

THE OAKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

INFORMATION REPORT 2025 - 2026

The information in this document describes our provision for learners with a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND) and reflects Birmingham's Local Offer which can be found on; <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/>

At The Oaklands Primary School, a Summit Learning Trust Academy we strive to ensure that all learners achieve their potential; personally, socially, emotionally, and academically in all areas of the curriculum regardless of their gender, ethnicity, social background, religion, sexual identity, physical ability or educational needs. This report is intended to give you information regarding the ways in which we ensure that we support all our learners, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. It may not list every skill, resource, and technique we employ in order to achieve this as our provisions are continually developed and evaluated to meet the diverse and changing requirements of our learners.

WHO IS THE BEST PERSON TO TALK TO IN SCHOOL ABOUT MY CHILD'S ADDITIONAL NEEDS?

At The Oaklands the teacher who coordinates Special Educational Needs and Disabilities support and provision is: Miss Ellee Vance (SENDCO).

Miss Vance is part of our Inclusion Team who all work together to ensure that our learners needs are identified and appropriately catered for.

If you wish to talk to or meet with Miss Vance, then please ask at the main office or call 0121 706 2168 and they will make an appointment for you. Miss Vance's working days are Monday – Wednesday each week. Alternatively, you can email enquiry@oaklandsprimary.org.uk and your message will be forwarded on.

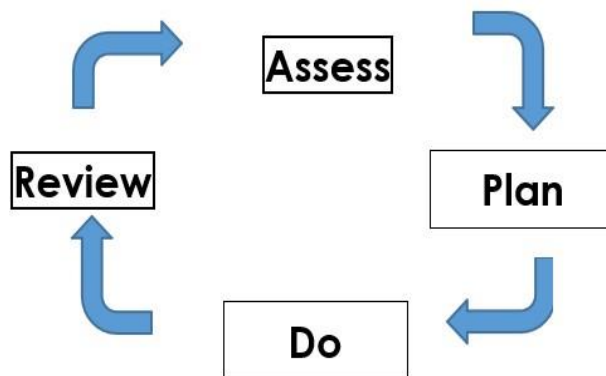
HOW DOES THE SCHOOL IDENTIFY AND ASSESS SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS?

In school, we use a variety of ways to assess whether a child may have special educational needs. Some of these ways include:

- In class and social time observations
- School assessments and progress data / results from end of key stage assessments
- Information from parents and carers
- Information from the child
- Outcomes from specialist assessments, observations and advice sought from members of the school's extended support services (with parent / carer consent). Usually carried out in school.
- Reports from health and social care professionals
- Discussions with adults who work with the child in and out of school
- Information from previous schools or settings
- Questionnaires and evaluation tools used as a part of a targeted intervention

Once a learner is identified as having a special educational need, a person-centred approach is taken, and a graduated cycle is followed.

The child's needs will first be assessed, then support will be planned for, carried out and then regularly reviewed. At the review any necessary changes will be made.



Wave 1 (universal support)

This includes high quality teaching, which considers the learning needs of all learners in the classroom. It requires teachers to create an inclusive learning environment with tasks and activities which are scaffolded and additionally resourced.

Wave 2 (universal plus / targeted intervention – school support)

This includes specific, additional, and time-limited interventions that target gaps or a delay in a learner's development. The support is designed to accelerate a learner's progress from their starting point. Often the intervention is delivered to support a small group of learners with similar learning, language, or personal development needs. Learners in receipt of a wave 2 intervention are identified as having "SEN support".

Wave 3 (specialist intervention – Support Plan/ Education Health Care Plan)

This includes specialist provision for a minority of learners where it is necessary to provide highly tailored interventions to support their academic progress and/or personal development. Learners receiving a wave 3 intervention and / or access to specialist external support (on a 1:1 / small group basis) are identified as having high focused “SEN support”. The school may work with outside agencies, parent/carers, and the learner to create a Support Plan. The plan outlines what is important for the child now and in the future along with detailing their strengths, interests, aspirations, and areas of need. Short and long-term targets with accompanying strategies, resources, and provision are also noted within the plan. The plan is usually reviewed on at least an annual basis with progress and next steps clearly noted. In some cases, and only with outside agency approval, additional high needs top up funding can also be applied for at this stage. This is to source support which exceeds our universal and targeted provision.

