



SEND Policy

Park Community School

Contents

Compliance 3

Park Community School SEND Co-ordinator 3

Aims 4

Objectives 4

Identification of SEND 4

Graduated Approach to SEND support 7

Process for identification 9

SEND register 10

Referral Meetings 10

EHCP 10

Specialist Support 11

Supporting student mental health and well-being 11

Criteria for exiting the SEND register 12

Supporting students and families 12

Local Offer and Information Report 12

Admissions and Transition 13

Exam Arrangements 13

Supporting students with medical conditions 14

Monitoring and evaluation of SEND 14

Training and Resources 15

Roles and Responsibilities 15

Storing and Managing Information 16

Policy Review 16

Dealing with Complaints 16

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Compliance

This policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the SEND Code of Practice 0-25 (Jan, 2015) and has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: advice for school, DFE (Feb, 2013)
- SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25 (Jan, 2015)
- Schools SEN Information Report Regulations (2014)
- Statutory Guidance on Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (April, 2014)
- The National Curriculum in England Key Stage 3 and 4 framework document (Sept, 2013)
- Teachers Standards (2012)

Park Community School SEND Co-ordinator

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Park Community School recognises the importance of effective coordination of the Special Educational Needs provision and therefore the SEND Co-ordinator is part of the Senior Leadership Team as an assistant headteacher.

Park Community School is an accessible mainstream secondary with very strong values linked to inclusion, inclusive practice and ensuring success for every student of the school regardless of their needs. At Park Community School we are committed to providing all students with an inclusive curriculum which promotes high aspirations and excellent outcomes. We believe that, along with parents and students, we have a responsibility to ensure all students are able to access, enjoy and achieve at Park Community School demonstrated through our core values of attainment, resilience and autonomy.

At Park Community School we firmly believe that every teacher is a teacher of every student, including those with special educational needs and therefore we place value on ensuring all teachers have access to the training and information necessary to implement the excellent teaching required by all.

This policy should be read alongside the policies for: Behaviour, Safeguarding, Equality and Supporting Students with Medical Conditions.

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Aims

At Park Community School we are committed to providing all students with an inclusive curriculum which promotes high aspirations and excellent outcomes so: 'expectations and achievement for children with special educational needs and disabilities is the same as for all children' (DFE, 2014, p.3).

We believe that, along with parents and students, we have a responsibility to ensure all students are able to access, enjoy and achieve at Park Community School through having a: 'clear approach to identifying and responding to SEN' (DFE, 2014, p.12) and 'strategic development of SEN policy and provision in the school' (DFE, 2015, p.108).

Objectives

At Park Community School we believe the following to be central to securing student success and achieving our aims of excellence for all:

- Early identification of need to ensure that these are met
- Focused and strategic use of intervention (as necessary) to secure progress
- Collaboration with teachers and parents to support student needs ensuring there is effective communication between parents and school
- Involving students in reviews of their progress and identifying specific needs to ensure students are fully involved in decisions which affect their education
- Working with external agencies (where appropriate) to further support student needs creating effective partnerships to support students

By working towards these objectives, we believe this shows our commitment to adhere to the key principles of the Code of Practice:

- Taking into account the views of children, young people and their families
- Enabling children, young people and their parents to participate in decision-making
- Collaborating with partners in education, health and social care to provide support
- Identifying the needs of children and young people
- Making high quality provision to meet the needs of children and young people
- Focusing on inclusive practices and removing barriers to learning
- Helping children and young people to prepare for adulthood (0-25 SEND Code of Practice)

Identification of SEND

Children have special educational needs if they have a difficulty, or difficulties, that call for special educational provision to be made for them in order to make progress.

Children have a learning difficulty if they:

- Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age.

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

- Have a disability that prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within the area of the local authority.
- Are under compulsory school age and fall within the definitions above or would so do if special educational provision was not made for them. (Code of Practice September 2014)

At Park Community School we are committed to the early identification of SEND and make use of wide variety of information to identify, monitor and provide intervention for students requiring SEND provision. A range of data is gathered and interpreted to determine SEND need and to allocate support as necessary, as well as to update students' status on the SEND register so teachers are able to differentiate their teaching and ensure ALL students make excellent progress.

