YOUR CHILD, OUR PARTNERSHIP

Darwen Aldridge Sudell Primary School

A Parent and Carer Guide to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



Supporting and nurturing, enjoying and achieving.

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WELCOME TO OUR SEND PARENT AND CARER GUIDE

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENCO

At Sudell Primary School, we believe every child deserves to feel happy, safe, included and supported to achieve their potential.

We recognise that every child is different and that parents and carers know their children best.

We value your views and believe that working together is key to helping every child thrive.

This guide explains how we support children with additional needs and how we work alongside families.

You are not alone. We are here to listen, support and help.

Miss Reynolds
Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

Every child matters.
Every voice counts.

HOW WE SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH SEND

A graduated approach to support

At Sudell Primary School, we use a graduated approach to understand each child's needs and provide the right support to help them learn, feel included and reach their potential.

Our Assess, Plan, Do, Review approach

1. Assess – Identify your child's strengths and areas where they may need support.
2. Plan – Agree on appropriate support and strategies with parents and staff.
3. Do – Put the support in place and monitor how it helps.
4. Review – Check progress and make changes where needed.

What might support look like?

Support is tailored to each child's individual needs and may include:

- Classroom adaptations and resources.
- Visual timetables, prompts and task boards.
- Small-group activities and targeted interventions.
- Support with learning, communication and social skills.
- Emotional, sensory and wellbeing support.
- Additional adult guidance to encourage independence.

Things to remember

- A diagnosis is not needed to access additional support.
- Every child is different, and support is tailored to their needs.
- Parents and children are encouraged to share their views.
- Support is regularly monitored and reviewed.
- We aim to develop every child's confidence and independence.

Working together

We value parents' knowledge and understanding of their children. By working together, we can ensure every child feels understood, included and supported to achieve their best.

OUR SEND SUPPORT JOURNEY

SEVEN-STEP FLOWCHART

How we work together to support your child

1. Initial concern - You or your child's teacher raises a concern. We talk together and make the SENDCo aware.

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2. Classroom support - The teacher adapts lessons, activities or classroom support to help your child.

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3. Extra support - Your child may receive additional help, such as booster activities like interventions or small-group support.

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4. Individual support plan (IEP) - We look more closely at your child's needs and agree individual targets and support.

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5. Specialist advice - If needed, we seek advice from outside professionals, with your consent, and plan next steps together.

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6. EHCP assessment - If appropriate, we work with you to request an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

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7. EHCP in place - The plan is put into action and reviewed every year with you and the people supporting your child.

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER

Every child is different. We only move to the next step if more support is needed. If your child makes good progress, we may change or reduce support. You will be involved and kept informed throughout. Please speak to your child's class teacher or SENDCo if you have any questions.

INTERVENTIONS AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

At Sudell Primary School, we offer a range of interventions and additional support to help children develop their skills, build confidence and make progress.

Support is chosen according to each child's individual needs and may take place individually or in a small group.

Communication and language

- Colourful Semantics
- Welcomm
- Talktastic
- Attention for Listening

Emotional wellbeing and social skills

- Emotional Literacy
- Nurture
- Lego Therapy

Sensory and physical development

- Gross Motor
- Fine Motor - Funky Fingers
- Sensory Circuits

Reading, writing and phonics

- Key Stage 1 Phonics Boosters
- Key Stage 2 Decoders
- Whole-School Reading
- Key Stage 2 Writers
- Handwriting (Years 2-6, with groups changing weekly)
- Key Stage 2 Spellings

Maths and memory

- Memory Skills
- Key Stage 2 Arithmetic
- Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) support

Additional learning support

- EAL (English as an Additional Language) Support
- Year 6 Boosters

Interventions are reviewed regularly to help us understand how children are progressing and whether their support needs to change.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S IEP

At Sudell Primary School, we use Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to help us identify and support children's individual needs.

The four main primary areas of need are:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs

Each IEP begins with a one-page profile which helps us understand:

- What is important to your child.
- Their strengths and interests.
- What they find difficult.
- How best to support them.

Setting individual targets

At the end of each term, new SMART targets are set based on your child's primary area of need.

SMART targets are:

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Relevant
- Time-bound

Reviewing progress

Targets are reviewed regularly to consider the progress your child has made and whether any changes to their support are needed.

