow all the pupils to access the subject taught, encounter appropriate challenge and promote progress. This adaptive teaching is evidenced in their lesson plans though individual pupils may have targets particular to their own specific needs in certain areas or aspects of the curriculum. Such additional or different provision and its outcomes are recorded by the teacher by means of a Pupil Profile. Parents are informed by their child's teacher of any additional or different provision being made for their child.

Teachers take the lead role in monitoring the attainment, learning, behaviour and well-being of pupils in their class.

Class teachers have a pivotal role to play in achieving positive and supportive relationships with and between pupils. Class teachers are central to successful liaison with parents and colleagues.

9. Learning Support Assistants

Learning Support Assistants (LSAs) work with individual or groups of pupils during lessons to support pupils' learning and promote their well-being. The work of a LSA is directed by the teacher during lessons.

Advice and training for specific work or duties may also come from an outside specialist, for example - a Speech and Language Therapist or they may be directed by other teaching staff within the school, for example the literacy co-ordinator or SENDCo

To address very specific needs, pupils may be withdrawn for short periods during class times to work individually. Alternatively, some work may occur alongside others within a small group, when the need is common to all.

In order to best utilise their support for pupils' learning, the deployment of Learning Support Assistants within the school is strategically managed by Senior Leaders in consultation with Phase Leaders and Class Teachers.

10. Learning Mentor

The School Learning Mentor has a key role in promoting and supporting inclusive practice at Pinehurst.

She undertakes a variety of tasks which include:

- Observing and engaging with any pupils who may be vulnerable, liaising with class teachers or senior staff regarding any concerns.
- Helping to devise ways of best supporting the pupils she works with.
- Observing the well-being of pupils within social settings and spending time within classes or in conference working with individual pupils.
- Undertaking individual or group work with pupils whose behaviour gives us cause for concern.
- The learning mentor advises other support staff on the running of groups aimed at developing pupils' social skills.
- Taking a supporting role in working alongside external family support agencies.

11. Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)

What are special educational needs (SEN)?

a) 'A child or young person has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

b) A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she—

- i. has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- ii. 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.
- c) A child under compulsory school age has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she is likely to be within subsection (2) when of compulsory school age (or would be likely, if no special educational provision were made).
- d) A child or young person does not have a learning difficulty or disability solely because the language (or form of language) in which he or she is or will be taught is different from a language (or form of language) which is or has been spoken at home.’ (Child and Families Act 2014 s20)

12. What is a disability?

‘A person (P) has a disability if -

- P has a physical or mental impairment, and
- the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on P's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.’

(Equality Act 2010 s6)

13. Identification of Special Educational Needs or Disabilities.

Identification of SEND may have occurred prior to a pupil's enrolment at school. If this is the case, then school will seek appropriate advice and support from the relevant school and external agencies. This then informs the provision that is put in place for the pupil at Pinehurst.

When a concern is evident the class teacher will liaise with the SENDCo and parents/carers to ensure all are aware and can plan the best ways forward together. This may involve the teacher adapting certain aspects of their classroom practice or requesting that the parent/carer seek the advice of the GP or Optician. Should standard provision not suffice to overcome the concern and a significant and/or persistent difficulty remains apparent, the pupil will be deemed as having Special Education Needs.

Upon identification of such difficulties the school will seek to put in place additional educational provision. This may be long or short-term dependent upon the nature of the special need and the progress made by the pupil.

There are four broad areas that give an overview of the difficulties a pupil may have. However, it is important to note that a pupil's needs may cross one or more of the following:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties
- Sensory and/or Physical needs

The SEN Code of Practice (2014) describes a 'graduated response' to identifying and removing barriers to learning in order to put effective special education provision in place.

The kinds of interventions within this 'graduated response' are as follows:

Universal – All pupils will benefit from:

- High quality learning through the provision of high quality teaching; both formal and informal.
- Formal learning and teaching that is adapted to need and enables the vast majority of pupils to make good or better progress.
- On-going and timely assessments which inform any further provision needed.

Targeted Support – Some pupils may benefit from:

- Small-group intervention for pupils who may be expected to 'catch up' with their peers as a result of the intervention
- Interventions where progress is monitored by the HT, SLT, Class teacher and the adult leading the intervention through the school tracking system. If a pupil has not made the required progress then the appropriate referral will be made to outside professional support (see below).

Specialist Support – A few pupils may benefit:

- Specific targeted intervention for individuals. These pupils may have specific and/or exceptional needs that require the support from outside professionals. We will then incorporate appropriate advice and recommendations into any education plans for the pupil.