Data used to identify SEND includes:

- Reading tests (reading is tested once a year for all students and additional diagnostic testing is used for those requiring interventions)
- Numeracy assessment
- KS2 data and transition information
- CAT scores
- Subject tests for English, maths and science
- Ongoing teacher assessment
- External agency information/ diagnosis
- Half termly assessment data
- Specialist advisory services recommendations and assessments
- Information from parents and teachers
- We can screen for dyslexic tendencies and suggest teaching approaches/ intervention that would suit as appropriate, but cannot provide a formal diagnosis of dyslexia

SEND Areas of need:

- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health
- Communication and Interaction
- Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairment

Cognition and Learning

This category includes MLD (Mild learning difficulty) and SLD (Severe learning difficulty)

- Rate of progress is slow and they are working substantially below that expected for children of a similar age
- There may be delay in language acquisition and difficulty with communication skills
- There may be specific learning difficulties (SPLD)
- They may have difficulty understanding concepts, have poor short-term memory and processing difficulties
- They may be socially and emotionally immature and have limited interpersonal skills

SPLD: Specific learning Difficulties.

These may include:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Dyscalculia
- ADD/ADHD
- Auditory processing disorder

Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH)

- Students have social, emotional or mental health difficulties which significantly affect their behaviour and regularly create barriers to their learning and that of others
- They may have difficulties acquiring social and emotional skills necessary to succeed
- Usual positive behaviour techniques and differentiated learning opportunities may not allow student to make progress
- Over time behaviours may result in withdrawal, poor relationships, non-cooperation, frustration and poor progress
- Students are likely to demonstrate difficulties in managing and responding to their emotions

Communication and Interaction

- **Speech, Language and Communication**
- **Autistic Spectrum Disorder**
- Language and communication difficulties create a barrier to learning and/or the development of social skills and relationships
- Areas of speech, social communication, language and fluency are not age appropriate
- Speech may be delayed or disordered, making social interactions difficult and causing frustration, stress and/or challenging behaviour
- Difficulty in understanding and/or expressing emotions, abstract and non-literal language

Physical Disability (PD) Visual Impairment (VI) Hearing Impairment (HI)

Physical Disability (PD)

- A disability of impairment that causes barriers to learning
- This may also affect the development of self-esteem and emotional well being
- This will require specialist care and equipment
- This may require an additional adult in school to support the student in overcoming barriers to learning

Hearing Impairment (HI)

- May have a hearing aid
- May have difficulties hearing if there is background noise
- May have delayed speech or articulation
- May have poor auditory memory
- May have difficulties with self esteem
- May require additional specialist equipment

Visual Impairment (VI)

- May have a diagnosed condition which causes them to be visually impaired
- May struggle to see things on the board

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

- May require text enlargement
- May have difficulty judging speed and distance
- May sometimes find handwriting difficult
- May have some issues with self esteem

The Equality Act (2010) defines a person with a disability as someone who has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Having a disability does not mean a student has special education needs and so this should not be assumed. Students with disabilities can expect reasonable adjustments to be made in order for them to access the full school experience. For more information please read the Equality Policy.

Although the following are not indicators of special educational needs, these may impact on progress and attainment and therefore may make a student more vulnerable to underachievement which will also be considered and investigated when there appears to be barriers to the student's learning:

- Disability
- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- English as an additional language
- Being in receipt of the Pupil Premium grant
- Being a Looked After Child
- Being a child of Service Personnel

Graduated Approach to SEND support

SEND provision is allocated using a wave system with the aim of providing the most intensive support in Key Stage 3 in order to enable students to independently access the full curriculum by Key Stage 4 .

Interventions are planned, reviewed and evaluated using the: assess; plan; do; review cycle recommended by the Code of Practice. The full cycle is implemented at least once during every 6 week period of provision being provided. At the evaluation point, successful reviews are either continued, decreased in wave or ceased with student monitoring; reviews which identify less than expected progress will result in continuation of the intervention or a move to the next wave of intervention.

Student progress is also monitored via: assessment data at regular points in the year and on student review days and parent evenings.

