

LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 2023 - 2024

Document Information

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Version History

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To Be Read in conjunction with

Policy	Date	Document Index No.	Notes
Local Offer 2023-24	October 2023		
Keeping Children Safe in Education	September 2023	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741314/Keeping_Children_Safe_in_Education__3_September_2018_14.09.18.pdf	Including Safer Recruitment
Working Together to Safeguard Children	September 2023	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf	
Safeguarding Policy	September 2022-23		
Data Protection Policy	May 2023		
Staff Confidentiality	May 2023		
Accessibility Policy	June 2022		
Administering medicines and first aid policy	March 2023		
Equality Statement	Sept 2021		
Positive attitude to Learning	Sept 2022		

Compliance

This policy complies with the statutory requirements laid out in the SEND code of practice 0-25 (September 2014) 3.65 and has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 0-25 years	September 2022		
The Children and Families Act	2022		
Equality Act 2010: Advice for schools	February 2013		
The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations	2014, amended 2015		
Statutory Guidance on Supporting pupils at School with medical conditions	(April 2014) [updated 2017]		
The Special Educational Needs (Personal Budgets and Direct Payments) Regulations, sections 49			
The Order setting out Transitional Arrangements, section 137			

Consultation has taken place with the SEN Governor, pupils with SEND and their parents/carers prior to ratification.

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Admission Arrangements

Admissions Arrangements are managed by the London Borough of Lambeth using the PAN London Admission Arrangements. All applications for pupils with Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) need to be made via the Local Authority. The London Nautical School (LNS) offers places to pupils with EHCPs providing the school is compatible for the pupil's age, ability and aptitude; the child's attendance is compatible with the efficient education of other pupils and is an efficient use of the Local Authority's resources.

Definition of SEND

- A child or young person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.
- A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:
- Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age

or

- Has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream colleges or mainstream post-16 institutions
- Special educational provision is educational or training provision that is additional to or different from that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream colleges, maintained nursery colleges, mainstream post-16 institutions or by relevant early years providers.

Disabled Pupils

Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability - a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

There is a significant overlap between disabled young people and those with special educational needs. Where a young person requires special educational provision over and above the adjustments, aids and services required by the Equality Act 2010 they will be additionally covered by the SEND definition.

LNS recognises that many pupils, at some point in their school career, have special educational needs or disabilities which may require support. We have high aspirations for all our pupils and do not consider SEND an excuse for any underachievement. Our focus is on outcomes. Every teacher is a teacher of every child, including those with SEND, and we celebrate diversity. The school encourages a culture of peer support and inclusion which facilitates strong friendship groups for pupils with SEND.

Aim

LNS fully endorses the core principles of the SEND Code of Practice (2014).

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

- Achieve their potential

- Develop confidence and independence
- Make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further education or training

Objectives of this policy

- To identify and provide for pupils who have special educational needs
- To work within the guidance provided in the SEND code of practice 2014
- To operate a 'whole school' approach to the management and provision of support for special educational needs
- To guide the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO)
- To ensure access to the curriculum for all pupils
- To provide support and guidance for all staff working with pupils with SEND
- To develop and maintain partnership and high levels of engagement with parents/carers

Partnership and Families

The school works in partnership with parents and carers to enable pupils with SEND to achieve good or better outcomes. The school recognises that families have a unique overview of their child's needs and how best to support them; this gives families a key role in the partnership.

We ascribe to the principles of Person Centred Planning; the views of pupils with SEND are integral to the decision-making processes affecting them. We provide information and support to help pupils achieve the best possible outcomes; developing their independence and preparing them effectively for adulthood. This is especially important when transferring to post- 16 education or training as some rights to participate in decision-making transfer from the parent to the young person.

Understanding SEND

The SEND Code of Practice 2014 recognises children's needs and requirements fall into four broad areas:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- Sensory and/or physical needs

We recognise pupils often have needs that fit into more than one of these areas and their needs may change over time.

We acknowledge other factors impacting on progress and attainment, for example:

- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- Family circumstances including eligibility for pupil premium funding and bilingualism/multilingualism

Behaviour is not a special educational need in itself. In line with the SEND Code of Practice, challenging behaviour is viewed as a response to an underlying unmet need. The school, in partnership with parents and the young person, investigate and address challenging behaviour following the procedures outlined in the Positive Attitude to Learning policy.

The school has a clear approach to identifying and responding to SEND. All teachers and Learning Support Assistants (LSAs) are responsible for identifying pupils with SEND and, in collaboration with the SENDCO, will ensure that a pupil's needs are identified at an early stage.