Learners may (if not already in receipt of) need to undergo a holistic statutory assessment of their needs which may result in an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) being applied for, agreed, and issued by the Local Authority. Evidence in support of an EHCP needs to be gathered and clearly documented through the graduated approach; assess, plan, do and review cycle and noted within a child’s Support Plan. Both short- and long-term outcomes are then discussed at a Team Around the Child meeting with all views gathered and recorded. This process usually takes at least two academic terms to fully evidence unless there are extenuating / special circumstances.

For further information regarding this process, follow the link:

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/education-health-and-care-plan/guidance-leaflet/>

A small minority of learners may receive support and provision via an Education Health Care Plan. The holistic and forward-thinking plan clearly details the areas of SEND a learner has, the support they require and the short/long term desired outcomes being worked towards. The plan is reviewed at least once a year and at this point views are gained from the child, their parents/carers, teachers, and external professionals involved in their care and education. The impact of provision is also reviewed along with; academic progress, attendance, behaviour, health and social care requirements and any short-term targets partially / fully met. For the majority of learners with an EHCP progress will have been made and their needs will continue to be appropriately met. For some learners, their needs may require a more specialist approach requiring additional adult support, personalised resources, higher needs funding or for an alternative placement to be explored (in agreement with the wishes of the child, their parents/carers and other professionals involved).

At The Oaklands Primary School we have a short-term Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP). The intensive, small group provision is designed for learners in EYFS and year 1 who have been identified as having either emerging or escalating complex learning and / or speech, language and communication needs. Placements in the ELP are limited, time-bound and all learners accessing the specialist support must meet the academy-based criteria, along with parent/carer consent. The provision follows the graduated response supporting learners to either gradually re-integrate into their mainstream class or support a statutory assessment of their needs. This may lead to a change of educational setting.

The academy works closely with parents/carers and external agencies throughout the child’s ELP placement to ensure a holistic, team around the child approach is taken and regularly reviewed when determining appropriate support, short/long term outcomes and next steps.

WHAT TYPES OF SEND ARE PROVIDED FOR AT THE OAKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND HOW ARE THEY SUPPORTED?

At The Oaklands we are fully committed to empowering our learners through an inspiring and exciting curriculum which provokes ambition and offers support.

The table below outlines just some of the difficulties a child with SEND may experience. We know that some children will have difficulties in one or more of the areas noted and we will always do our best to meet their needs.

		Some children might:
<i>Cognition and learning</i>	Children who find learning, thinking and understanding more challenging than most other learners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Take longer to learn important skills such as language, literacy and numeracy <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to understand how to use letter sounds to read and spell words <input type="checkbox"/> Need more time to think about their answers before verbalising or writing them down <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle to remember things they have just learnt or be able to make connections between different concepts / topics <input type="checkbox"/> Find it challenging to transfer information from one context to another i.e., home / school, maths / science, class / playground <input type="checkbox"/> Need questions or instructions given to them in very short steps and in a simple form <input type="checkbox"/> Need to see (visualise) what they are learning about and use additional resources to help them learn.
<i>Communication and Interaction</i>	Children who find it difficult when interacting and communicating with other people and managing change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Find it difficult to form / make letter sounds <input type="checkbox"/> Have word finding difficulties thereby; omit words, jumble words, give one/two-word answers, use incomplete sentences, use the same words (have limited vocabulary) <input type="checkbox"/> Encounter difficulties when starting and maintaining a conversation with both familiar / unfamiliar people <input type="checkbox"/> Speak with little / no intonation or expression <input type="checkbox"/> Find it difficult to stay on topic <input type="checkbox"/> Need help with making and keeping friends <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle to follow rules made by someone else <input type="checkbox"/> Withdraw from social situations <input type="checkbox"/> Misread social cues, gestures, and non-verbal language Struggle with change of routine <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to say things they are thinking or feeling <input type="checkbox"/> Find it difficult to understand what other people mean when they are talking

