



## Stockport School

### SEN/D Policy

#### Mission Statement

- ✓ Stockport School is an inclusive learning community and will take all practical steps to ensure its environment, facilities, curriculum and working practices are accessible to all students, staff and visitors. It will do this, to the best of its ability, through both ensuring physical access and by actively modelling non-discriminatory and inclusive working practices for all, ensuring that disabled students, staff and visitors feel equal and important participants in the School's work.
- ✓ All students, regardless of circumstance, will have access to the entire breadth of curriculum and teaching which is appropriate to their needs and abilities. This will include physical access, within the constraints of the building, technical features to support, for example, visual and hearing impairment, and the provision of appropriate, safe, respectful and suitably supported environments for all activities – e.g. teaching and learning, social, dining, sport and exercise, changing and personal hygiene. Our provision for special educational needs is at the heart of what we do.
- ✓ The School's provision for learners with special educational needs does encompass a very wide range of needs. Our philosophy and working practices are based on two important principles: inclusion and personalisation. It is vital that students feel safe, happy and supported in school.
- ✓ Inclusion means that all students who are able to benefit from mainstream education and choose Stockport School should be enabled to do so. For many, this will mean receiving support and intervention both internally and externally, appropriate to their needs, whether short or long-term. This support may be in class, to assist them in gaining full access to the curriculum, or by withdrawal for periods of time to receive targeted support in order to address specific challenges to learning which are more appropriately managed individually. As a matter of principle, withdrawal will be kept to a minimum with the clear intention to avoid unnecessary disruption to continuity of learning and to reintegrate the student at the first available opportunity. Some students will receive support outside of lessons too, in order to assist with socialisation, behaviour management and physical access and well-being.
- ✓ Personalisation means that the needs of the student should drive the allocation of support which may also result in modification of the curriculum. Students with a special educational need may be provided with an individual learning plan, with specific targets and associated entitlement to support.
- ✓ The Governors and Headteacher acknowledge the range of issues to be taken account of in the process of realisation of this mission statement. All students are welcome, including those with special educational needs, in accordance with the LA Admissions Policy and the Education Act 1996 (Section 316).

## **Objectives of the policy**

This policy has the following objectives:

- ✓ Stockport School will have regard to all relevant local and national policies and codes of practice to ensure our provision is fully in line with best current practice. We refer in particular to:
  - SEN and Disability Act 2001
  - SEN Code of Practice 2014 and Amended 2015
  - Education (SEN)(Information)(England) Regulations 1999
  - Education Act 1996, Sections 316 and 316A
- ✓ We value all students in our School equally, irrespective of their abilities or background.
- ✓ We will ensure that all students have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum which is differentiated to meet individual needs and abilities
- ✓ The aims of education for our students with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are the same as those for all our students. We have high ambitions for all.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of every member of staff to identify and meet the needs of their students. In this they can draw on the resources of the whole school.
- ✓ Every student is entitled to have their particular needs recognised and addressed.
- ✓ We will offer high quality support to ensure that all needs are met.
- ✓ We will maximise the opportunities for students with special educational needs to join in with all the School's activities
- ✓ We believe that all students are entitled to experience success.
- ✓ We expect that consideration of SEN crosses all curriculum areas and all aspects of learning and teaching.
- ✓ We recognise that many students will have special needs at some time during their school life. In implementing this policy, we believe that all students can be helped to overcome any barriers.
- ✓ We believe that special educational provision is more effective if students and their parents are fully involved. We will draw on the expertise of parents/carers and listen carefully to the voice of the child.

This policy will contribute in achieving these objectives by ensuring that provision for our students with special needs is a matter for the whole school and is a part of a continuous cycle of assessment and review.

## **Duties**

The Headteacher shall be the responsible person for the purposes of the following duties in relation to students with SEN.

The Governors of the school shall:

- ✓ use their best endeavours, in exercising their functions in relation to the School, to secure that, if any registered student has special educational needs, the special educational provision which the student's learning difficulty calls for is made;

- ✓ Consult the local authority and the governing bodies of other schools in the area, to the extent that this is necessary for co-ordinating provision for students with SEN.

