

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

SEN Information Report

Academic Year 2020-2021



At Our Lady's School we recognise that all children have a right to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. We aim to create a happy, educationally exciting and positive environment in which all pupils can develop to their full potential. We recognise that children are individuals, that each one has needs special to him or her.

We aim to:

- ensure that our curriculum is responsive to all children whatever their individual need
- promote positive attitudes and individual confidence, ensuring all children experience success
- identify, assess, record and regularly review pupils' special educational needs.
- encourage parents/carers to be involved in planning and supporting at all stages of their child's development.
- make effective use of support services.

The Oxfordshire County Council Local Offer for Children with SEN and disabilities can be found by following this link: [Oxfordshire Local Offer](#)

Information and Guidance/Points of Contact

Who should I contact to discuss the concerns or needs of my child?

Our Lady's is committed to working in partnership with parents and will listen to any concerns parents may wish to raise. Please contact the school to arrange a meeting.

- Class Teacher – is the first point of contact. They monitor the progress of each child and liaise with key staff about interventions needed.
- Key Stage Coordinator/Early Years Foundation Stage Coordinator- deals with concerns which cannot be dealt with by the class teacher.
- Inclusion Leader – Mr C Spackman
- SENCo- Mr C Spackman
- Assistant SENCO- Mrs S Pearce
- Headteacher - Miss T Davies
- SEN Governor – Ms E McGuillicuddy

Assessment, Planning and Review/Partnerships for Progress

How does the school know how well my child is doing? How will I be kept informed about how well my child is doing? How regularly will I be updated on my child's progress? Will I know if my child is not making progress and what will happen?

- Targets are set in reading, writing and maths for each pupil, which are monitored termly.
- Class teachers attend a pupil progress meeting each term to discuss the progress of each pupil. The rates of progress are monitored and those pupils not making the expected rate of progress are identified. Strategies will be put in place in order for the identified pupils to reach their expected outcomes.
- Ongoing teacher assessment strategies are used to determine progress and attainment.

- Regular review meetings are held with the class teacher and SENCO to track progress towards outcomes and evaluate interventions.
- Parents are invited to parents' evenings regularly to discuss progress, attainment and expected outcomes with the class teacher and SENCO if appropriate.
- Parents of children with SEN are invited to review meetings, where appropriate.
- Children with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) have an annual review, where progress is discussed and targets set. Written reports are provided and sent out in advance. Children are invited to contribute to this review.
- The targets of children with EHC Plans are reviewed termly.
- An annual report to parents/carers is written by the class teacher which details the achievements, strengths and areas of development in the different curriculum areas.
- The school identifies the needs of SEN pupils on a provision map. This identifies all support given within school and is reviewed regularly and changes made as needed, so that the needs of children are met, and resources are deployed as effectively as possible.
- The school will seek external support/advice for children continuing to experience significant difficulty – this may involve an application for additional funding or an Education Health and Care Plan assessment.
- School staff may informally discuss progress with parents/carers as needed.
- Governors are provided with attainment and progress information. They act as 'critical friends' and challenge staff to use their best endeavours to raise standards further.

What SEND funding do schools receive?

Government funding to school is based on three factors: Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

- Core Education Funding The AWPU (Age Weighted Pupil Unit) – This is dependent on the total number of pupils in a school. Each pupil (both with and without SEN) is provided with a certain amount of funding to meet their educational needs.
- Additional Support Funding (ASF) - On top of the core education funding, schools are given an additional amount of funding to meet the special educational provision of pupils with SEN. This funding comes from a particular funding stream called either the designated schools grant or schools block. This funding forms part of a school's 'SEN budget'. Currently, the government suggests that a school should use their notional SEN budget to fund up to £6,000 worth of special educational provision for a pupil with SEN. This is an average figure, as not all pupils with SEN require special educational provision up to the amount of £6,000. It should heavily depend on the individual needs of each pupil with SEN. Additional support funding is used for pupils requiring special educational provision, including, for example, the commissioning of external experts such as therapists to attend a school and provide support.
- Top-up Funding - If a school requires funding that goes beyond the maximum £6,000 to provide a pupil's special educational provision, then depending on the assessed needs of the pupil an application may be made to Oxfordshire County Council to access some additional funding to meet specific needs or for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) to take place. How did we spend our SEN budget last year? As a school we prioritise spending to support the needs of our children who have additional educational needs and those who are at risk of underachieving.

During 2020-21 we spent our funding on:

- Educational support staff
- Training to prioritise the needs of all pupils including those with special needs and disabilities. This year two staff have accessed a number of courses to support the mental health needs of pupils.
- Accessing support from outside agencies including input from an Educational Psychologist, OXSIT Consultancy.
- Training for support staff when working with children. How to promote independence, Zones of regulation.

Curriculum and Teaching Methods (including groupings / interventions)

What is the curriculum and how is it taught? How will the curriculum be adapted to meet the needs of my child? How flexible can teachers be in meeting the needs of my child? Is there any additional support available to help my child reach his/her expected outcomes?