14. Outside Agencies who help us achieve inclusive practice and meet specific needs

In achieving provision which will meet the wide range of pupils' differing needs at Pinehurst, we are supported by a number of specialised health or educational bodies.

Those agencies most commonly involved in supporting pupils are:

- The Speech and Language Therapy Service to Schools (SALTs)
- The Occupational Health Therapy Service for Pupils (OTs)
- The School Nurse Service
- The Educational Psychology Service (EPS)
- The Behaviour Support Service
- The ADHD Foundation
- Services for the Hearing or Visually Impaired

- Together Trust
- SENISS

Before making a referral to a specialised service the school consults with parents or carers. An exception to this practice occurs when the school has information which indicates that a pupil may be at risk of harm. In such circumstance we undertake our statutory duty by making a referral to the Children and Young People's Services. The school then takes instruction from that team on how to proceed – whether to make a Child Protection referral and whether to inform parents/carers of that referral.

15. High Needs Funding to Support Inclusion

In a minority of cases and only when a pupil presents with needs which are so 'exceptional' as to necessitate a very high level of additional support, the school will make representation to the Liverpool SEN Team to apply for High Needs Funding and/or an EHC Plan (Education, Health and Care).

High Needs Funding may be awarded to the school on behalf of the pupil to help meet the costs of the necessary additional provision for the pupil.

Parents/carers and the pupil (as appropriate) are invited to each Annual Review meeting to discuss their pupil's progress and the support which they receive. The SENCO and Class Teacher attend this meeting and we invite all professionals involved in supporting the pupil.

The SENCO takes the leading role in securing, reviewing and managing provision for pupils who have exceptional needs.

- The majority of SEN pupils will have their needs met through mainstream provision, however
- Parents are entitled to ask the Local Authority to conduct an Education, Health and Care (ECH) needs assessment. If it is felt that this is necessary the LA will follow the statutory guidelines and produce a ECH Plan.

16. SENCo

The SENDCo is responsible for:

- Liaising with class teachers and those leading interventions to ensure pupils transfer learning from interventions into their learning in class.
- Monitoring interventions and support their delivery.
- Monitoring school support plans and contributing to evaluations and the development of new ones.
- Sharing good practice and expertise amongst other staff.

17. English as an Additional Language

Definition and Rationale

The term EAL (English as an Additional Language) is used to refer to pupils whose main language at home is other than English.

EAL pupils, from complete beginners to those with considerable fluency, will have varying degrees of difficulty in accessing the full curriculum and in achieving their full potential.

Research has shown that those new to English will acquire conversational fluency in two years, but will need a minimum of five years to achieve competence in academic English.

Such pupils will need language support if they are to reach their full potential. Therefore our main aim is for all EAL pupils to become confident in speaking, listening, reading and writing to enable them to access the curriculum and communicate effectively with their peers and other adults.

The provision of this support fulfils the requirements of the Race Relations Act of 1976 which seeks to promote Equality of Opportunity and to eliminate discrimination in the provision of education.

18. Provision for EAL pupils

- Ensuring good EAL practices throughout the school.
- Ensuring appropriate resources are available for staff and EAL pupils.
- Liaising and sharing monitoring with our EAL Lead.
- Liaising with EAL Lead to ensure that mid-phase admission EAL pupils are identified in a timely way.

19. Gifted, Able and Talented

Definitions:

Gifted pupils

Gifted refers to students who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, significantly above average in one or more of the National Curriculum subjects other than art, performing arts or physical education.

Able pupils

'Able pupils' refers to students who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, above average in one or more of the National Curriculum subjects.

Talented pupils

Talented refers to those students who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, significantly above average in art, performing arts, physical education or in areas requiring visio-spatial skills or practical abilities (these could include a range of non-traditional areas).

Identification

We use a range of strategies to identify more able and very able pupils. The identification process is on-going and begins when the pupil joins our school and involves staff, pupils, parents and carers.

Data taken into account will include:

- Information from parents and carers
- Information from previous teachers or pre-school records
- Discussions with pupils
- Identification by staff using professional judgements, classwork and test and assessment results.

Teaching, Learning Curriculum and Organisation

As appropriate, teachers will provide adapted activities and a range of support and resources for gifted and talented pupils.

Ongoing assessment against year group objectives and National Curriculum Levels are maintained and used formatively to set new curriculum targets for individuals so that they can achieve at the highest level and always aim to make further progress. Pupils are involved in this process.

In addition and especially at the end of Key Stages, extension activities that are more demanding of their abilities or enrichment activities that provide new and different ways of working will be provided.

Opportunities for Gifted, Able and Talented pupils to work on various projects. If appropriate teachers would approach local secondary schools for resources and or advice to support pupils.