Where a student who has special educational needs is being educated in the School, those concerned with making special educational provision for the student shall secure, so far as his/is reasonably practicable and is compatible with:

- ✓ The student receiving the special educational provision which their learning difficulty calls for;
- ✓ The provision of reasonable adjustments to ensure all children are able to succeed
- ✓ The efficient use of resources and:
  1. That the student engages in the activities of the School together with students who do not have SEN.
  2. Suitable alternative off-site provision is organised where it is beneficial for the student with SEN.

### **Responsibility for co-ordination of SEN/D provision**

While all staff have a responsibility to enable every student to achieve their potential, certain colleagues have particular responsibilities:

**The Role of the SENCO** - The SENCO plays a crucial role in the School's SEN provision. This involves working with the Headteacher and Governing Body to determine the strategic development of the policy. Other responsibilities include:

- ✓ Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the policy
- ✓ Co-ordinating the provision for students with SEN
- ✓ Liaising with and giving advice to fellow teachers
- ✓ Managing the SEN support team
- ✓ Overseeing students' records
- ✓ Liaising with the parents
- ✓ Making a contribution to INSET
- ✓ Liaising with external agencies, LA support services, Health and Social Services, Services for Young People, voluntary bodies, counselling services, and alternative provision providers.

Responsibility for fully implementing this policy rests with all staff. In particular:

- ✓ The procedures to be followed
- ✓ The commitment required from all staff to keep the SENCO well informed about students' progress
- ✓ Procedures that exist to allow staff access to information about students with special needs
- ✓ What exactly constitutes a 'level of concern' and at which point 'School Support' is initiated
- ✓ Procedures that exist to alert the SENCO to such 'levels of concern'
- ✓ The processes by which parents are informed of this concern and the subsequent SEN provision

Additionally, parents must be given clear guidance how they can help and how they can provide additional information when and if required.

**The Role of the Governing Body** - The Governing Body's responsibilities include:

- ✓ Ensuring that provision of a high standard is made for students with special needs
- ✓ Ensuring that a 'responsible person' is identified to ensure that all those involved with teaching and supporting students with special needs in general and Statements in particular, do so effectively.
- ✓ Ensuring that students with special needs are fully involved in every aspect of the School
- ✓ Having regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out these responsibilities

- Being fully involved in developing, monitoring and subsequently reviewing SEN policy
- Reporting annually to parents on the School's SEN Policy

**The Role of the Headteacher** - These responsibilities include:

- The day-to-day management of all aspects of the School including the SEN provision
- Keeping the Governing Body well informed about SEN within the School
- Working closely with the SENCO/SEN team
- Informing parents of the special needs provision that has been made for their child
- Ensuring that the School has clear and flexible strategies for working with parents and that these strategies encourage involvement in their child's education

**The Role of Staff** - The Code of Practice clearly acknowledges the importance allocated to teaching staff, whose responsibilities include:

- Being aware of the School's procedures for the identification and assessment of, and subsequent provision for students with special educational needs by differentiated planning.
- Collaborating with the SENCO to decide the action required to assist students to progress
- Working with the SENCO to collect all available information on nominated students
- To support the SEN Team in the development and review of Student Passports for students with special educational needs as required and to be fully aware of targets for all relevant students
- Developing constructive relationships with parents
- Being involved in the development of the School's SEN policy

### **Arrangements for co-ordinating Inclusion and Special Educational Needs (ISEN) provision**

The Code of Practice recognises the importance of the SENCO. The SENCO has a:

*'Key role in determining the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the School in order to raise the achievement of children with SEN'*

SEN provision is an integral part of the School Development Plan and forms part of a coherent provision which will ensure that the needs of all students at this School are identified, assessed, supported and monitored. Every School Development Plan will contain a section which ensures that this key element within the School continually progresses, identifying resources and opportunities to support this. The Headteacher, Governors and SENCO will work closely to ensure that every student has the opportunity to develop their potential to its maximum. Under the direction of the SENCO, all staff, including specialist SEN staff will work co-operatively together to ensure that every student's needs are fully met.

### **Admission arrangements**

The School shall ensure that students with SEN are admitted on an equal basis with others in accordance with its admissions policy.

