

The logo for Oasis Academy: Connaught is positioned in the upper right corner of the page. It features the word "Oasis" in a white, sans-serif font, with a stylized white circle to its left. Below "Oasis", the words "Academy:" and "Connaught" are stacked in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The logo is set against a yellow background that is part of a larger graphic element consisting of overlapping yellow and dark blue shapes.

Oasis

Academy:  
Connaught

# SEN Policy and Information Report

**Approved by:**

George Fraser

**Date:** 07/11/2024

**Last reviewed on:**

November 2024

**Next review due by:**

October 2025

## Contents

1. Aims.....	2
2. Legislation and guidance.....	2
3. Definitions.....	3
4. Roles and responsibilities.....	3
5. SEN information report.....	4
6. Monitoring arrangements.....	11
7. Links with other policies and documents.....	11

### 1. Aims

Our SEN policy and information report aims to:

- Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEN
- Create an environment that meets the special educational needs of each child so that they can achieve their learning potential and engage in activities alongside pupils who do not have SEND.
- Monitor and respond to parents/carers and pupils views in order to evidence high levels of confidence and partnership
- Make clear the expectations of all partners in the process
- Ensure a high level of staff expertise to meet pupil need through well targeted professional development
- Ensure pupils with medical conditions are fully included in all school activities through support and consultation with health and social care professionals
- Allow and plan for reasonable adjustments to enable all children to have full access to all elements of the school curriculum
- Work in cooperation and productive partnerships with the Local Education Authority and other outside agencies, to ensure there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of all vulnerable learners..

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy and information report is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

- [Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the SEN information report

This policy also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### 3. Definitions

A pupil has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

They have a learning difficulty or disability if they have:

- A significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- A disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

Special educational provision is educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

### 4. Roles and responsibilities

#### 4.1 The SENCO

The SENCO is Rosie Arnel who has undertaken the government SENCo qualification. The SENCO can be contacted through the school office on 01275 894590 or [info@oasisconnaught.org](mailto:info@oasisconnaught.org)

They will:

- Work with the Trust and Principal to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school
- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEN policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEN, including those who have EHC plans
- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEN receive appropriate support and high quality teaching
- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEN support
- Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services

- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure pupils and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- Work with the Principal to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- Ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEN up to date

#### **4.2 The SEN Academy Councilor**

The SEN Academy Councilor will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEN issues at governing board meetings
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEN and disability provision within the school and update the governing board on this
- Work with the principal and SENCO to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school

#### **4.3 The Principal**

The principal will:

- Work with the SENCO and SEN academy councilor to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school
- Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEN and/or a disability

#### **4.4 Class teachers**

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every pupil in their class
- Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- Working with the SENCO to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision
- Ensuring they follow this SEN policy

### **5. SEN information report**

#### **5.1 The kinds of SEN that are provided for at Oasis Academy Foundry**

Provision for children with special educational needs is a matter for the whole school. The governing body, the school's head teacher, the SENCO and all other members of staff, particularly class teachers and teaching assistants, have important day-to-day responsibilities. All teachers are teachers of children with special educational needs.

Our school currently provides provision for a range of needs, including:

- Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia,
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD),
- Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
- Moderate learning difficulties

## **5.2 Identifying pupils with SEN and assessing their needs**

The school will assess each child's current levels of attainment on entry in order to ensure that they build on the patterns of learning and experience already established during the child's pre-school years. If the child already has an identified special educational need, this information may be transferred from other partners in their Early Years setting and the class teacher and SENCO will use this information to:

- Provide starting points for the development of an appropriate curriculum.
- Identify and focus attention on action to support the child within the class.
- Use the assessment processes to identify any learning difficulties.
- Ensure ongoing observation and assessments provide regular feedback about the child's achievements and experiences to form the basis for planning the next steps of the child's learning.

Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
- Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
- Widens the attainment gap

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.

Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

## **5.3 Consulting and involving pupils and parents**

Partnership plays a key role in enabling children and young people with SEND to achieve their potential. Parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of a child's needs. All parents of children with special educational needs will be treated as partners given support to play an active and valued role in their child's education.

Children and young people with special educational needs often have a unique knowledge of their own needs and their views about what sort of help they would like. They will be encouraged to contribute to the assessment of their needs, the review and transition process.