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><i>Social, emotional and mental health difficulties</i></p>	<p>Children who find it difficult to manage / regulate their emotions and responses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Need support in understanding rules and routines <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to stay focused / sit still for short periods of time <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle to take turns, actively listen <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to understand how they / others are feeling <input type="checkbox"/> Require instructions to be short and simple <input type="checkbox"/> Need high levels of reassurance and praise <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to voice how they are feeling <input type="checkbox"/> Need help in making and keeping friends <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle to trust others <input type="checkbox"/> Encounter difficulties when trying to manage their feelings <input type="checkbox"/> Find it hard to move on from situations <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate inappropriate age-related behaviours <input type="checkbox"/> Be highly emotionally / reactive to reasonable everyday requests routines <input type="checkbox"/> Find it difficult to demonstrate age-appropriate levels of resilience <input type="checkbox"/> Overly attach themselves to peers and / or adults <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Be in the process of dealing with trauma / significant change in their personal circumstance
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><i>Sensory or physical needs</i></p>	<p>Children who have a hearing or visual impairment, a physical disability or medical condition and require; support and or/ adaptations/ or reasonable adjustments to be made.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Experience difficulties in hearing what others in the classroom or school setting are saying and require specific aids <input type="checkbox"/> Have reduced sight and require individual adaptations <input type="checkbox"/> Have difficulties with their fine / gross motor skills <input type="checkbox"/> Have difficulties with navigating / walking around all areas of the setting <input type="checkbox"/> Have difficulties with using equipment and resources without adaptations / alternatives / support <input type="checkbox"/> Find it difficult to manage their own care / personal needs <input type="checkbox"/> Have special dietary requirements linked to a medical condition <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Have underdeveloped social and or skills as a result of their medical / sensory needs <input type="checkbox"/> Lack confidence and / or independence

WHAT ARE THE INTERVENTIONS / PROVISIONS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT LEARNERS WITH SEND?

The list below is an example of the various wave 2 (targeted) and 3 (specialist) provisions available to our learners as part of the graduated approach:

Cognition & Learning	Communication & Interaction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing scaffolds: sentence stems, word banks, symbols, examples <input type="checkbox"/> Paired/guided reading opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Precision Teaching <input type="checkbox"/> Word Wasp <input type="checkbox"/> Cued spelling <input type="checkbox"/> IDL literacy and/or numeracy <input type="checkbox"/> Access to ICT / Apps for extended writing <input type="checkbox"/> Colour overlays <input type="checkbox"/> Now and next trays <input type="checkbox"/> Task management board <input type="checkbox"/> 3D resources to support abstract learning <input type="checkbox"/> Extra time <input type="checkbox"/> Reading pen <input type="checkbox"/> In class support from a Teaching <input type="checkbox"/> With consent, access to a Learning, Language Strategic Support team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lego Therapy • Speech and Language interventions – 1:1 and small group • Visual timetable • Widget symbols / photographs • Makaton • Individual resources inc. weighted blankets, social stories, comic strips • Access to sensory resources • Sensory circuits • In class support from a Teaching Assistant/Learning Mentor • With consent, access to Speech and Language Therapist • With consent, access to the Communication & Autism Team
Social, Emotional & Mental Health	Physical / Sensory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lego Therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Mentor support inc. 1:1 sessions and in class coaching <input type="checkbox"/> Individual resources inc. transitional objects, sensory soothing objects <input type="checkbox"/> Behaviour reward systems and individualised Behaviour Support Plans <input type="checkbox"/> Creative therapy and counselling <input type="checkbox"/> Key staff trained in Mental Health First Aid <input type="checkbox"/> Signposting support through PAUSE <input type="checkbox"/> Support from Beacon School Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support from City of Birmingham Outreach Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual resources / aids as guided by specialist sensory support teams • Care Plan and PEEP • Enlarged text/Access to technology inc. tablet, • Flexible seating plan arrangements • Reasonable adjustments made to timetable • Motor skills / OT programme • Fine Motor skills programme / resources • Radio aid • With consent, access to a Specialist Support Service – HI / VI / physical support team/ physiotherapist / occupational therapist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Access to counselling/support <input type="checkbox"/> With consent access to an Educational Psychologist 	

HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED WITH MY CHILD'S LEARNING AND PROGRESS?

The Oaklands Primary School operates a working in partnership approach which means parents/carers can contact the school when they have a query and time will be made for them. The school will schedule meetings and consultations for parents/carers to meet with key staff to discuss their child's progress and the graduated approach. The school holds details of local and national support groups and can signpost parents/carers to them. Parents/carers' views and contributions are listened to and valued. Parents/carers know their children best and have a great deal to contribute.

We aim to regularly involve parents/carers in the education of their child through a variety of different ways including:

- Regular meetings with class teacher, support staff and our SENDCO at target setting meetings
- One Page Profile target setting and review meetings
- External agency referrals
- Home reading and communication logs
- Information on the school website
- Signposting to parent/carer groups in the locality
- Support Plan and Education Health Care Plan planning and review meetings
- Workshops / support groups / coffee morning for parents / carers of children with SEND
- Sharing of strategies and approaches to help home to school transitions.

WHAT TRAINING DO THE STAFF IN SCHOOL HAVE IN RELATION TO LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS?