Where a Local Authority proposes to name the School in an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) made in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996, the School shall consent to being named, except where admitting the student would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education for other students; and where no reasonable steps may be made to secure compatibility. In deciding whether a student's inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other students, the School shall have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State. In the event of any disagreement between the School and the Local Authority over the proposed naming of the School in an EHCP, the School may ask the Secretary

of State to determine whether the School should be named. The Secretary of State's determination shall, subject only to any right of appeal which any parent or guardian of the student may have to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST), be final.

If a parent or guardian of a student in respect of whom a EHCP is maintained by the local authority appeals to SENDIST either against the naming of the School in the student's EHCP or asking the Tribunal to name the School, then the decision of the Tribunal on any such appeal shall be binding and shall, if different from that of the Secretary of State under paragraph 6 above, be substituted for the Secretary of State's decision.

Where the School has consented to be named in a student's EHCP, or the Secretary of State or SENDIST have determined that it should be named, the School shall admit the student notwithstanding any provision of this agreement.

### **Specialist SEN provision**

The School's SEN staff handbook is focused on providing Quality First Teaching strategies to help support those students with additional needs. Quality First Teaching provides reasonable adjustments which ensures that all children, including those with additional needs, have access to a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum. It is the class teacher's responsibility to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made and a differentiated curriculum and learning outcomes are provided, where appropriate, to enable progress and attainment.

The SENCO will regularly provide additional training to staff to ensure that the needs of individual children are being met in the classroom.

Additional exam access arrangements will be used to ensure that all students are given a fair chance of success. This may include a reader, scribe, access to a word processor or extra time.

Some children will be allowed access to more specialist provisions such as a weekly reading mentor, literacy withdrawal in a small group, access to basic skills teaching, fidget toys, time out pass, corridor passes to allow early exit from lesson to allow access to a quiet corridor at lesson changeover or access to a nurture space at unstructured times.

We also offer support from external agencies such as the ASC (autism spectrum conditions) team and the sensory support service.

### **Facilities for vulnerable students, those with SEN or who are disabled**

As far as possible, within the constraints that the building sets, the School will ensure that the needs of all students, staff and visitors are catered for, to ensure that all can participate in education of the very highest quality. Wherever possible, the accommodation will be adapted to ensure full access to every curriculum area, social and personal space. The SEN department is located at the heart of the School, freely accessible by those who are sensitive, vulnerable or 'in need'.

The SEN department will have the flexibility to enable professionals from a wide range of health agencies to assess and assist our students and their families in the most appropriate way.

### **Identification and review of student needs**

**Categories of Special Education Need** - The current Code of Practice does not assume that there are hard and fast categories of special educational need, but recognises that students' needs and requirements fall into four broad areas:

- 1.Cognitive and Learning needs
- 2.Behaviour, Emotional and Social
- 3.Communication and Interaction
- 4.Sensory and/or physical needs e.g. visual or hearing impairment

The SEN Code of Practice makes it clear that all teachers are responsible for identifying students with special needs and, in collaboration with the SENCO, will ensure that those students requiring different or additional support are identified at an early stage. Assessment is the process by which students with special needs can be identified. Whether or not a student is making adequate progress is seen as a significant factor in considering the need for special needs provision.

Three stages have been clearly identified in the current Code of Practice:

- ✓ School Monitor
- ✓ SEN Support
- ✓ EHCP

These three stages are explained in more detail later.

**Early identification** of students with special needs is a priority. The School will use appropriate screening and assessment tools, and ascertain progress through:

- ✓ Evidence obtained by teacher observation/ assessment from partner feeder primary schools, where appropriate.
- ✓ Students' performance in National Curriculum assessments, judged against level descriptions.
- ✓ Students' progress in relation to objectives in the National Literacy/Numeracy Strategies.
- ✓ Standardised screening or assessment tools, such as Cognitive Ability Tests for verbal and non-verbal ability, WRAT4 for literacy baselines.
- ✓ All students will be screened for literacy difficulties in Year 7.
- ✓ All students who join the School after Year 7 will be screened.

