



# Saint Jude's

## Catholic Primary School

*We live, love and learn together joyfully in Jesus' name.*

### Special Educational Needs: Information for Parents.

#### **What is Special Educational Needs?**

It is a learning difficulty or disability that calls for different or additional provision, other than that, that would normally be available to a pupil in a mainstream school, so they can access the curriculum and make expected levels of progress in school.

#### **Who can I speak to about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?**

Our Inclusion manager is Mr S. Powell and the School Governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs is Mrs S Casey.

To contact Mr Powell you can ring the school on 0121 464 5069. He works full time and is contactable every school day.

#### **What types of Special Educational Needs does school support?**

There are 4 broad areas of need that we support in school:

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

#### **How would I know my child had a special educational need?**

We would tell you but you may be concerned about: significantly slow progress **or** failure to match previous progress **or** failure to close an attainment gap **or** wider developmental or social skills concerns. If your child is identified as having a special educational need, they will be put on our Special Educational Needs Register.

#### **What is the Local Offer?**

Local Authorities are required to publish and regularly review the information and services they provide for children and young people who have Special Educational Needs & Disabilities. The services provided by the Local Authority are accessible to children and young people aged 0-25. Each Local Authority refers to this as the Local Offer. See Birmingham's Local offer link below this document on the web page.

## **What can I expect from school?**

You can expect us to be open and honest in our communication with you and to involve both you and your child in all the decisions we make. We will make sure that we are clear about our plans and spend time explaining them to you so you understand what we plan to do. We will keep you informed of progress and involve you in reviewing your child's progress.

## **If my child had a Special Educational Need what would happen in the classroom?**

Your child will follow the same curriculum that the other children in the class do. The class teacher will adapt classroom tasks so that your child can achieve, we call this differentiation. It **could** involve your child:

1. Working with the class teacher.
2. Working with a Teaching Assistant.
3. Working with friends as a team.
4. Having extra resources or information broken into smaller parts.
5. Doing a different task about the same subject.

## **What can I expect if I have a concern about my child?**

If there is a concern about your child's progress or behaviour this can be raised by a member of staff or by yourself. We will hold discussions with everyone involved with your child and make a plan that will set targets for them to achieve. The plan will also outline who will be involved in helping the child achieve the targets.

If the concern is about academic progress, you and your child's teachers will have a copy of the plan which is called an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The IEP breaks learning down into small steps. These steps form targets for the child to achieve. The targets will be shared with your child and used by the class teacher to plan work so they make progress. Your child may become involved in an intervention group where they will come out of class and work in a small group on the targets they have been set. We also work with outside agencies that have particular specialist knowledge and these groups could become involved. At least once a term, the IEP will be reviewed to assess how much progress has been made and what the next learning step should be for your child.

If the concern is about behaviour, you and your child's teachers will have a copy of the plan which is called an Individual Behaviour Plan (IBP)

The IBP outlines what the behaviour is that is causing concern and why we think your child is showing that behaviour. We will then set targets for your child to achieve, to help them change that behaviour. An IBP will be reviewed every two

weeks with you and the class teacher. We work with outside agencies that we can call on for extra insight if we feel the behaviour is not improving.

### **What can I expect if my child has a medical need?**

We will write a care plan for your child with the school nursing service and yourself so that we can meet their needs and maximise their opportunities to join in with all aspects of school life.

### **What happens if the plans the school makes do not work?**

We can apply for an Educational Health Care Plan. This is a specialist document outlining in detail what the concerns are about your child and a number of targets that the school and family should work towards to help your child achieve their best.

### **What are outside agencies?**

We have the support of different teams within the authority:

- 1) **Pupil Support Service:** Specialist SEN teachers with experience in assessing, identifying and providing learning support for children on the SEN register.
- 2) **Speech and Language Service:** A specialist with expertise in identifying children's language problems and providing support to staff to address the problems.
- 3) **Communication and Autism Team:** Specialist service that supports children and teachers to provide for the needs of children on the autistic spectrum.
- 4) **Educational Psychology Service:** Educational psychologist with specialist knowledge to diagnose learning problems and support school to address these.
- 5) **Physical Disabilities Support Service:** A specialist service providing support for physical disabilities, visual disabilities and hearing disabilities.
- 6) **City of Birmingham School.** We can call on specialist teachers with knowledge about changing behaviour to observe children and offer specialist advice.
- 7) **Health Services.** We can also refer children to:
  - a. Community paediatricians
  - b. Speech and language therapy
  - c. Physiotherapy
  - d. Occupational Therapy
  - e. ADHD nursing service
  - f. Children's nutrition and dietetic service
  - g. Community children's nursing and palliative care service

### **What can I expect from the school as my child starts nursery or in Reception?**

We will visit you to find out all about your child and liaise with any agencies or nursery provision your child has had so we have a full picture of what your child is like and how to meet their needs.

### **What can I expect from the school as my child goes to another class?**

As a school, we have transition days in the summer term when children can go to their new classroom and teacher and experience what their next year group will be like. If your child has specific educational, social or emotional needs, they will have a 1 Page Profile. This document will outline the things your child is interested in and what their present teacher has learned about what works for your child in making them feel safe and ready to learn.

### **What can I expect when my child transfers from year 6 to secondary school?**

We will liaise with your child's Secondary School. We invite the SENCO from your child's Secondary School to talk about your child's needs, pass on any appropriate paperwork and organise any extra visits that may be necessary for your child.

### **What can I do if I am not happy with how things are going in school for my child?**

You can contact school and ask to speak with the Deputy Headteacher, Mr McGarrigle. If he is not contactable, please ask for contact with the Headteacher, Mrs Smith.