Wave	Interventions / Support	Criteria for access
Wave 3b – Specialist external	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational psychologist• Consultancy and Support Include• CAMHS• CAL team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EHCP• Already received wave 3a intervention / support <p>Student will exhibit multiple barriers to their learning which requires ongoing support and intervention. Intervention will not be</p>

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Wave	Interventions / Support	Criteria for access
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist Teacher Advisors 	<p>possible using internal specialist support and consequently external agencies will need to be involved in both the assessment and support offered. Student programme will be personalised to their needs and progress will be monitored through appropriate screening tools, assessment data and reports from external agencies.</p>
<p>Wave 3a – Specialist internal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional highly personalised intervention – often 1-1 and ongoing • Speech, Language and Communication group / support • ELSA / Emotional literacy support • Inspired learning or alternative 'in school' alternative education • Access arrangements • Personalised timetable • Allocated key worker • Music / animal / Lego rewards • Home tuition • ASC nurture • Work placements • Phonics teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EHCP • Reading age of below 9 years • BPVS • Communication and language checklist • ASC • Home School Partnership Learning • Referral after receiving wave 2 or 3 intervention from pastoral, behaviour, attendance <p>Student will exhibit multiple barriers to their learning which requires ongoing support and intervention. Intervention will be possible using internal specialist support, although external support may be required in identifying precise needs. Student will receive a personalised programme relevant to their needs. Student progress will be measured through relevant screening tool and assessment data.</p>
<p>Wave 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional interventions used to enable students to work at age-related expectations or to support additional needs • 1-1 or small group intervention for a set period of time • Catch-up reading and reading coaching • Phonics-based reading intervention • Friends intervention (for inclusion purposes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading age between 9 years and 11 years • CAT scores • Access Reading and comprehension • Dyslexia screener • Dyscalculia screener <p>Students will exhibit a barrier/s to learning which can be supported through a short-term intervention – outlined in Learning Plan. Impact will be measured at the start and end of the intervention. If progress is made student's progress will be monitored for the remainder of the academic year.</p>

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Wave	Interventions / Support	Criteria for access
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handwriting intervention • Spelling intervention • Anger management • Character building • Language group 	
Wave 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Quality Inclusive Teaching (HQIT) for all – using pen portraits, TA deployment in lessons and task plans as appropriate • Daily reading in tutor time • Weekly number challenge in tutor time • Whole school literacy strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PCS students

Process for identification

Soon after entry to the school all students undertake the cognitive abilities tests (CATs). Alongside this, annual testing is used for spelling, reading and numeracy until students reach or exceed their standardized score for their chronological age. These testing tools are one way in which special educational needs are identified.

Alongside this testing, students can be identified as requiring support as a result of: assessment data, behaviours exhibited when in school, staff referral, parent referral or contact from an external agency.

Reading standardised scores are used to identify the level of need for students:

	Age	Action
Red	Below 9 years	Students will be targeted for 1 to 1 intervention (Wave 3a) for a period of at least 6 weeks – this is likely to be ongoing across the school year
Amber	9-11 years	Students will be targeted for 1 to 1 or small group intervention (Wave 2) for a period of at least 6 weeks
Blue	11.01 chronological age	Students will be targeted for shared reading and guided reading with tutors in reading time during tutor time
Green	Chronological age	Students will not receive SEND support but their progress will be monitored closely and teachers will ensure they use appropriate strategies to support the student in making good progress (Wave 1).

SEND is recorded on the SEND register under the following headings:

EHCP (E)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have significant barriers to learning which require support/ intervention significantly above that which most students receive.
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Park Community School

SEND POLICY

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EHCP gives statutory guidance for the support of individual students' needs and specific objectives teachers must support the student in achieving. The Education Health Care Plan replaced the Statement from September 2014 and focusses on a 0-25 years plan with an onus on multiagency collaboration and a stronger emphasis on parent and child views.
Support (K)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who have barriers to learning which hinder their progress over time. These students are identified as requiring additional SEN support in this academic year. Students who are underachieving when compared with their peers and who need clear differentiation from teachers to ensure they make good progress and close the gap between themselves and their peers. The criteria outlined in the identification of need section is used to determine the level of support required. This will be indicated on the SEND register with a K.