At The Oaklands Primary School, we believe that all staff should be involved in supporting pupils with special educational needs therefore we make sure that staff receive ongoing professional learning opportunities to best meet the needs of current and future cohorts of pupils. We utilise the specialist knowledge of the external agencies that work closely with us as this helps to inform our practice and upskill our members of staff.

WHO ARE THE OTHER PEOPLE PROVIDING SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH SEND AT THE OAKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL?

Agency or Service	Who they work with ...	Referral process...
Communication and Autism Team (CAT)	<p>Children who are being externally assessed for or already have a diagnosis of Autism or communication difficulties.</p> <p>They will also provide support for families of children with autism.</p>	<p>With parent / carer consent the SENDCO can make a referral to CAT for their advice, support, or direct input for a learner with autism. Sometimes this may extend to family or peer group support.</p>
Educational Psychology Service (EPS)	<p>An Educational Psychologist may be asked to assess, observe, work with or provide advice regarding a child with complex developmental needs. This may be cognitively, socially or emotionally.</p>	<p>With parent / carer consent the SENDCO can make a referral to the school's allocated EP. Should a statutory assessment of a child's SEND be appropriate EP involvement is usually required throughout the graduated approach and evidence gathering stages.</p>
Language, Learning Strategic Support (LLSS)	<p>Children who are working significantly below their age-related expectations (reading, writing, language, numeracy) and / or experiencing difficulties with their working memory.</p> <p>Children who may have a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, or dyscalculia.</p> <p>A LLSS teacher will also work with staff in school offering support, advice, and training about specific interventions.</p>	<p>LLSS teacher regularly visits The Oaklands. A learner can be referred for individual assessment and targeted support with parent/carer consent.</p>

Physical Disability Service (PDSS)	Children with a physical disability, impairment or medical need which impacts on their ability to access school facilities /environment in school – requiring adaptations and reasonable adjustments.	After parent / carer consent has been gained a referral to the service can be made for advice and / or direct input. Sometimes a medical service may have already involved PDSS as part of a child’s paediatric support.
Sensory Support Service (SSS)	Children with a hearing, visual or multisensory impairment that require adaptations and / or reasonable adjustments to be made to the physical environment and / or curriculum.	Learners are usually referred following a medical diagnosis, however with parent / carer consent a school referral can be made for advice and / or direct input. Wider out of school support, activities and groups can be signposted through this service.
Speech and Language	Children with an expressive and/or receptive language disorder.	The school has weekly access to a Speech and Language Therapist. With parent / carer consent a child can be assessed and supported through targeted / specialist interventions to develop their speech, language, and communication skills. Often parents / carers are involved with this process so that approaches can be adopted at home.
School Nurse	<p>Children with emerging or diagnosed medical, health, personal care needs particularly where medication or regular monitoring is required to ensure healthy development.</p> <p>Children with a Care Plan.</p>	The Oaklands have access to School Nurse Services, Parent / carers are informed of drop-in sessions and all school referrals will be made once parent / carer consent has been gained and concerns / observations shared.

Occupational Therapy	<p>Children with fine motor, gross motor physical difficulties that require specific / tailored support.</p> <p>Children with visual perception difficulties.</p> <p>Children with sensory processing difficulties.</p>	Learners are usually referred by a paediatrician however with parent / carer consent school can make a referral to this service for; advice, to request an assessment or direct involvement with a learner.
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HOW DO WE KNOW THAT PROVISION IS EFFECTIVE?

We use a wide range of strategies to check learner progress. This includes:

- Reviewing individual targets from a One Page Profiles, continuum, Support Plan or Educational Health Care Plan
- Using the school's assessment data to see how much progress a learner has made in relation to their starting point and targets
- The results of any tests the learner has taken in school, as part of an intervention, or as a result of a specialist assessment (carried out by an external agency / specialist)
- Observations
- Talking to adults in school who have worked with the learner
- Talking to parents
- Talking to the child
- Reports from external professional's working with / monitoring the development of the child

HOW DO WE MEASURE PROGRESS OF YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL?

The progress of all learner's including those with special educational needs, is tracked using the school's assessment system. Learners are assessed regularly using teacher live marking, observations and questioning as well as more formal assessments such as curriculum tests and standardised tests. At The Oaklands, and across Summit Learning Trust, we also use Birmingham's Language, Literacy and Maths toolkits which support teaching, learning and assessment. The toolkits provide a continuum of national curriculum statements which help to track the small steps of progress some learners make. The targets which are set from these toolkits are formally reviewed three times a year. This helps the school to monitor the impact of high-quality teaching and interventions.