**SEN Provision** - On entry to Stockport School each student's attainment will be assessed in order to ensure continuity of learning from the primary or other school. For students with identified special needs, the Headteacher, the SENCO, Maths and English Directors of Study and pastoral colleagues will:

- ✓ Use information from the primary or feeder school to shape the student's curriculum and pastoral provision, in line with the Code of Practice.
- ✓ Identify the student's skills and note areas that require support
- ✓ Ensure on-going observations/assessments to provide regular feedback on achievements/ experiences, in order to plan next steps in learning
- ✓ Ensure students have opportunities to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in subjects and in the pastoral programme
- ✓ Involve students in planning/agreeing their own targets
- ✓ Involve parents in a joint home-school learning approach
- ✓ Communicate relevant information to teaching staff and non-teaching staff where appropriate.

**The main methods of provision** made by the School are:

- ✓ Full-time education in classes, with additional help and support by class teacher/subject teachers through a differentiated curriculum
- ✓ Periods of withdrawal to work with specialist support staff
- ✓ In-class support with adult assistance
- ✓ Attendance at a specialised off-site alternative education provider, full or part-time
- ✓ Support from specialists within class or as part of a withdrawal programme
- ✓ Basic skills booster sessions

- ✓ Help for parents in contacting/arranging for specialist provision

**English as an additional language** - Particular care will be provided for students whose first language is not English. A list of students whose mother tongue is not English is constantly checked and where necessary updated. Staff will closely follow their progress across the curriculum to ascertain whether any problems arise from uncertain command of English or from special educational needs. It may be necessary to assess their proficiency in English before planning any additional support that might be required. The School also works closely with outside agencies e.g. Ethnic Diversity Service to access appropriate resources/support.

**Monitoring student progress** - Progress is the crucial factor in determining the need for additional support. Adequate progress is that which:

- ✓ Narrows the attainment gap between student and peers
- ✓ Prevents the attainment gap widening
- ✓ Is equivalent to that of peers starting from the same baseline but less than the majority of peers
- ✓ Equals or improves upon the student's previous rate of progress
- ✓ Ensures full curricular access
- ✓ Shows an improvement in self-help and social or personal skills
- ✓ Shows improvements in the student's behaviour
- ✓ Is likely to lead to Further Education, training, and/or employment

Where staff decide that a student's learning is unsatisfactory, the SENCO together with Pastoral Managers are the first to be consulted. The Pastoral Manager, SENCO, her team, and relevant teachers will review the approaches adopted. Where support additional to that of normal class provision is required, it will be provided through School Support. Where concerns remain despite sustained intervention, the School will consider requesting a Statutory Assessment for an EHCP. Parents will be fully consulted at each stage. Each of these intervention programmes is detailed in appropriate sections of this policy.

The School also recognises that parents have a right to request a Statutory Assessment.

**Record Keeping** - The School will record the steps taken to meet students' individual needs. The SENCO, and her administration support, will maintain the records and ensure access to them. In addition to the usual School records, the will include:

- ✓ Information from previous schools /phases
- ✓ Information from parents
- ✓ Information on progress and behaviour
- ✓ Student's own perceptions of difficulties
- ✓ Information from health/social services
- ✓ Information from other agencies

Teaching students with special needs is a whole-School responsibility. The core of the teachers' work involves a continuous cycle of planning, teaching, and assessing, taking into account the differences in students' abilities, aptitudes, and interests. Some students may need increased levels of provision and support. The Code of Practice advocates a graduated response to meeting students' needs. When they are identified as having special needs, the School will intervene through School Support and EHCP.

**Entitlement** - All students are entitled to an appropriately differentiated curriculum.

## **SEN Support**

**SEN Support** is characterised by interventions that are different from or additional to the normal differentiated curriculum. SEN Support intervention can be triggered through concern, supplemented by evidence that, despite receiving differentiated teaching, students:

- ✓ Make little or no progress
- ✓ Demonstrate difficulty in developing literacy or numeracy skills
- ✓ Show persistent emotional/behavioural difficulties which are not affected by behaviour management strategies
- ✓ Have sensory/physical problems, and make little progress despite the provision of specialist equipment
- ✓ Experience communication and/or interaction problems and make little or no progress despite experiencing a differentiated curriculum

If the School decides, after consultation with parents, that a student requires additional support to make progress, the SENCO, in collaboration with staff, will support the assessment of the student and have an input in planning future support. Subject teachers will remain responsible for planning and delivering individualised programmes. Parents will be closely informed of the action and results.

