



"We all flourish from a wealth of learning experiences that positively impact on our educational, physical and emotional success"



# Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy and Information Report

<b>Cycle:</b>	1	
<b>Approved by the full governing (date):</b>	10/2024	D Coates
<b>Approved by the Executive Headteacher:</b>	Steve Geary	
<b>Approved by the Headteacher:</b>	Sarah Steer	
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	October 2024	
<b>Next Reviewed:</b>	October 2025	

## **Contact Details**

Katy Baker (SENCo)

Steve Geary (Executive Head Teacher)

Sarah Steer (Head Teacher)

All of these can be contacted through the school office or on (01634) 335400 or [office@horstedschool.co.uk](mailto:office@horstedschool.co.uk)

**This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies, guidance and acts:**

- [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) (2015)
- [Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEND
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out local authorities' and schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the special educational needs (SEN) information report
- The [Equality Act 2010](#) (section 20), which sets out the school's duties to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities
- The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010), which set out the school's responsibilities to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic (which includes having a disability) and those who don't share it
- The [Governance Handbook](#), which sets out governors' responsibilities for pupils with SEND
- The [School Admissions Code](#), which sets out the school's obligation to admit all pupils whose education, health and care (EHC) plan names the school, and its duty not to disadvantage unfairly children with a disability or with special educational needs
- Statutory Guidance for Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions (April 2014)
- The National Curriculum in England Key Stage 1 and 2 Framework document (September 2013)
- Teaching Standards (2012)
- School Admissions Code (DfE 2012)
- SEND Review – Right Support, right place, right time. (March 2022)
- Ofsted Supporting SEND (May 2021)
- Ofsted SEND: Old issues, new issues, next steps (June 2021)
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Improvement Plan Right Support, Right Place, Right Time March 2023

## **1. Introduction**

This policy document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies to ensure the effective and efficient provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) at Horsted School. It is the responsibility of all stakeholders at Horsted School to implement this policy, as developed by the special educational needs coordinator (SENCo).

This policy was developed and consulted with parents and carers, representatives from the governing body and particularly with parents of children with SEND and will be reviewed annually. Medway Council guidelines and DfES Code of Practice have been taken into consideration in the formulation of this policy.

This document provides a framework for the identification of and provision for children with Special Educational Needs and any Disability. It is written for the benefit of all members of the school community to ensure that the potential of every child is maximised, irrespective of ability, disability, race, gender and social origin and to

enable equality of access to the curriculum, an environment where every child is valued and respected and also able to learn in a happy and confident manner and within an atmosphere of good quality teaching with high expectations for all pupils

## **2. Core Values**

Horsted school is a vibrant, safe and welcoming school where we celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values with a vision to prepare them for a happy and healthy life beyond primary school.

Our vision for Horsted School is that our children will leave us with a genuine enthusiasm for learning and as

- **Striving** (they will be determined, persevere and they will be resilient);
- **Thoughtful** (They will be creative, logical and curious about their world and those around them);
- **Ambitious** (personally, emotionally and academically);
- **Resilient** (be motivated, be able to problem-solve and stay positive) and;
- **Supportive** (of themselves, others and their wider community).

We aim to achieve this through our curriculum's rich web and in partnership with parents. The curriculum at Horsted is designed to provide an enjoyable, broad and balanced education that meets the needs of all children. It provides opportunities for children to develop as independent, confident and successful learners, with high aspirations, who know how to make a positive contribution to their community and the wider society.

Horsted is an inclusive school. We strive to ensure that all children will be able to access the curriculum or make necessary modifications to it in order to achieve this.

## **3. Aims and Visions**

Horsted School is dedicated to providing an inclusive school environment where all stakeholders pride themselves in having the shared responsibility and vision in working above and beyond to meet all the needs of all children.

As a school we make every effort to meet the individual needs of all children and achieve inclusion for all pupils. We work together as a whole school and community to create a sense of belonging and offer all opportunities, within our means, to best support children that experience difficulties. We are highly adaptable which means we do not treat all learners the same way but consider their varying needs and learning styles. The School's Objectives are to:

- Be an inclusive school and ensure that SEND is not sidelined. This process will involve the Governing Body, staff and parents in line with the Local Authority (LA) guidelines and the SEND Code of Practice (2015)
- create a consistent and coordinated whole school approach to Special Educational Needs (SEN),

- ensure all children can access the whole school curriculum and be included in all aspects of school life at levels appropriate to their needs
- to reach high levels of achievement for all and achieve his/her personal potential
- ensure that the most vulnerable children are supported by trained, competent staff who work within the expectations of this policy
- to achieve a level of staff expertise to meet pupil need
- provide planned strategies for the identification, monitoring, assessment and review of SEN
- to meet individual needs through a wide range of provision
- to involve parents and families and consider their views when planning for their children

#### **4. Definitions**

##### **Special Educational Needs**

Taken from the SEND Code of Practice (2015).

A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally

provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions

A child under compulsory school age has special educational needs if he or she is likely to fall within the definition above, when they reach compulsory school age or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them (Section 20 Children and Families Act 2014).

##### **Disability**

Pupils are considered to have a **disability** if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to do normal daily activities.

The school will make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage compared with their peers.

##### **The 4 areas of need**

The needs of pupils with SEND are grouped into 4 broad areas. Pupils can have needs that cut across more than 1 area, and their needs may change over time.

Interventions will be selected that are appropriate for the pupil's particular area(s) of need, at the relevant time.