The SENDCO, Assistant SENDCO/Head of ASC Base and Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) liaise with all primary schools during the KS2 to KS3 transition process. Conversations and Pupils are assessed in a number of ways based on the following:

- Key Stage 2 data
- Reading and Spelling Age
- Primary school staff feedback
- Assessments and reports from external agencies
- CATS data and standardised scores

Further diagnostic testing is put in place for some pupils to gain a more forensic analysis of their individual needs. The results of these assessments are shared with parents/carers and used to inform the pupil's Student Profile and any intervention programme.

Mid-term admissions also undertake similar rigorous procedures with, in some cases, a more in-depth look at bilingual learners.

Where it is decided a pupil has a special educational need (SEND), this decision is recorded in the school records and parents are informed. Parents of pupils identified on entry with SEND will have the opportunity to discuss the best approach to their child's learning in secondary school.

For Y6 pupils with EHCPs preparing to join LNS, a SEND colleague will ordinarily attend their Y6 annual review and facilitate visits to LNS during the summer term. The SENDCO will meet with all parents/carers of the pupils with EHCPs to produce a Student Profile to be disseminated to all staff and a Termly Outcomes review to ensure the educational provision is in place to meet the objectives of the EHCP. These meetings may be undertaken in person, remotely or via telephone. Student Profiles are reviewed termly.

Monitoring and investigation

The school regularly gathers information about every pupil's attainment and progress, alongside national data and expectations of progress. Academic data is updated a minimum of three times a year and is generally shared with pupils and parents in line with LNS Assessment and Reporting Policy. Progress is a crucial factor in identifying pupils who may have special educational needs. Pupils each have an end of year and end of Year 11 target based on four levels of progress. Expectations of progress of a pupil with SEND's progress are not capped.

Less than expected progress can include progress in areas other than attainment – for instance, communication, self-care, social skills and emotional regulation.

Where teachers decide that a pupil is making less than expected progress despite verified high quality teaching, they will refer the pupil to the SENDCO for investigation and further support. The SENDCO works with Heads of Department to improve teaching and learning of pupils with SEND across the curriculum.

The identification and assessment of SEND involves early discussion with the pupil, and their parents/carers whose consent is required for any assessments from external agencies. We expect pupils and parents to participate fully in the assessment, planning and reviewing process.

High quality teaching

Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress of the pupils in their class, including where pupils access support from Learning Support Assistants. High quality teaching involves knowing the needs of all the pupils and differentiating practice accordingly. Intervention programmes and support from LSAs and external agencies is provision additional to high quality teaching.

All pupils at The London Nautical School have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. We adopt a blended approach to classes with a mixture of setting, streaming and mixed ability and have high aspirations for all pupils.

At Key Stage 3 the school delivers a range of intervention programmes focusing on different areas of development. These programmes are evaluated each term.

At Key Stage 4 pupils are expected to take a broad range of qualifications and be supported in their choice of appropriate courses (courses which interest the pupil, enable them to make expected progress or better, develop key skills and prepare them for their post-16 pathway).

The school regularly reviews the quality of teaching and learning for all pupils. This includes formal lesson observations, department reviews and learning walks and regular feedback regarding the deployment of support staff.

There is regular advice and training delivered by the SENDCO and Assistant SENDCO for colleagues at all levels. Staff are encouraged to use online training materials to support their professional development. Where necessary, outside agencies deliver bespoke training.

All teachers and support staff who work with pupils with SEND are made aware of their individual needs and the provision in place to support them and any specific teaching strategies and approaches required. This information is disseminated via the SEND register, SIMS, Class Charts, Student Profiles, emails and briefings.

The SENDCO liaises with Pastoral colleagues regarding students requiring support for their emotional and mental health difficulties. Pastoral colleagues arrange therapeutic and mentoring support from the school Counsellor and external agencies as appropriate. Two LSAs are training for the ELSA qualification to increase targeted SEMH support for students with SEND.

Staff share excellent practice as part of the school's staff development programme.

Increased levels of provision

Some pupils will require a higher level of support to make their expected progress.

In consultation with pupils, parents/carers and teachers, the desired outcomes, including expected progress and attainment, are agreed. In line with the SEND Code of Practice 2014, all decisions about provision will be based on desired outcomes.

A decision is then made as to whether this provision can be provided by adapting the school's core offer or whether different or additional measures are required

Teachers are expected to work closely with any Learning Support Assistants or specialist staff involved in withdrawal intervention programmes, to help assess the impact of support and interventions and how these can be linked to classroom teaching. Teachers are reminded that LSAs can work in a number of flexible ways to promote independent learning and increase the time teachers spend with pupils with SEND.

The SENDCO and Assistant SENDCO will support subject teachers in the further assessment of the pupils' particular strengths and weaknesses and in advising on the effective implementation of support.

Review

In addition to Annual Reviews for pupils with EHCPs, the SENDCO will review the progress of all pupils with SEND termly, after each data drop. Additional review dates may also be agreed with individual pupils, parents and teachers, with clear actions and outcomes agreed.