SEND register

This document is accessible by all staff through SIMS and is used to maintain a record of which students are identified as having SEND and reasons for this.

SIMS - basic information

Surname Forename	FSM	SEN Status	SEN Need	Looked After	Pupil Premium Indicator	English Test Level KS2 Key Stage 2 Validated Result	Maths Test Level KS2 Key Stage 2 Validated Result	ENGLISH KS2 End of KS2	MATHS KS2 End of KS2	SCIENCE KS2 End of KS2	CAT non-verbal	CAT Verbal	CAT Quantitative	CP TRACKING	RA MARCH 8 YEAR 8 MARCH RA	RA SEPT 9 YEAR 9 SEPT RA	RA MARCH 9 YEAR 9 MARCH RA	RA DEC 10 YEAR 10 DEC RA	RA JULY 9 YEAR 9 JULY RA	SA SEPT 8 YEAR 8 SEPT SA	SA MARCH 8 YEAR 8 MARCH SA	SA SEPT 9 YEAR 9 SEPT SA	SA MARCH 9 YEAR 9 MARCH SA	SA JULY 9 YEAR 9 JULY SA	Specific need
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The SEND register is reviewed bi-annually to ensure it accurately reflects student need and active interventions. The register is continually updated to ensure an accurate representation of need is recorded.

Referral Meetings

Referral meetings take place on a weekly basis. This is a time when senior leaders and gatekeepers meet to discuss, assess and review student progress as well as how to meet the needs of all students. It is also when decisions are made regarding the extra provisions that students may require in order to meet their needs and have success in school.

EHCP

In a minor number of cases the support able to be offered by the school may not be sufficient to enable a student to make the best possible progress. If this is the case then the SEND Co-ordinator, in consultation with parents and external agencies already involved, will consider whether there is a need to request the local authority

to initiate a statutory assessment. The statutory assessment may enable the school to access additional resources or may enable a student to access an alternative, specialist provision, whichever is most appropriate for the student to make the best progress possible.

An application requires a considerable amount of evidence and takes time to be compiled, therefore this will only be undertaken if all parties involved feel that this is the most appropriate route. Once an assessment has been applied for the local authority have to make their decision about whether to assess within six weeks.

Specialist Support

As well as the specialist support within the school, which includes referral to our INclude support, advice and support is also sought for students requiring this from the following agencies:

- Educational Psychologist
- Speech, language and communication specialist
- Visual and hearing impairment specialist advisors
- CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
- Specialist Teacher Advisors
- INclude Service
- Occupational Health / Therapists
- Education Inclusion Service

Students requiring this additional support will either have an Education Health Care Plan or will have been referred by the in-school team as requiring additional, external intervention. All support is accessed after consultation with parents.

Supporting student mental health and well-being

In line with the 'Green Paper: Transforming Children and Young People's Health Provision' (DFE, Dec 2017) the school recognises the importance of prioritising and supporting the well-being and mental health of students in school. The Assistant Headteacher responsible for Safeguarding takes the role of the designated mental health lead and consequently is the main point of contact for all external agencies where support for student mental health and well being is sought. The Assistant Headteacher works closely with the SEND Co-ordinator to liaise with agencies and identify support.

Student well-being and strong mental health are vital if students are to thrive and achieve, so consequently the school work on putting in place interventions to support and prevent a decline in student mental health, working on a principle of early intervention.

Students are encouraged to think, and learn, about mental health and well-being in assemblies and through the SMSC programmes delivered in school. These have a particular focus on creating a community where there is no stigma regarding mental health and well-being and everyone is valued and belongs to the school community.

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Members of the SEND team attend regular training events focused on understanding and supporting student mental health and well-being, with the responsibility of disseminating to the rest of the school community.

In school support for mental health and well-being:

- Support from MIND
- SMSC Curriculum
- Specialist Counselling
- TALA Welfare, support and guidance work
- ELSA intervention
- Personalised learning provisions and programmes
- MHST (Mental Health in Schools Team)

External specialist support accessed for mental health and well-being:

- CAMHS
- Mind

Criteria for exiting the SEND register

Students will be removed from the SEND register once all interventions which they have received are finished and have been deemed successful as the student has reached, and maintained the age-related expectations of their peers, therefore meaning that they no longer need any adjustments to learn.