- The National Curriculum is an entitlement for all children.
- Class teachers are responsible for the learning of all children in their class and they ensure all children receive Quality First Teaching.
- Teachers are skilled at adapting and differentiating the curriculum to take account of individual pupil needs. They have use of resources such as the 'Pebbles' curriculum which breaks skills down into smaller chunks.
- Teachers are able to take into account different learning styles and use them to ensure they meet the needs of all the children in their class.
- First hand experiences through visits are explored when topics are planned. *(This has not been able to happen in the second half of the academic year due to COVID restrictions.)*
- Grouping arrangements are organised carefully to maximise learning opportunities for all.
- Additional adults may be used to support groups but independence is encouraged.
- Children may be identified as benefiting from intervention programmes. Progress within these programmes is carefully monitored.
- Intervention programmes in the areas of literacy, numeracy, language, social, emotional, and motor skills are available to support individuals and groups and there are staff trained to deliver them. The use of intervention programmes complements the Quality First Teaching that all children receive.
- The effectiveness of the intervention programmes are monitored by assessing their impact. Intervention programmes are reviewed regularly.
- Advice from educational agencies such as Special Education Needs Support Service, Educational Psychologists, Communication and Interaction Service and health agencies such as Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and CAMHS may be sought.
- Specialist teaching is available in both key stages. This could include Project X Code reading, 5 Minute Box English and Maths, Rapid Maths and Sound Reading. Decisions about access to this specialist input are based on need.

Access to Learning and the Curriculum

Are there any special features or strategies to help children learn? How do I know my child's particular need will be met?

- Children are involved in their own learning and are able to feed into the topic.
- Children are aware of their targets and next steps. They receive feedback on progress towards targets through discussions with teachers and diagnostic marking. Self-evaluation is also encouraged.
- Daily phonics lesson, using 'Letters and Sounds' across Reception and Key Stage 1. This will be carried into Key Stage 2 if appropriate.
- Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all learners.
- Learning walls in classrooms support the learning of literacy and maths.
- ICT is used to support learning, including computer programmes such as Mathletics.
- In some classes/identified pupils may be allocated support staff and have access to guided group work.
- External agencies can provide advice and may offer individual or group tuition depending on a pupil's individual need.

- All classes have a visual timetable on display which details the daily planned activities. Some pupils have their own visual timetable.
- The school's physical environment is accessible to all learners, including those with disabilities.
- Reasonable adjustments are made to help pupils to learn. For example, some pupils may use special equipment such as pencil grips and or a radio hearing aid or BAHA.
- Children may be identified as benefiting from social skills groups.

What training is provided for staff?

- We ensure the quality of teaching and learning for pupils with SEND are a core part of the school's performance management and professional development arrangements for all staff.
- Staff receive regular training on specific needs and conditions as they arise.
- In addition to training around medical conditions, all staff receive regular updates of SEND practice and regulation, appropriate methods for differentiation in the classroom and how to plan for inclusion of all pupils as part of our regular whole school staff meetings.
- Training during 2020-21, both external courses and in-house, included:
 - Communication and Interaction staff training. Zones of Regulation
 - Mental and Emotional Health in Schools
 - Rainbows bereavement training
 - Peer observations and monitoring
 - First Aid
 - Safeguarding Generalist training
 - Effective strategies for Quality First Teaching in every classroom, including specific guidance on working with children with ASC (autistic spectrum condition) and strategies to support children with ADHD.

Tests and Assessments: Access Arrangements

What arrangements are available for pupils to access tests and assessments? How will I know if my child qualifies for additional support or time to access tests?

- Year 6 pupils may be assessed to determine whether individuals may qualify for additional time.
- Some pupils taking statutory tests (Year 2 and 6) access them in a smaller environment. Readers and scribes are provided as appropriate and to comply with test guidelines.
- School adheres to current access arrangements for Key Stage 1 and 2 statutory tests.
- Class teachers will inform parents/carers whether their child qualifies for additional support or time to access tests.
- Booster and target groups are run throughout the school year, including Pupil Premium groups before or after school for reading and maths.

(The statutory tests for KS1 and KS2 did not take place this year but the children were assessed in line with the expected outcomes. This included some additional support or access arrangements to ensure that the selected pupils achieved the best that they could in line with their needs)

Social and Emotional Support

How does the school help my child to feel comfortable and safe and manage social situations?

How does the school help develop my child's social and emotional skills? What is the school's policy on bullying?

- All classes follow a structured PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) programme. Ten:Ten Resources has been implemented this academic year. Teachers identify children who

would benefit from individual / small group interventions to develop their social and emotional skills with support from a specialist TA.

- Groups to develop social skills and enhance self-esteem.
- Lunchtime and after-school clubs e.g. sports activities, Rosary Club, computing, games.
- Additional support for children who are struggling at playtime.
- Sports Leaders in place organising games for younger children on the playground.
- Home/School liaison with additional support available from our Home School Link Worker.
- Visual timetables/symbols.
- Strong ethos of pastoral care through our Catholic faith.
- Anti-Bullying Policy and procedures – focus on vulnerable groups.
- E-safety and cyber bullying is addressed at an age appropriate level. This is also addressed through our PSHE scheme.
- Transition preparation- ready for secondary education.