The school website contains details of our policy for special educational needs, the special educational needs information report including the arrangements made for children in our school with special educational needs.

At all stages of the special needs process, the school keeps parents fully informed and involved. We take account of the wishes, feelings and knowledge of parents at all stages.

We encourage parents to make an active contribution to their child's education and have regular meetings each half term to share the progress of special needs children with their parents. We inform the parents of any outside intervention, and share the process of decision-making by providing clear information relating to the education of their child.

Parents always have access to the SENCo (Mr Sadiku) through the school email address, phone number for a meeting request.

If a child is identified as having a Special Educational Need, we will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents when identifying whether they need special educational provision. These conversations will make sure that:

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty
- Any parental concerns are considered
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child
- Everyone is clear on what the next steps are

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record and given to their parents.

We will formally notify parents when it is decided that a pupil will receive SEN support.

#### **5.4 Assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes**

We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.

The class or subject teacher will work with the SENCO to carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. This will draw on:

- The teacher's assessment and experience of the pupil
- Their previous progress and attainment and behaviour
- Other teachers' assessments, where relevant
- The individual's development in comparison to their peers and national data
- The views and experience of parents
- The pupil's own views
- Advice from external support services, if relevant

The assessment will be reviewed regularly.

All teachers and support staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of their needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided, and any teaching strategies or approaches that are required. We will regularly review the effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress.

### **5.5 Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood**

We will share information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is moving to. When year six pupils are moving to year seven, there will be liaison with the receiving school about the child's needs. All year six pupils will attend sessions at their secondary school to ensure a smooth transition. If a child changes school during the academic year we will share with the new school any special needs the child has and their SEN records will be forwarded on. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this.

### **5.6 Our approach to teaching pupils with SEN**

Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs. Lessons have clear learning objectives and staff differentiate work appropriately, and use assessment to inform the next stage of learning. All staff have received training on teaching and learning styles that has led to members of staff planning lessons that incorporate the different learning styles that children have.

Individual Target Plans, which employ a small-steps approach, feature significantly in the provision that we make in the school. By breaking down the existing levels of attainment into finely graded steps and targets, we ensure that children experience success. All children on the special needs register have a Pupil Profile plan with individual targets.

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom situation. There are times though when, to maximise learning, we ask the children to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom.

We will also provide the following interventions:

- Precision teaching for vocabulary acquisition
- Emotional Literacy groups
- English and Maths target groups
- New-to-English survival language groups
- Mentoring

### **5.7 Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment**

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable children to understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities and experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.

We make the following adaptations to the curriculum to ensure all pupils' needs are met:

- Differentiating our curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- Adapting our resources and staffing

- Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

Our Accessibility plan (available on the academy website) is in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and details how the academy plans to adapt the learning environment when required.

It outlines plans to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability

### **5.8 Additional support for learning**

We have ten teaching assistants who are trained to deliver interventions such as precision teaching and targeted English and Maths groups. We also have teachers and learning mentors who have had training in dealing with different issues around social, emotional and mental health.

Teaching assistants will support pupils on a 1:1 basis when the child has an individual target plan (ITP). An ITP outlines strategies employed to enable children with Special Educational Needs to progress more quickly. The ITP will include information about:

- The short term targets set for the child.
- The teaching strategies to be used.
- The provision to be put in place.
- How the child can be successful

These will be reviewed termly in which the child's views will be sought and taken into account, as will those of the parents, whose support is vital if progress is to be achieved and maintained.

Teaching assistants will support pupils in small groups when the class teacher identifies a need for targeted support from the outcome of a lesson. This could be that a small group of children need support with their learning of a concept that has been misunderstood.

When we need extra support in teaching our pupils, we work with the following agencies to provide support for pupils with SEN:

- Educational Psychologist
- Pupil School Support
- City of Birmingham school
- School nurse

### **5.9 Expertise and training of staff**

Our SENCO has plethora of experience in this field and has achieved the National SENCO qualification.



We have a team of ten teaching assistants who are trained to deliver SEN provision.

In the last academic year staff have received specific SEN training in: precision teaching, the signs and symptoms of mental health issues, effective phonics teaching and autism (level 1) training.

