

**A Parents' Guide
to Special Educational Needs
& Disability
at
Stroud Valley Community School**



**Our School
Special Educational Needs and Disability
Co-ordinator (SENCo)**

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Available: Thursday & Friday

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SEND: What it means to you and your child

Every child is an individual and they develop and learn at different rates. They may experience difficulties in the following areas:

- Reading, writing, mathematics
- Understanding and using language
- Organising themselves
- Sensory difficulties
- Physical challenges
- Managing their behaviour
- Relating to other children or adults

This may mean that your child requires some additional support in the areas mentioned above.

Don't Panic!

There are many ways that children may be struggling at school and many ways that they can be helped to overcome these difficulties.

Provision for children with SEND

All children at Stroud Valley Community School receive quality first teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum in an inclusive environment.

According to their needs, children will also have access to:

- Enhanced access to ICT or specialist equipment
- In-class support from teaching assistants
- Catch-Up programmes in Literacy and Numeracy
- One-to-one or small group work
- Test and exam concessions
- Extra help from other services
- Either a My Plan or My Plan+ outlining the child's targets and the provision provided to help achieve these (Please see next page for definitions)

Identifying SEND

All children's needs are individual to them. We will always talk to you about any concerns we have regarding their developmental journey. This may result in a collective decision to place your child on the SEND register.

Types of special educational needs can include:

- General Learning—children whose learning progresses at a slower pace
- Speech and Language difficulties
- Social and emotional difficulties
- Autism
- Communication and Interaction difficulties
- Physical/Medical Needs

What if I think my child has SEND:

Discuss your concerns with the class teacher as there are many things you can achieve together without needing extra SEND support.

A Graduated Approach to SEND

My Profile: All children on the SEND list at Stroud Valley will have a 'My Profile' that will outline what helps and hinders their learning as well as what their hopes for the future are.

My Plan: All children on the SEND list will have a 'My Plan'. This will outline targets and goals that the child is working towards and well as any provision in place for them. The 'My Plans' will also state the actions and resources being used to help them achieve these goals. There may also be outside agencies working with the child, family and school.

My Plan+: If a My Plan has been in place some time and has been reviewed several times with limited progress being made a child may then be given a 'My Plan+'. Outside agencies will be involved at this time.

Educational, Health and Care Plan: A child would have been on a My Plan+ and this would have been reviewed several times before an EHCP would be considered. The SENCo alongside parents may request additional support through an EHC plan to help meet the child's needs.

Partnerships with parents

At Stroud Valley Community School we aim to work in partnership with parents to meet your child's needs.

This means:

- We listen to the views of parents
- Parents are equal partners in decisions about their child's education
- Parents are kept informed about their child's needs and progress

How can I as a parent help?

As a parent you are in the best position to support your child's learning. It is really important that you:

- Take a positive view of your child's efforts and potential
- Celebrate your child's success
- Encourage your child in learning outside of the school environment in any way
- Attend the SEND review meetings

Review Meetings

My Plan review meetings are carried out twice a year. This involves the SENCo, class teacher, parents and the child.

Children with a My Plan+ will have regular meetings throughout the year to review targets. These meetings will involve the SENCo, class teacher, parents, child and any other outside agencies working with the child.

Children with an EHC plan will have a formal annual review which you will be invited to alongside all other individuals involved.

The aim of the review meetings are:

- To celebrate the child's achievements
- Discuss the next steps in the child's learning
- To talk about any other concerns

The School SEND Policy

The school SEND policy is reviewed annually in discussion with staff and governors. You can get a copy of the school SEND Policy from the schools website at:

<http://www.stroudvalleyschool.co.uk/info.php>