Once a final intervention is completed, students will remain on the SEND register as being monitored for a period of time. Only when the school is confident that additional intervention to support any needs are no longer required will the student be removed from the register. Their coding will then enable future monitoring to happen as an identification of historic support.

Supporting students and families

At Park Community School we believe that optimum success is only possible when the school, student and parents work together and therefore we adopt a 'person centred' approach to the development of all student programmes and provisions.

Park Community School encourages student to share concerns, discuss strategies and review progression, thus seeing themselves as equal partners in the decisions about their learning. We encourage all students to attend review meetings and to contribute their views in order to focus on their personal outcomes and goals.

All parents are contacted with assessment data and have the opportunity to attend student review days and parent evenings. Additionally, parents of students accessing SEND support will be contacted: at the start and review of every provision, notified of, and invited to every annual review and home school learning partnership review, asked for feedback regarding the interventions used to support students and sent copies of the Learning Plans and Pen Portraits for review.

Local Offer and Information Report

Park Community School's Information Report outlines the provision for special educational needs and is available to parents from the school website. The information report also clearly identifies where parents can access information

about Hampshire's Local Offer, which can be found at: <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/localoffer.page>. This information is also available if parents wish to contact the SEND Co-ordinator.

Admissions and Transition

Hampshire County Council is the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools and consequently is non-selective. The admission arrangements are determined by the County Council, after statutory consultations.

At Park Community School we understand that a smooth transition is essential for optimum student outcomes and therefore this element of SEND support is given significant time and status.

From Primary to Secondary:

- Key members of staff will visit the primary schools during Year 5 and 6 to create familiarity with students
- The SEND Co-ordinator will meet and liaise with primary SEND Co-ordinators at the start of the academic year, prior to transition
- An intensive transition programme of meetings will happen between the primary and secondary school to share student information and to discuss needs
- An additional transition programme of extra visits to Park Community School will be arranged, where required for students
- An additional transition programme of extra visits from Park Community School staff will be arranged, where required for students
- Members of staff from Park Community School will attend home school learning partnership reviews, Annual reviews and other meetings regarding students making the transition to the school

Between schools:

- Details regarding pen portraits and data will be shared with school where a change is being made from one to another

From Secondary to College:

- Students with SEND receive additional careers interviews
- Students with SEND can be accompanied on their college interview by a member of the SEN team
- The SEND team arrange additional transition visits for students as required

Exam Arrangements

In accordance with the requirements of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) students with SEND may be eligible for exam access arrangements. All students with identified SEND will have their provision reviewed at the end of Year 9 and any need for the assessment of access arrangements for exams will be identified at this point. Students and parents will be informed of all access arrangements that have been obtained and put into place for students.

Examples of arrangements include:

- Access to a reader

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

- Access to ICT to record responses
- Rest breaks for those with physical, sensory or attention needs
- Up to 25% additional time for those with specific processing difficulties
- Provision of a scribe
- Access to an alternative venue in exceptional circumstances

Supporting students with medical conditions

We recognise that students with medical conditions should be properly supported in order to have full access to the school curriculum. Some students with medical condition may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act (2010).

Some students may also have special educational needs and may have an Education Health Care plan which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision for which the SEND Code of Practice (2015) is followed.

As appropriate, staff are made aware of students' conditions and where appropriate staff receive suitable training. Risk assessments and care plans are also undertaken, as appropriate, in order to support these students.

For more detailed information please see the Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy.

Accessibility

The school has an accessibility plan that is regularly monitored to ensure participation for all students both in and out of school.

For more detailed information please see the Accessibility Policy.

Monitoring and evaluation of SEND

At Park Community School we recognise that effective monitoring and evaluation is essential for interventions to be successful and for students to progress as expected.

