



3b - Pupils with SEND and EAL Policy

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy covering all pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, including pupils with Education and Health Care Plans/Statements. This policy also includes those for whom English is an Additional Language (EAL). This policy applies to all pupils at St Augustine's Priory, including EYFS.

This policy makes reference to the SEND Code of Practice 0-25 years 2015 and to the Equality Act 2010 and the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (as amended) and the Department for Education's *Guidance for independent schools* (April 2019).

Mission Statement

We are an all-through, inclusive Catholic girls' school, with boys in the nursery, committed to preparing girls for life long effectiveness and success. As part of their journey girls will learn of intellectual risk taking and emotional strength, reflection and self-knowledge, persuasiveness and team building as well as a cultural curiosity for an enriched enjoyment of life.

In our stunning 13 acres of grounds, girls have a physical freedom unique in central London. We aim to instil in them the emotional freedom to grow intellectually and spiritually and to understand the truth about themselves, others and our complex world. We will give them the courage to be ambitious and compassionate and we will provide a secure, happy and nurturing community in which to explore all of the above.

To this end we seek, develop and retain the best teachers who value well-being and the individual progress of each girl as much as they are relentless in their pursuit of academic excellence. Their goal is life-long success for each girl and they set the pace of energy and dynamism within which the girls flourish.

Aims

SEND

- To promote the successful inclusion of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at St Augustine's Priory;
- To provide all pupils with the best possible opportunity to succeed academically whatever their needs or abilities;
- To ensure that the School meets the requirements of the Independent Schools Regulations in matters relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and pupils with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs)/Statements.

EAL

- To provide all pupils with the best possible opportunity to succeed academically whatever their social, ethnic or cultural background;
- To ensure that the School meets the requirements of the Independent Schools Regulations 2014 (as amended) and the Department for Education's *Guidance for independent schools* (April 2019) in matters relating to those pupils for whom English is an additional language;



- To ensure pupils use English confidently and competently and as a means to learning across the curriculum by making appropriate provision of teaching and resources for pupils for whom English is an additional language.

This policy applies to all pupils in the school including those in the EYFS.

Equality Statement

At St Augustine's Priory we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the School, irrespective of race, gender, disability, religion or socio-economic background. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected with the School feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in School life.

Responsibilities

The Governors will:

- Ensure that this policy is compliant with the Independent School Standards Regulations. The School has a named governor with special responsibility for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The Headteacher will:

- Receive reports from the SENCO and act on them as appropriate;
- Be responsible for reporting to the Governing Body on the operation of all matters relating to pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities;
- Ensure that school policy and practice in all areas takes account of pupils' individual needs.
- Be responsible for reporting to the Governing Body on the operation of all matters relating to pupils with EAL.

The SENCO will:

- Be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the provisions of this policy in the School;
- Keep up-to-date with current practice and legislation;
- Be responsible for all record-keeping with regard to the provisions of this policy and for the dissemination of relevant information to staff in the School;
- Liaise appropriately with parents in the Senior School, Junior School and outside agencies;
- Ensure that where a pupil moves to another School records are forwarded appropriately;
- Ensure that where a pupil joins the School from another School that liaison is effective with the former School to ensure best possible provision for the pupil;
- Receive reports from teachers throughout the School in all matters relating to SEND or EAL provision.



- Provide as requested numbers of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and those with EAL for the completion of various censuses and returns.
- Ensure that statements/EHC plans are reviewed annually and that the required curriculum is set out in the statement/EHC plan and co-operate with the LA in the review process.

The Head of Preps & Pre-Preps for EYFS will:

- Assist the SENCO in overseeing the implementation of the provisions of this policy in Prep I and the Nursery.

All Teaching Staff will:

- Comply with the terms of this policy;
- Work actively to ensure the policy meets the needs of their students;
- Report any concerns with regard to pupils with SEND or EAL to the SENCO (Seniors and Juniors), and the Head of Preps & Pre-Preps for EYFS.

Procedures

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Definitions

Children have special educational needs if they have a **learning difficulty or disability** which calls for **additional educational provision** to be made for them.

Children have a **learning difficulty or disability** if they:

- (a) have a **significantly greater difficulty** in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- (b) have a disability which **prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities** of a kind generally provided for children of the same age.

Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.

The school also recognises that the phrase “pupils with special educational needs” does not only refer to pupils who have a statement or EHC plan.

Additional educational provision means:

Educational provision which is additional to, or otherwise different from, the educational provision made generally for children of their age in the School.

A **disability** is defined as a *physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities. CoP 2015.*



It is important to remember that not all impairments are readily identifiable. While some impairment, particularly visible ones, are easy to identify, there are many which are not so immediately obvious, these include sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have special educational needs, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs.

Identification and assessment of pupils with learning difficulties

Pupils who may have learning difficulties may be assessed at the request of:

- the pupil
- the pupil's parents
- a subject teacher
- the Form teacher or Senior Form teacher
- the Head teacher
- any other interested party

A cause for concern sheet is passed to the SENCO if there is concern over a pupil's progress.

Pupils may be assessed on the basis of information received from the following

- Previous School records.
- Teacher monitoring, such as formative assessment and end of year examination results
- Standardised tests such as Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT scores), Progress tests in Maths GL assessment results etc.

Within School an assessment is made in the following way:

- Initial dyslexia and dyscalculia screening may be carried out by the school. This is free of charge. (GL Assessment)
- Further testing may be recommended if felt appropriate. The cost for this is charged to the parent and is carried out by the school's approved specialist teachers.
- Pupils under 5 have access to the LA's EYFS Special Educational Needs department.
- The school has an Educational Psychologist who can carry out full cognitive ability assessments. The School may advise the route of an Educational Psychologist, in the case of, for example, dyscalculia, which would not be covered by a report by the



School's approved specialist assessor. The fee for this is an additional charge. Alternatively parents may privately commission a report by an Educational Psychologist.

