



Special Educational Needs

Local Offer 2016-2017

The changes in the Children and Families Bill affect the way children with special educational needs (SEN) are supported in schools. The new approach began in September 2014 and places pupils at the centre of planning. The key principles of the new legislation are:

1. Young people and their families should be involved in discussions about the support they need, so they can share their knowledge and feed back to the school on the young person's progress.
2. Education, health and care plans (EHC) will replace statements of special educational needs. New assessments for additional educational needs will follow the EHC guidelines from September 2014. (Existing statements will remain in force until all children and young people have completed the transition, which will be within three years).
3. School Action and School Action Plus will cease and be replaced by a single school-based category for children who need extra specialist support.

The Grange Trust is well placed to adopt these changes and looks forward to working with pupils and parents/carers to ensure fully inclusive access to our education.

Local Offer

Here is The Grange Trust Local Offer for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability:

The Grange Trust upholds children's right to education and recognises the diverse educational needs within its community. We acknowledge those needs may change and require a range of provision. We believe we have a duty to offer that provision where we can, to foster inclusion and provide full educational access.

Some children need increased support to access learning because:

- a. they have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age;
- b. they have a disability as defined under the Equality Act, which affects their ability to access and benefit from the educational opportunities generally enjoyed by children of the same age.

We will try to ensure that barriers to equal access in our schools are removed or overcome. We monitor and track progress of all children so that the support provided is as effective as possible. We welcome the full engagement of parents and carers and where necessary seek support and advice from specialists outside school to ensure we develop and maintain a range of flexible resources to meet the needs of all children.

At The Grange Trust our local offer is:

INTERVENTION

How we support children to access the curriculum

- Class staff teams know the profile of their class and individual needs and learning activities are planned to match children's learning needs.
- The environment is stimulating, supportive and well resourced. Wall and interactive displays provide prompts and reminders to encourage children to learn and achieve independently.
- If children have a Statement of Special Educational Need or an Education, Health and Care Plan, there may be additional teaching assistance so that specialised support is available.
- Classes are well resourced and for children with additional needs, specialised equipment can be arranged.
- We will ensure that all staff know and understand the needs of all pupils.

All staff will have access to training, advice and resources to enable them to contribute to developing fully inclusive practice.

We support literacy and numeracy

Strategies and interventions are in place to support literacy and numeracy. Teachers and teaching assistants make sure the classroom environment is full of language and have well-organised wall displays to support learning in all areas of the curriculum.

We support speech and language development

Teachers make sure their classes have lots of language support and activities. Many of our staff are trained to provide specific interventions. We work in partnership with speech and language therapists to plan and deliver support for children with specific difficulties.

We promote positive behaviour

The "Behaviour Policy" describes the high standards of behaviour and conduct expected in school. We make sure all staff know and understand the reasons behind any difficult behaviour and how to respond. In class, the teaching assistant may support targeted children to stay on task and focussed on learning. In the playground, staff will involve targeted children in specific activities.

Where difficult situations have occurred, staff talk calmly through the event with the child helping to identify what went wrong and what actions could be taken if a similar situation happens again. Most staff are Team Teach trained.

We support children's emotional well being

Emotional well-being is supported by making sure that children who find "change" difficult are well prepared for any changes or transitions. When they are about to change class they are helped to make their own transition book, which they can revisit during the summer holidays. To promote positive friendships, we may use 'circle time' involving the whole class. The Pastoral Teaching Assistant is based in school and provides some children with daily or weekly support as well as the opportunity for children to request a time to talk with an adult.

We support children's physical needs

Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists provide specific advice and guidance for target children. They also provide training for staff. Teaching assistants follow up any recommendations by providing specific interventions to children for handwriting or fine motor skills either individually or in small groups.

The Grange Trust is a modern building and all of the learning spaces are on one level so are accessible to all. It has some toilets with disabled access.

We support children's medical needs

The school nurse may visit school to carry out checks with children and to provide advice and training to staff. She may also assist in writing Health and Care plans for children. Medicines are stored safely in the school office. There are a team of staff who are first aid trained, we are able to administer prescribed medicines to children as directed by parents/ carers after completing permission form.

We support children during unstructured parts of the day

Lunch and playtimes are staffed to ensure safe adult: child ratios. There is a range of equipment available. Specific interventions for children with additional needs include having a named member of staff for support, being guided to specific areas or activities.

We work in partnership with parents and carers

We ensure that review meetings are arranged at times which allow parents and carers to attend. We listen to what parents/ carers tell us about their children and use that information to make sure everyone who works with a child understands their need

We work in partnership with other agencies

The Grange Trust works in partnership with a wide variety of agencies to support children and their families.

We monitor children's progress

We have a system to track and monitor all children's progress. Through day to day teaching and learning, children are continually assessed and teachers' planning responds to this. For particular children more in depth assessments may be required by external agencies such as the

Learning Support Service, Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapists, Autism and Communication Team or CAMHS

In Rotherham, there are a vast range of services to support children and families. Details of their 'Local Offer' can be found here: <http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org>