



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## SEND Information Report

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All children and young people are entitled to an education that enables them to make progress so that they:

- achieve their best
- become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and
- make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education or training (p.81 Code of Practice, 2014).

### Equality and Inclusion for children with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities (SEND)

#### What is SEND?

'A pupil has SEND where their learning difficulty or disability calls for special educational provision, that is provision different from or additional to that normally available to pupils of the same age' (SEN Code of Practice p.83).

We are an inclusive Catholic school and aim to support all children and meet their individual needs within our allocated school budget.

The Code of Practice identifies 4 broad areas of need: : (SEN Code of Practice, p. 86/87)

1. Communication and interaction
2. Cognition and learning
3. Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
4. Sensory and/or physical needs

#### How does our school know if children need extra help?

- We know when pupils need additional support if:
- Concerns are raised by Parents/Carers
- Concerns are raised by teachers and school staff
- Concerns are raised by outside agencies
- There is a lack of progress over two terms (e.g. from September to Easter)
- A pupil asks for help
- There is a change in the pupil's behaviour

### Who is responsible for children with SEND?

Class Teachers are responsible for the day to day teaching of children with SEND in their class. The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the learning, care and safety of all pupils in our school.

Mrs Sally Burke is our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo). She organises support for children with SEND across the school.

All of the staff in our school work in partnership with Mrs Burke to meet the needs of our children with SEND.

To contact any of our staff who could support you please click here

[www.st-josephs.plymouth.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs.plymouth.sch.uk)

### What should I do if I think my child may have SEND?

If you have concerns please contact your child's Teacher, Mrs Sally Burke (SENDCo), Mr Brendan Gill (Head Teacher) or Ms Lorna Taylor (Family Liaison Officer).

[www.st-josephs.plymouth.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs.plymouth.sch.uk)

### What training or specialist expertise do our staff have around supporting children with SEND?

All of our staff have had a range of training around supporting children with SEND. Where a need is identified we will seek specialist advice and support.

### How will you be supported to share your views?

All parents/carers are encouraged to contribute to their child's education.

You are welcome to do this through:

- Discussions with the class Teacher
- During Parents' Evenings
- During planned discussions with Mrs Burke (our SENDCo), Mr Gill (our Head Teacher) or Ms Taylor (our Family Liaison Officer).
- Shared written information, for example, if your child has a home-school communication book.

### Who can I contact for further information?

If you wish to discuss your child's educational needs further or are unhappy about something regarding the support your child is receiving please come and talk to us in the first instance. If you wish to share a concern that you feel has not been resolved please see the complaints procedure on the school website.

For further Information, Advice and Support for SEND (PIAS) provides information, advice and support relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) for parents, carers, children and young people within the Plymouth Local Authority area.

Visit <https://www.plymouthias.org.uk/>

### **What specialist services and expertise can be accessed by our school?**

At times it may be necessary to consult with outside agencies to receive their more specialised expertise. The agencies used by our school include;

- The Communication and Interaction Team
- Speech and Language Team
- Educational Psychologist
- School nurse
- Occupational Therapist
- Child Development Centre
- Counsellor/ Drama Therapist and Learning Mentors from Plymouth Excellence Cluster
- Visual Impairment
- Physical Disability outreach team
- Educational Welfare Officer
- Multi-Agency Support Team
- Social Care

### How does St Joseph's School support children with SEND?



### What will our school do if your child is falling behind?

We will have a chat with you about additional support your child may need. This may include:

- Support in a small group
- Additional lunch-time or playtime provision
- Careful monitoring

After a review of the support already given it may be necessary to make a more detailed plan. This might include advice from out of school agencies.

### How accessible is the school environment?

As a school we are happy to discuss individual access requirements (See the school accessibility policy). Please contact the school office to arrange an appointment on 01752 563185.

### How does St Joseph's School support children with SEND joining or leaving our school?

At St Joseph's School we understand that moving school can be a worrying time for children and their families. We try to make this easier by:

- Planning visits for children who will be joining school in the Reception class.
- Sharing information between nursery/home and school if your child has SEND or if there is a concern that they have additional needs.
- At times children may need to have an 'enhanced' transition, in these cases we will work with you and other professionals to offer extra support.
- All children will be given the opportunity to have a 'move up' day before they go to their next class.
- If your child needs a bit more support with moving classroom and change of teacher we will create a more detailed plan of action to help them with the move.
- When children are in Upper Key Stage 2 (years 5 and 6) they will be supported to think about and often visit the preferred Secondary school.
- Sometimes parents and the SENDCo will need to make more detailed plans to support with choice of school and/or more visits to the new school.
- If children come to our school mid-way through a school year, we contact the old school for your child's records. Where there are additional needs the SENDCo at the old and new school will share information so that we can understand their needs.

### Where can I find Local Authority information about SEND?

Please click here [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)

This will take you to Plymouth Council's website. Here you will find information about how the Local Authority expects schools to meet the needs of children with SEND and their families. This is called the 'Local Offer'.