### **5.10 Securing equipment and facilities**

The SENCO is responsible for the operational management of the specified and agreed resourcing for special needs provision within the school, including the provision for children with statements of special educational needs and Education Health and Care plans.

The principal and SENCo informs the Hub Council of how the funding allocated to support special educational needs has been employed.

### **5.11 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEN provision**

We evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEN by:

- Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions half termly
- Using pupil questionnaires to support social, emotional and mental health development
- Learning walks and book scrutinies by the Academy Leadership Team
- Using provision maps to measure progress
- Holding annual reviews for pupils with statements of SEN or EHC plans

### **5.12 Enabling pupils with SEN to engage in activities available to those in the school who do not have SEN**

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy.

All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our pupils, including our before-and after-school clubs.

All pupils are encouraged to go on our residential trip.

All pupils are encouraged to take part in sports day/school plays/special workshops, etc.

No pupil is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEN or disability.

### **5.13 Support for improving emotional and social development**

Our academy is dedicated to improving the life chances of our pupils and that includes whole school education around mental health. We have our own mental health curriculum which is embedded within teaching to help provide pupils with resilience strategies when faced with mental health difficulties.

We provide support for pupils to improve their emotional and social development in the following ways:

- Pupils with SEN are encouraged to be part of the school council

- Pupils with SEN are also encouraged to be part of the emotional literacy/mentoring groups that teach around how to deal with personal emotions and the emotions of others, communication, resilience, relationships, grief and loss.
- We take part in Anti-Bullying week and conduct activities throughout the year based on anti-bullying.

We have a zero tolerance approach to bullying.

#### **5.14 Working with other agencies**

Outside agencies may become involved if the child:

- Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period.
- Continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age.
- Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematical skills.
- Has emotional or behavioural difficulties which regularly and substantially interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class group.
- Has sensory or physical needs and requires additional specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service.
- Has ongoing communication or interaction difficulties that impede the development of social relationships and cause substantial barriers to learning.
- Despite having received intervention, the child continues to fall behind the level of his peers.

#### **School Request for Statutory Assessment or Education Health and Care Plans (from September 2014)**

A request will be made by the school to the LEA if the child has demonstrated significant cause for concern.

The LEA will be given information about the child's progress over time, and will also receive documentation in relation to the child's special educational needs and any other action taken to deal with those needs, including any resources or special arrangements put in place.

The evidence will include:

- Previous Pupil Profile plans and targets for the pupil.
- Records of regular reviews and their outcomes.
- Records of the child's health and medical history where appropriate.
- National Curriculum attainment levels in literacy and numeracy.
- Education and other assessments, for example from an advisory specialist support teacher or educational psychologist.
- Views of the parents.

The parents of any child who is referred for statutory assessment will be kept fully informed of the progress of the referral. Children with a statement of special educational needs will be reviewed each half term in addition to the

statutory annual assessment. When this coincides with transfer to secondary school, the SENCO from the secondary school will be informed of the outcome of the review.

### **5.15 Complaints about SEN provision**

Complaints about SEN provision in our school should be made to the SENCo or Principal in the first instance. This will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

The parents of pupils with disabilities have the right to make disability discrimination claims to the first-tier SEND tribunal if they believe that our school has discriminated against their children. They can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

- Exclusions
- Provision of education and associated services
- Making reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services

### **5.16 Contact details of support services for parents of pupils with SEN**

There is local support available to parents to help with support and advice around Special Educational Needs. That can be found at:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50034/special\\_educational\\_needs\\_or\\_disabilities\\_birminghams\\_local\\_offer](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50034/special_educational_needs_or_disabilities_birminghams_local_offer)

### **5.17 Contact details for raising concerns**

Any concerns can be raised with the SENCO or Principal on 0121 2508850 or at Oasis Academy Foundry, Foundry Road, Winson Green, Birmingham, B18 4LP or using our enquiry form available at:

<http://www.oasisacademyfoundry.org/content/foundry-academy-contact>

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy and information report will be reviewed by the SENCO **every year**. It will also be updated if any changes to the information are made during the year.

It will be approved by the Academy Council.

## **7. Links with other policies and documents**

This policy links to our policies on:

- SEN
- Accessibility plan
- Behaviour