During these reviews, the SENDCO will evaluate the effectiveness of the existing provision and its impact on the pupil's progress. The views of the pupil and their parents are integral to this process. LNS follows the 'Graduated Approach: Plan, Do, Review'.

The SENDCO, working with subject teachers, may revise the provision in light of the pupils progress and development, deciding on any changes to the support and outcomes in consultation with the parent and pupil.

A record of the outcomes, action and provision agreed through the discussion will be kept and shared with appropriate school staff. Information for staff will be updated electronically.

If a pupil continues to make less than expected progress, despite support and intervention, the school may involve specialists, both in-house and from outside agencies.

The school provides two progress reports per year for parents of their child's progress in all subjects.

For pupils with the highest level of need it may be appropriate for the SENDCO to initiate a request for statutory assessment (the application process for an EHCP). Pupils and their parents are strongly encouraged and supported to be active participants throughout this process.

The school will request additional top-up funding from the Local Authority, if it is felt that the cost of the special educational provision required to meet the needs of an individual pupil exceeds the nationally prescribed threshold.

The Designated Special Provision for Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC Base)

The ASC Base is for pupils whose primary need is autism and their EHCP stipulates the need for a place in a mainstream DSP. The majority of the pupils are working below age expected levels in KS3 and KS4 but are able to access the mainstream lessons with high quality teaching and LSA support.

All pupils in the ASC Base will access an appropriately differentiated curriculum within mainstream lessons, with additional sessions in the Base designed to pre-teach or consolidate learning. In addition, the ASC Base will provide:

- Individualised or small-group work personalised to the needs of each pupil
- A Student Profile for each pupil
- Supported opportunities for social and emotional development to ensure that pupils thrive in a mainstream environment
- Alternate accredited courses for core subjects at Key Stage 4, where these are more appropriate for pupils needs than GCSE courses
- Support for planning the next stage in education, employment or training
- Access to external agencies, including CENMAC, Speech and Language Therapy and support from an Educational Psychologist

The ASC Resource Base is managed by the Assistant SENDCO and HLTA.

The Local Offer

Provision for pupils with SEND at LNS is detailed in the school's Local Offer.

The above provisions are reviewed regularly by the SENDCO to evaluate their efficiency and effectiveness in meeting the needs of the pupils with SEND.

The SENDCO is responsible for provision mapping for each pupil with SEND. This document clearly outlines the additional support put in place for pupils with SEND across the school and demonstrates how additional funding is used.

LNS works closely with Lambeth Local Authority in the development and review of its Local Offer, outlining provision available to meet the range of special educational needs and disabilities. The Local Offer is published on the school's website www.lns.org.uk/SEN

Transition to new stages of learning (education, employment and training)

LNS SEND colleagues place pupils and their families at the centre of planning for transitions to new stages of learning. The SENDCO arranges for, subject to availability, a Careers Adviser to attend all Y9, Y11 and Y13 Annual Reviews.

SEND colleagues provide additional guidance to Y11 and Y13 pupils with SEND to ensure they and their families are aware of the range of post-16 options available and are supported with application and interview processes. SEND colleagues organise individual and group visits to local sixth form schools and colleges where necessary.

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Pupils with medical conditions receive support to enable their participation in all areas of school life, including trips, extra-curricular activities and physical education. Some pupils may also have SEND and an EHCP. All staff are made aware by Safeguarding of a pupil's medical needs and support required. Staff are reminded of medical conditions of students with SEND via the SEND register. The SENDCO liaises with Safeguarding regarding support from the School Nurse for students with SEND and medical conditions.

The SEND policy should be read in conjunction with the Medicines & First Aid Policy & Procedure and the Accessibility policy.

Pupils with SEND and Bullying

Our Policy Equality Statement outlines the school's zero tolerance approach to bullying. Staff are aware pupils with SEND may be more vulnerable to difficulties with their peers and are alert to interactions between pupils. Staff model and praise respectful behaviour across the school day. Pastoral colleagues (via registrations, PSHE lessons and assemblies) promote and celebrate diversity, kindness, tolerance and respect. SEND colleagues staff indoors, small group activities during unstructured times and deliver targeted intervention programmes (e.g. Social Skills and social communication). SEND colleagues work closely with Pastoral colleagues to address any tensions between pupils or misconceptions and help identify students for behaviour mentoring.

Pupils with SEND and Exclusions

As per government guidance (June 2012), LNS tries every practicable means to support a pupil with SEND at risk of exclusion, including exhausting all avenues of appropriate support in-house, seeking advice from the pupil's LA and other external agencies. A SEND colleague helps facilitate any restorative meetings required.

For the roles and responsibilities of the SEND faculty, please refer to the Local Offer 2023-24.

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