- For students with possible dyspraxia, diagnosis by an occupational therapist, via a GP referral, is required.
- The School may also advise a referral to a Speech and Language Therapy service if there may be concerns about a Pupil's language.

The School will always provide clear and accurate information about the child's special educational needs and the purpose of any assessment, individual education plan or any intervention.

The School is committed to the early identification of special educational needs. If a pupil is assessed as having a specific learning difficulty the recommended support mechanisms will be introduced and monitored; parents are involved in all stages of the process.

Pupils who have a physical disability but who are *not* considered to have a special educational need because they do not "have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities" are recorded on the Special Needs Register and are highlighted separately.

Reasonable adjustments

The school makes all reasonable adjustments for access arrangements to public examinations as set out in the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations, and maintains records of evidence as required by the JCQ.

Provision/action that is additional to or different from that available to all pupils

Pupils with identified SEND will have a target sheet (IEP in the case of pupils with an ECHP) drawn up which will inform teachers of the particular needs of the pupil, what targets they are working towards and what support they are receiving. The targets will be written in consultation with pupils, teachers, parents and carers. It may involve consultation and advice from external agencies.

The IEP/targets will be reviewed once a term. Parents and carers will be invited to participate in the target-setting and review process by means of a specific review meeting. Other meetings or telephone conversations may be arranged at times that are convenient for all parties.

Reviews may include the SENCO, the Learning Support Teacher, the form teacher, the subject teachers and other members of staff.

When a pupil has severe, complex, profound and long-term SEND a request for Statutory



Assessment will be made using Ealing's Request for Statutory Assessment Form in accordance with Ealing's Guidelines for Statutory Assessment. Statutory Assessment is restricted to a **small minority of children and young people who can be described as those experiencing severe, complex, profound and long-term educational difficulties**. Statutory Assessment may, or may not, result in the issuing of an Education and Health Care Plan.

When a pupil has an EHCP/Statement of Special Educational Needs the SENCO will circulate details to staff. In addition to the review of IEPs, EHCPs/Statements will be reviewed annually in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice and a report provided to the LEA. If a pupil makes sufficient progress an EHCP/Statement may be discontinued by the LEA.

Strategies and resources for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities

In order to ensure access to the curriculum for all pupils within the School, a variety of strategies may be implemented and resources used, including:

- Specialist teaching. This is on a 1:1 basis by withdrawal from classes (avoiding the core subjects whenever possible) or out of hours (such as lunchtime, before or after School).
- Differentiation within the classroom
- Targeted teaching assistant
- SEND interventions including 5-minute box/number box, etc.
- Use of laptops and/or voice activated software
- Physical access to all areas of School to take account of pupils with disabilities
- Additional support on School trips if appropriate

The SENCO will work closely with all teachers to ensure all teaching staff are aware of those pupils whom they teach who are on the SEND register and that they keep abreast of any new information about these pupils' learning needs. The SENCO will keep the Special Educational Needs Register updated on a regular basis and ensure that staff know where to find all the necessary information. This can be viewed in the Special Needs folder in the shared staff area of the School network. Updated IEPs/targets for individual pupils can also be accessed by staff here for their planning files.

The SENCO will ensure that School examinations and tests take account of pupils' learning difficulties or disabilities whenever possible.

English as an Additional Language

Definitions

EAL students speak English as an additional language, using another language as their first language at home. Pupils are not regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they are taught.



Identification of pupils with English as an Additional Language

Many pupils in the School are bilingual but do not have difficulties arising from their linguistic backgrounds. A small number of girls, especially those arriving in the UK with little or no experience of spoken English, have difficulties. EAL is usually identified during the admission process. If at a later date a teacher becomes concerned that a pupil may be experiencing difficulties related to EAL they will liaise with the SENCO and discuss appropriate strategies. An assessment may be made by the School's specialist EAL teacher and recommendations for extra English support lessons may be advised to parents. All relevant staff will be informed. Current fees are published on the website.

Specialist Support

Individual additional support lessons may be offered if necessary by the School's specialist teachers. This is on a 1:1 basis by withdrawal from classes (avoiding the core subjects whenever possible) or out of hours (such as lunchtime, before or after School). An individualised program is prepared by the specialist teacher for each student receiving support lessons. The progress of pupils whom English is an additional language is tracked by teachers to ensure suitable progress is being made. A differentiated curriculum may be recommended if more English support is required. Parents and carers will be invited to review meetings twice a year.

Register of pupils with EAL

The SENCO will maintain the register of pupils identified as EAL. This will be made available to staff.

Examination Arrangements for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and English as an additional language.

The SENCO will liaise with the School's Examinations Officer in respect of pupils who qualify for access arrangements in public examinations following an assessment by one of the School's approved specialist assessors. Pupils who qualify for access arrangements in public examinations for medical reasons, as distinct from learning difficulties, may make a request to the Examinations Officer direct or via the SENCO.

The Examinations Officer will make the necessary arrangements in accordance with the criteria set out by the Joint Council for Qualifications.

Monitoring

The Governing Body will monitor the operation of and ultimately be responsible for the implementation of this policy and for the arrangements for its review.

The Headteacher will monitor the operation of the policy and its implementation through liaison with the SENCO and the Head of Preps and Pre-preps. The Faculty Leaders and Deputy Head for Juniors will monitor SEND provision and EAL provision through routine line management of members of staff.



The SENCO will monitor the operation of the policy and its implementation in the classroom through the procedures outlined above.

Related Policies and Documents

15a Admissions Policy

2a Curriculum Policy

33a Complaints procedure

17a Equal Opportunities Policy