**Use of support staff within SEN Support** - All staff have a responsibility in law to ensure that the needs of all students are met. To that end, students identified to require School Support will receive help in a number of ways: by the provision of learning experiences which are different or in addition to the School's already differentiated curriculum, as part of either mainstream lessons or in an individual setting. SEN teachers and Learning Support Assistants may also be tasked to provide this additional support or more individualised work either within the normal classroom setting or by withdrawal to provide a more personalised approach.

**Nature of intervention** - The SENCO in collaboration with the subject teacher will decide the action required to help the student progress. Based on the results of previous assessments, the actions might be:

- ✓ Deployment of extra staff to work with the student
- ✓ Provision of alternative learning materials/ special equipment
- ✓ Group support
- ✓ Provision of additional adult time, where possible, in devising interventions and monitoring their effectiveness
- ✓ Staff development/training to undertake more effective strategies
- ✓ Access to local authority support services for advice on strategies, equipment, or staff training
- ✓ Where appropriate, the involvement of external services
- ✓ Still makes little or no progress in specific areas over a long period
- ✓ Continues to work at National Curriculum levels considerably lower than expected for a child of similar age
- ✓ Continues to experience difficulty in developing literacy/numeracy skills
- ✓ Has emotional/behavioural problems that often substantially impede their own learning or that of the group, and this may be despite having an individualised behavioural management programme.
- ✓ Has sensory or physical needs requiring additional specialist equipment or visits/advice from specialists.
- ✓ Has communication or interaction problems that impede the development of social relationships, thus presenting barriers to learning

**External support services** will require access to students' records in order to understand the strategies employed to date, and the targets set and achieved. Specialist health / education professionals may be asked to provide further assessments and advice, and possibly work directly with the student. Parental consent will be sought for any additional information required. The resulting Student Passport will incorporate specialist strategies.



These may be implemented by the subject teacher but involve other adults. Where appropriate, the School may well request direct intervention/support from a specialist/teacher.

**Student Passports (formerly IEPs)** - Strategies for students' progress will be recorded in a Student Passport containing information on:

- ✓ Type of need
- ✓ Short-term targets
- ✓ Teaching strategies
- ✓ Provision made
- ✓ Strengths/weaknesses
- ✓ Assessment levels
- ✓ Access arrangements

The Passport will record only that which is different from, or additional to the normal differentiated curriculum, and will concentrate on four or five individual targets that closely match the student's needs. The Passport will be discussed with the student and the parent.

**Reviewing Student Passports** – Student Passports will be reviewed regularly

The School will endeavour to hold the reviews in an informal manner, and parents' views on their child's progress will be actively sought. Wherever possible or appropriate, the School will aim to involve students in this process. The SENCO will be available at all parents evenings to meet with parents/carers.

**Request for statutory assessment** - The School will request a Statutory Assessment from the Local Authority when, despite an individualised programme of sustained intervention within School Support, a student remains a significant cause for concern. A Statutory Assessment might also be requested by a parent or outside agency. The School will have the following information available:

- ✓ The action followed with respect to School Support
- ✓ The student's Student Passport
- ✓ Records and outcomes of regular reviews undertaken
- ✓ Information on the student's health and relevant medical history
- ✓ National Curriculum (NC) levels
- ✓ Literacy/Numeracy attainments
- ✓ Views of subject teachers and the pastoral support team
- ✓ Other relevant assessments from specialists such as support teachers and educational psychologists
- ✓ The views of parents
- ✓ Where possible, the views of the student
- ✓ Any other involvement by professionals

**An EHCP** will normally be provided where, after a Statutory Assessment, the Local Authority considers the student requires provision beyond what the School can offer. An Educational, Health and Care Plan will inform the provision of Quality First Teaching and will be:

- ✓ Matched to the longer-term objectives set in the EHCP
- ✓ Established through parental/ consultation
- ✓ Set out in a Student Passport
- ✓ Implemented in the classroom
- ✓ Delivered by the subject teacher with appropriate additional support where specified

**Reviews of EHCPs** - EHCPs must be reviewed annually, following information from the Local Authority at the beginning of each school year to the Headteacher/SENCO of the students requiring reviews. The Headteacher/SENCO will organise these reviews and invite:

- ✓ The student's parent(s)
- ✓ The student, if appropriate
- ✓ Relevant staff
- ✓ The SENCO
- ✓ A representative of the Local Authority (LA)
- ✓ Any other person the LA considers appropriate
- ✓ Any other person the Headteacher considers appropriate

The aim of the review will be to:

- ✓ Assess the student's progress in relation to their targets
- ✓ Review the provision made for the student in the context of the National Curriculum and levels of attainment in basic literacy/numeracy and life skills
- ✓ Consider the appropriateness of the existing EHCP in relation to the student's performance during the year, and whether to cease, continue, or amend it and set new targets for the coming year

With due regard for the time limits set out in the Code, the Headteacher/SENCO will write a report of the annual review meeting and send it, with any supporting documentation, to the LA. The School recognises the responsibility of the LA in deciding whether to maintain, amend, or cease an EHCP.

The School recognises that where a student with an EHCP continues to attend after compulsory education, i.e. after age 17, the LA may decide to maintain the EHCP until age 25.

### **Access to the curriculum, information and associated services**

- ✓ Stockport School is an inclusive learning community and will take all practical steps to ensure its environment, facilities, curriculum and working practices are accessible to all students, staff and visitors. It will do this by:
  - ✓ Ensuring physical access to all curricular, pastoral and social areas, within the constraints of the building and by the provision of technology to enhance provision and performance, where appropriate
  - ✓ Actively modelling non-discriminatory and inclusive working practices for all, ensuring that disabled students, staff and visitors feel equal and important participants in the School's work.

All students, visitors and staff will be provided with appropriate, safe, respectful and suitably supported environments for all activities – e.g. teaching and learning, social, dining, sport and exercise, changing and personal hygiene.

We have adopted a whole School approach to our SEN policy and practice. Students identified as having special educational needs are, as far as is practicable, fully integrated into mainstream classes. Every effort is made to ensure that they have full access to the National Curriculum and are integrated into all aspects of the School.

### **Inclusion of vulnerable students, those with SEN or who are disabled**

It is appreciated that often students with special educational needs, or who are vulnerable have low self-esteem. All our staff are encouraged to deal positively and pro-actively with all students' needs and they appreciate this also needs patience and constantly reviewing the support they provide.

Some students will be referred to pathways 2 which offers informal therapeutic support to children who may struggle socially and/or emotionally.

### **Evaluating the success of provision**

The success of the School's SEN Policy and provision is evaluated through:

- ✓ Monitoring of classroom practice by the SENCO and Directors of Study
- ✓ Analysis of student tracking data and test results
  - for individual students
  - for cohorts
- ✓ Value-added data for students on the SEN Register
- ✓ Consideration of each student's success in meeting their targets
- ✓ Termly monitoring of procedures and practice by the SEN Governor
- ✓ School self-evaluation
- ✓ The LA SEN moderation process
- ✓ The School Development Plan/SEN Development Plan
- ✓ Close liaison with the pastoral support team and curriculum areas

We will set targets matched to a set of specified aims to provide indicators against which progress can be measured.

In evaluating the success of this policy, the School will consider the views of:

- ✓ Teachers
- ✓ Parents
- ✓ Students
- ✓ External professionals

### **Complaints procedure**

The School's complaints procedure is outlined on the School website and further details are available from the School on request. The SEN Code of Practice outlines additional measures the Local Authority must set up for preventing and resolving disagreements. These will be explained to parents if required.

### **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

All staff are encouraged to attend courses that help them to acquire the skills needed to work with students with special needs. These training and developmental needs will be clearly communicated to Senior Leaders by the SENCO and will form an essential strand of the School's CPD programme.