Progress of all students on the SEND register is monitored:

- Via subject assessment data
- Annually via reading data
- Student review days and parent evenings
- Every six weeks of intervention
- Through student and parent voice
- Through teacher feedback
- Home school learning partnership reviews
- Annual reviews

Quality Assurance and review

Quality assurance of interventions and the SEND provision is undertaken in the following ways:

- Termly analysis of progress data and impact
- Termly presentations by lead members of SEND team identifying successes and areas for development
- Termly observations of interventions by SEND Co-ordinator and Assistant SEND Co-ordinator

- Student questionnaires on exit from intervention
- Parent questionnaires on exit from intervention
- Learning walks in lessons
- Presentations to SLT and Governors

Training and Resources

For most students it is expected that excellent teaching will address their individual needs and ensure they make good progress.

To ensure this, teachers are expected to differentiate by:

- Use data to identify potential barriers to learning and differentiate to support these
- Regularly monitor and assess progress
- Give effective and timely feedback to students and parents
- Be aware of specific needs of individuals within each class
- Differentiate learning to accommodate student needs: including resources, learning activities, support and communication methods
- Direct and plan for support within the classroom

Additionally, for students identified on the SEND register, teachers are expected to:

- Know their specific barriers to learning so these can be supported
- Read and use student pen portraits to assist understanding of student needs, support individuals may be receiving and reinforce this in the teaching
- Use Pen Portraits for relevant students to influence the teaching, support and communication with students
- Use task plans for those students who require this intervention

Where there is in-class support teachers should:

- Plan for the additional support in their lessons
- Direct in class support as appropriate and in accordance with students' pen portraits to ensure maximum impact on students and progress
- Liaise regarding the progress of students and next steps

Alongside this, there is also guidance information made available to all staff about the different types of need that may be present in the classroom and how best to support students. Time is also allocated in staff meetings and training to ensure key SEND messages are shared and understood amongst the staff.

The SEND Co-ordinator and SEND team have specialist training in the interventions that they deliver and the particular areas of need that they work alongside. As well as this, members of the SEND team attend all external meetings with a special educational need focus, including local authority network meetings.

Roles and Responsibilities

- **SEND Co-ordinator**
Leading the SEND team and ensuring an appropriate and effective SEND provision for all students is met, monitored and evaluated.
- **SEND Governor**

Meeting with the SEND Co-ordinator about the SEND provision and holding the SEND Co-ordinator to account for the provisions made. Liaison with other members of the Governing Body regarding the school SEND provision.

- **Assistant SEND Co-ordinator**
Coordination of the day-to-day running of the provision for students with specified provisions. Completion of non-legal administration and paperwork.
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**
Ensuring all child protection and safeguarding issues are investigated, supported and resolved.
- **Pupil Premium and Children Looked After (PP and CLA)**
Coordination of the allocation of the pupil premium grant to effectively meet the needs of students in receipt of this funding. Ensuring all 'looked after' children are provided effectively for and able to make progress in their learning.
- **Teaching Assistants**
Accountable to the SEND Co-ordinator and Assistant SEND Co-ordinator for their roles whether these be: classroom based, intervention focused, learning support focused or extra-curricular.
- **School Matron**
Takes responsibility for the completion of all health related care plans and risk assessments for students in school, as well as ensuring the medical needs are met for those students with medical consideration.

Storing and Managing Information

All information is gathered and stored in alignment with the school data protection policy which demonstrates the school's adherence to the data protection principles and commitment to the appropriate use of data.

Policy Review

After initial drafting and approval, this policy will be reviewed by the leadership team on an annual basis. The policy is available to parents on the school website and is distributed to staff at the start of the academic year.

Dealing with Complaints

At Park Community School we hope that students and parents feel fully supported in having any needs met all of the time. However, if there are concerns the head of house, tutor, teacher, WSG and SEND Co-ordinator should be the first point of contact regarding any problems or potential apprehension.

If this contact does not satisfy your concern, the school's complaint procedures are set out on the main school website.

Parents/carers have a right to appeal to the SEND tribunal after every annual review to challenge any issue.

Parents of students with SEND whose concerns cannot be resolved by the usual school procedures can request independent disagreement resolution. The school will make further information about the process available on request.

Park Community School

SEND POLICY

Document Control Table	
Associated Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Behaviour Policy• Safeguarding Policy• Supporting students with medical conditions Policy• Equality Policy
Date approved by Governors	06/12/2023
Date of Review	Annual