HOW WILL WE INVOLVE YOUR CHILD IN THE DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR EDUCATION?

We aim to involve all learners in our school in the evaluations and implementation of their own education. For learners with special educational needs, we use a variety of strategies to support this including:

- Involving a learner in creating and reviewing their One Page Profile
- Learner attendance at target review meetings
- Person Centred Approaches / tools used for annual EHCP reviews and Support Plan meetings
- Self / peer assessment at the beginning and at end of learning activities
- Having a range of resources available for learners to use and chose from when necessary
- Ensuring learners work with a range of different partners
- Ensuring a learner has a designated / trusted adult to go to if they need help
- Reviewing of Medical Alert Cards / Care Plans
- Creating and using visual timetables
- Prompt cards to promote independence
- Personalised work-stations (as recommended by external professionals)

TRANSITION: HOW WE SUPPORT LEARNER'S WHEN THEY ARE MOVING ON TO ANOTHER CLASS OR SCHOOL?

We aim to make times of transition as easy as possible for the children in our school.

When starting at our school we:

- Meet with the child and their parents or carers to talk about their needs and answer any questions
- Speak to or meet with staff at the child's previous school or setting
- Provide the child with a transition book that has photographs of the key staff and areas around school (if appropriate)
- Read reports from people who have worked with the child
- Arrange additional visits so that the child becomes familiar with our school setting, staff and peers

When moving to a new year group we:

- Introduce the child to their new teacher individually
- Provide the child with an updated transition book that has photographs of the key staff and areas around school to look at during the school holidays (where required)
- Talk to the child and their family so we can answer any questions they may have about the new school year

When moving to a new school we:

- Talk to key staff at the new school about things that help the child to learn well, stay safe and be happy at school
- Arrange extra visits to the new school with a member of staff from our school if that is what the child requires (take photographs of key places and meet key people if possible)
- Talk to the child and their family so that we can answer any questions they may have about the new school
- If appropriate, staff from the new setting may visit the child in our school
- May request that a child continues with particular routine, intervention, type of support

- May request that a child joins a nurture group, has access to a mentor or TA during the transition phase
- May request that a child has access to a 'buddy' or is in the same group as a child they currently work well with

At The Oaklands we recognise that for some children all transitions including changes to daily routines or expectations may raise anxiety levels. We will always endeavour to minimise change, pre-empt change and support unexpected situations where feasible working with the child and / or their family, both pre and post events. We encourage parents/carers to also alert school to any transitions or changes outside of school which may impact on the day ahead for a child so that school can discretely and sensitively monitor and support a child if needed.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL POLICY FOR SEN? (please see the policy on school website or click the link below)

[SEND Policy – The Oaklands Primary School](#)

HOW IS THE GOVERNING BODY INVOLVED WITH SEN PROVISION?

At The Oaklands Primary School, our SEND Governor is the link between the Governing Board and the Academy in relation to learners with SEND. It is their role to; help raise awareness of SEND issues at meetings, give up-to-date information on outcomes and provision within the Academy, encourage effective home to school communication with parents/carers, ensure SEND policy is linked to school improvement and hold senior leaders to account for their implementation and review of SEND policy.

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY WITH THE PROVISION YOUR CHILD IS RECEIVING?

We take your concerns seriously and will act upon these on an individual basis.

In the first instance we would always ask that you raise your concerns with your child's class teacher. Should you have any specific questions / queries thereafter regarding your child's support or provision do contact Miss Vance our SENDCO via the main reception.

If you are unhappy about the resolution of your concern or if it is of a more serious nature, then this should be raised with the Principal Mr David Barker.

More guidance regarding the school's complaints procedure can be found on the school's website or can be requested from our school reception.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS INFORMATION, ADVICE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

In Birmingham, parents and families can receive support from Special Educational Needs Information, Advice and Support Services - SENDIASS, who will advise and support parents with children who have special educational needs.

The service is impartial, confidential, accessible and free, and can help with a range of subjects, including:

- Assessment processes for education, health and care plans

- Information about the support available in nurseries, schools and colleges
- Social care and health issues that relate to education
- Individual casework and support in preparing for and attending meeting
- Advice and representation through appeals and complaints processes, if appropriate.

Birmingham SENDIAS Service

Telephone: 0121 303 5004

E-mail: sendiass@birmingham.gov.uk

Website address is <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/sendias>