Accessibility to Premises and Facilities

What facilities are in the school to assist children with disabilities move around the building and take part in lessons? How do I know my child will be able to access all lessons?

- The building and playground are accessible to wheelchair users. Low-height handles have been fitted to most doors.
- Disabled toilet and changing facilities.
- Awareness of sensory issues.
- Reasonable adjustments are made by staff to ensure children with disabilities can access all lessons.
- Trips will be planned taking into account the needs of children with disabilities.
- Transition preparation.

Working with others

Who does the school work with? How does the school work with other agencies? How will I be informed?

Our Lady's works with a number of services including:

- Communication and Interaction Service
- Oxfordshire School Inclusion Team
- Sensory Impairment Service
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- School Nurse
- Educational Psychology Service
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- Children's Services
- The SENCO liaises with class teachers, senior leadership team and parents to prioritise referrals to these services.
- Referrals to services may also come about following pupil review meetings.
- Staff (usually the class teacher or SENCO) discuss referral to a service with parents/carers before a referral is made.
- Parents' views will be sought and they may be invited or can request to meet with the service.
- Reports and recommendations are shared with parents and expected outcomes and strategies to meet those outcomes are planned.

Transition

How will the school help my child settle with confidence and manage change as they move between schools and year groups?

Early Years Transition

- Class teacher and TA make home visits to discuss children's needs.
- The class teacher / SENCo liaise with the pre-school setting.
- Parents are invited to a pre-admission meeting.

These transition arrangements were unable to go ahead this summer due to COVID restrictions. Instead, the class teachers made contact through video conferencing where possible.

Moving on at Year 6

- Key staff and often some Year 7 students from the secondary school visit to speak to the Year 6 pupils transferring to their school.
- All pupils in Year 6 are invited to a familiarisation day at their secondary school. Children are prepared for the visit and given information in advance as necessary. *This did not happen traditionally this year but all children were invited to a zoom meeting with their new schools. Some still were able to attend transition days.*
- Additional visits to the secondary school may be arranged for individuals or groups as needed.
- Transition arrangements are planned at Year 6 Education, Health and Care Plan reviews.
- Use of social stories/transition books.
- A planned programme of transition, which may include mentoring to help prepare children.
- Class teacher/ SENCO meets with key staff from new school.
- Information transferred in advance of move.

Moving Schools

If your child is moving to another school we will:

- contact the school SENCo and ensure he/she knows about any special arrangements or support that need to be made for your child.
- Make sure that all records about your child are passed on as soon as possible.
- Make a transition book/social story if we feel it will help.

If your child joins us from another school we will:

- Contact the school SENCo to find out any special arrangements or support that needs to be made for your child.
- Meet with parents to discuss any concerns and plan any support.

Moving Classes

- A hand over meeting will take place between the present and the new teacher.
- Transition visits to new classes are planned in the second half of the Summer Term. Identified pupils have a number of additional visits to the new class.
- Social stories and transition books for children who would benefit.
- Meet the Teacher meetings take place early in the autumn term which give a chance for parents to find out about arrangements for such things as homework, curriculum topics and reading expectations.

How are the governing body involved in our SEND provision?

Governors on the Finance & Personnel Committee review the school's spending regularly, and at termly meetings of the full Governing Body, governors receive a detailed SEND Report from the SENCO each year; they have opportunity to discuss its contents at meetings of the full Governing Body in the Autumn, Spring

and Summer Terms. The Link Governor for SEND works closely with the SENCO and supports them in the achievement of targets in the School's Development Plan to constantly review and evaluate SEND provision for pupils.

What if I have a complaint?

If you are concerned with your child's progress, or you have any concerns regarding your child's education, your first step should be to talk directly to your child's class teacher about your concerns. If your concern is not resolved by the teacher, you should then ask for a meeting with the SENCO, who will do their best to help resolve the issue. The next step would be to meet with the Headteacher. If this still does not resolve the issue, you may choose to make a formal complaint by putting it in writing addressed to the Headteacher. The school's Complaints Procedure is available on the school website and a hard copy can be obtained from the school office.

Where can I find further information on SEND?

Our SEND Policy, Accessibility Policy and Equality Policy can be downloaded or read online via our school website www.ourladyscowley.co.uk. If you are unable to access our website or would prefer a hard copy of the Policy, please contact the school office. If you wish to access the Local Offer from Oxfordshire County Council you can do so using the link <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-anddisability-local-offer> SENDIASS Oxfordshire offers informed and impartial support to parents/carers of children with SEN and/or disabilities, and children and young people with SEND. They can be contact by: Telephone: 01865 810516 Text: 07786 524294 Email: sendiass@oxfordshire.gov.uk Website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sendias

If parents have any questions or concerns regarding SEND, they should contact the SENCO via the school office on office@ourladyscowley.co.uk

Policies

Links:

- SEN policy
- Behaviour policy
- Equality policy

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