Working together

Your knowledge and understanding of your child are important. We value your views and encourage you to share information that may help us support them.

UNDERSTANDING EHCPS

An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

An EHCP is a legal document for children who need additional support beyond what can ordinarily be provided through SEN Support.

What does an EHCP include?

- Your child's strengths and aspirations.
- Their special educational needs.
- Relevant health and social care needs.
- The support and provision they require.
- Their outcomes and goals.

How does a child get an EHCP?

- A parent/carer or school can request an assessment through the Local Authority.
- The Local Authority gathers information from relevant professionals.
- An assessment does not guarantee an EHCP will be issued.
- The process can be lengthy and may involve waiting for information and assessments from different professionals.

Does an EHCP mean 1:1 support?

No! An EHCP does not automatically mean 1:1 adult support.

- It identifies the additional provision a child needs.
- It can provide additional funding to help the school meet the child's needs.
- Support may include adult support, specialist teaching, interventions or equipment.

Remember!

- Children can receive support without an EHCP or diagnosis.
- Not every child with SEND needs an EHCP.
- The most important thing is that every child receives the support they need to thrive.

INTRODUCING THE PENNY

Our Nurture and Sensory Room

At Sudell Primary School, we are proud of The Penny, our Nurture and Sensory Room, named after our much-loved mascot, Penny the Plant Pot.

The Penny is a calm, welcoming space where children can:

- Relax and feel calm.
- Talk about their worries and feelings.
- Explore sensory activities and resources.
- Develop confidence and emotional wellbeing.
- Receive additional support when needed.

The room includes cosy seating, books, cuddly toys, interactive lights and a range of sensory resources.

Supporting children to thrive

The Penny offers individual and small-group support to develop:

- Communication and social skills.
- Attention and concentration.
- Gross and fine motor skills.
- Memory and problem-solving.
- Sensory exploration and emotional regulation.

Our nurture approach

Our work is guided by the six nurture principles, which focus on safety, wellbeing, language, learning, behaviour and transitions.

We are also working towards achieving the Nurture Award with Nurture UK.

Our aim is to help every child feel safe, listened to and valued, so they can grow in confidence and feel ready to learn.



WORKING WITH OUTSIDE PROFESSIONALS

Sometimes children benefit from additional advice and support from professionals outside school.

Where appropriate, we work alongside families and specialist services to better understand children's needs.

Who might be involved?

- BwD SEND support team
- Speech and Language Therapist - Communication and language.
- Educational Psychologist - Learning and development.
- Occupational Therapist - Sensory and physical needs.
- Community Paediatrician - Developmental needs.
- School Nursing Team - Health and wellbeing.
- Mental Health Services - Emotional wellbeing.

If we feel specialist advice may be helpful, we will discuss this with parents and explore the appropriate next steps.

Working together helps us build a fuller picture of your child's needs.

WHO CAN I SPEAK TO?

Your concern	Who to contact
Classroom learning/Everyday progress	Class Teacher
IEPs /EHCPs/SEND support	SENCO
General enquiries	School Office

Our Teachers

Reception	Miss Newsham
Year 1	Mr Chambers
Year 2	Mrs Ruggieri Mrs Rawat
Year 3	Mr Arrandale
Year 4/5	Miss Reynolds
Year 5/6	Mrs Baker

WORKING TOGETHER

We understand that sometimes you may have questions or worries about your child's needs.

We welcome communication and want to give your concerns the time and attention they deserve.

Arranging a conversation with our SENCO

To help us understand your concerns, please complete our SEND Parent Voice Questionnaire and explain what you would like to discuss. We will review your request and contact you about the next steps. Meetings may need to be arranged in advance to ensure the right time is available.

Important

If you have an urgent safeguarding or welfare concern, please contact the school office directly.

Useful contacts/links

- Blackburn with Darwen Local Offer - https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/children-families-and-young-people/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send-local-offer
- SENDIASS - visit the Contact helpline via their website www.contact.org.uk for information or call the free helpline on 0808 808 35555 between 9.30am-5pm Monday to Friday or email helpline@contact.org.uk
- Sudell Primary School: 01254 703440 and office@sudell.aldridgeeducation.org

Thank you for being part of our school community.

Together, we can help every child feel understood, supported and valued.