Part of the SENCO's role in School-based CPD is to develop awareness of resources and practical teaching procedures for use with all students with special educational needs. As a routine part of staff development, CPD requirements in special educational needs will be assessed. The Governing Body will undertake a similar review of training needs. Special Educational Needs support staff requirements in supporting students' needs will be considered frequently. Newly qualified teachers (NQTs) and staff new to the School will be given training on the School's SEN policy as part of their induction. The School's CPD needs for SEN will be included in the School Development Plan

### **Links to support services**

The School recognises the important contribution that external support services make in assisting to identify, assess, and provide for, students with special needs. When it is considered necessary, colleagues from the following support services will be involved with our students:

- ✓ Educational Psychologists
- ✓ Medical officers/School Nurse
- ✓ Speech and Language therapists
- ✓ Physiotherapists
- ✓ Hearing impairment services
- ✓ Visual impairment services
- ✓ CAMHS including Secondary Jigsaw, HYMS
- ✓ SEN Support Service (SENISS)
- ✓ Ethnic Diversity Service
- ✓ Autistic Spectrum Condition Intervention Worker

In addition, important links are in place with the following organisations:

- ✓ Other schools in Stockport and beyond
- ✓ Services for Young People
- ✓ Universities and FE Colleges
- ✓ Local Authority departments
- ✓ Specialist services
- ✓ The business community
- ✓ Education Welfare Officer
- ✓ Social Services
- ✓ Other groups or organisations

### **Working in partnership with parents**

Stockport School firmly believes in developing a strong partnership with parents/guardians and that this will enable all our students with special needs to achieve their potential. The School recognises that parents and guardians have a unique overview of their child's needs and how best to support them, and that this gives them a key role in this partnership.

*'Parents hold key information and have a critical role to play in their children's education. They have unique strengths, knowledge, and experience to contribute to the shared view of a child's needs and the best way of supporting them.'* (CoP 2.2)

The School will make available, to all parents of students with special needs, details of the parent partnership service available through Stockport Education Department.

The SEN Code of Practice outlines that *'Local Authorities should work in partnership with local and parent organisations, as well as the parent partnership service . . . to ensure that parents receive comprehensive, neutral, factual and appropriate advice.'* (CoP 2.14)

### **The voice of the student**

The new Code includes a chapter on student participation.

*'Schools ...should show sensitivity, honesty and mutual respect in encouraging students to share concerns, discuss strategies and see themselves as equal partners with the school. This reflects the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.'*

*We believe that, as far as possible, all our students should be involved in making decisions where possible, right from the start of their education with us. The ways in which our students are encouraged to participate will reflect students' evolving maturity. Participation in education is a process that will necessitate all students being given the opportunity to make choices and to understand that their views matter. We believe this will help to make confident students and young adults, who know that their opinions will be valued, who can practise making choices and will be more secure and effective students during their education with us. (CoP, 3.6)*

Students with SEN are invited to express their views on the provision they receive through regular consultations with SEN staff and through the SEN Review procedure.

We will encourage students to participate in their learning by enabling them to be involved in representing their views on the School Council, feeding back to staff on their learning and by being involved in the design and development of new courses.

### **Links with other schools**

In normal circumstances students will transfer to us at the end of Year 6 in primary schools.

### **Links with other agencies and voluntary organisations**

In addition to links made with those organisations outlined in section 17, links may also be made to the following organisations:

- ✓ British Dyslexia Association
- ✓ The Dyspraxia Foundation
- ✓ Royal National Institute for the Blind
- ✓ Royal National Institute for the Deaf
- ✓ The National Autistic Society
- ✓ Any other relevant organisations

## **References**

SEN and Disability Act 2001, 2014 & 2015 [ [www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/act2001/20010010.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/act2001/20010010.htm) ]

Disability Discrimination Act 1995 SEN Code of Practice 2001:  
[ [www.teachernet.gov.uk/doc/3724/Inclusion ManagerdeOfPractice.pdf](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/doc/3724/Inclusion%20Manager%20Code%20of%20Practice.pdf) ]

Education (SEN) (Information) (England) Regulations 1999:  
[ [www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19992506.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19992506.htm) ]

Education Act 1996, Section 316A:  
[ [www.parliament.the-stationary-office.co.uk/pa/ld200001/ldbills/003/01003--a.htm](http://www.parliament.the-stationary-office.co.uk/pa/ld200001/ldbills/003/01003--a.htm) ]

East Riding of Yorkshire Education Department. SEN framework

Staffordshire County Council Education Department. Framework for SEN policy

## **Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually and when there are changes in the law, or in accordance with the schedule drawn up by the Headteacher and agreed by the Governing Body.

**Last Revised and Modified: February 2020**

**Reviewed by: Hannah McNicholls, SENCO**