AREA OF NEED	
Communication and interaction	<p>Pupils with needs in this area have difficulty communicating with others. They may have difficulty understanding what is being said to them, have trouble expressing themselves, or do not understand or use the social rules of communication.</p> <p>Pupils who are on the autism spectrum often have needs that fall in this category.</p>
Cognition and learning	<p>Pupils with learning difficulties usually learn at a slower pace than their peers. A wide range of needs are grouped in this area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific learning difficulties, which impact 1 or more specific aspects of learning, such as: dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia</li> <li>• Moderate learning difficulties</li> <li>• Severe learning difficulties</li> <li>• Profound and multiple learning difficulties, which is where pupils are likely to have severe and complex learning difficulties as well as a physical disability or sensory impairment</li> </ul>
Social, emotional and mental health	<p>These needs may reflect a wide range of underlying difficulties or disorders. Pupils may have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression or an eating disorder</li> <li>• Attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder</li> <li>• Suffered adverse childhood experiences</li> </ul> <p>These needs can manifest in many ways, for example as challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour, or by the pupil becoming withdrawn or isolated.</p>
Sensory and/or physical	<p>Pupils with these needs have a disability that hinders them from accessing the educational facilities generally provided.</p> <p>Pupils may have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sensory impairment such as vision impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory impairment</li> <li>• A physical impairment</li> </ul> <p>These pupils may need ongoing additional support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.</p>

### 5. Special Educational Needs at Horsted

Many children require additional support at some stage in their educational journey, this does not necessarily, mean they are identified as SEND. We implement Quality First Teaching (see appendix 1) across the curriculum to enable every child to achieve their full potential, whilst removing barriers to their learning. We believe that early identification is key. We strive to identify and provide effective early support to children who may be at risk of poor outcomes or reaching their full holistic potential. We recognise children learn at different rates and that there are many factors affecting achievement including ability, emotional state, age and maturity. We understand that many pupils, at some time in their educational journey, may experience difficulties affecting their learning, and we recognize that these may be long or short term.

Children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), can find it difficult to access the curriculum alongside their peers, many need extra support because of a range of needs. There are four broad categories of need defined by the SEND Code of Practice (2015)

“A pupil has SEN where their learning difficulty or disability calls for special educational provision, namely provision different from or additional to that normally available to pupils of the same age.” SEN Code of Practice (2015, p94 6.15)

The Code of Practice (2015) sets out four categories for SEN support

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

(See appendix 1)

## **6. Medical Conditions**

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on maintained schools and academies to plan to support pupils with medical conditions. Individual healthcare plans will normally specify the type and level of support required to meet the medical needs of such pupils. Where children and young people also have SEN, their provision should be planned and delivered in a coordinated way with the healthcare plan. Schools are required to have regard to statutory guidance ‘Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions’ (2014) Horsted recognises this duty to properly support pupils with medical conditions, adhere to any individual health care plans and ensure that such pupils have full access to educational experiences including physical education and off-site trips. Some children with medical conditions may be disabled and therefore we will comply with our duties under the Equality Act (2010).

## **7. Reasonable Adjustments**

Under the Equality Act 2010 Horsted will make ‘reasonable adjustments’ to minimise disadvantages to disabled pupils, staff and parents. Please see the schools Accessibility Plan at

<https://www.horstedschool.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=26>

This states the facilities provided to help our pupils with a disability access the school, admission arrangements and the steps school has taken to prevent pupils with a disability from being treated less favourably than other pupils.

## **8. Roles and responsibilities**

### **8.1 The SENCO**

The SENCO is Katy Baker.

- The SENCO has an important role to play with the headteacher and governing body, in determining the strategic development of SEN policy and provision in the school. They will be most effective in that role if they are part of the school leadership team.

- The SENCO has day-to-day responsibility for the operation of SEN policy and coordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEN, including those who have Educational Health Care (EHC) plans.
- The SENCO provides professional guidance to colleagues and will work closely with staff, parents and other agencies.
- The SENCO should be aware of the provision in the Local Offer and be able to work with professionals providing a support role to families to ensure that pupils with SEN receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching.
- Make sure that there is a qualified teacher designated as SENCO for the school and that the key responsibilities of the role are set out, and monitor the effectiveness of how these are carried out
- Determine their approach to using their resources to support the progress of pupils with SEND

The key responsibilities of the SENCO may include:

- overseeing the day-to-day operation of the school's SEN policy
- coordinating provision for children with SEN
- advising on the graduated approach to providing SEN support
- advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- liaising with parents of pupils with SEN
- liaising with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies
- being a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- liaising with potential next providers of education to ensure a pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- working with the headteacher and school governors to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- ensuring that the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEN up to date

## **8.2 The SEN governor and Governing Body**

The Governing Body has duties under Section 161(2a) of the Education Act to ensure that a child with SEN receives the help that his/her learning difficulty requires.

- The governing board is responsible for making sure the following duties are carried out, though the duties can be delegated to a committee or an individual:
- Co-operate with the LA in reviewing the provision that is available locally and developing the local offer
- Do all it can to make sure that every pupil with SEND gets the support they need
- Make sure that pupils with SEND engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who don't have SEND
- Inform parents when the school is making special educational provision for their child
- Make sure that the school has arrangements in place to support any pupils with medical conditions

- Provide access to a broad and balanced curriculum
  - Have a clear approach to identifying and responding to SEND
  - Provide an annual report for parents on their child's progress
  - Record accurately and keep up to date the provision made for pupils with SEND
- Publish information on the school website about how the school is implementing its SEND policy, in a SEN information report
  - Publish information about the arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps taken to prevent disabled children being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to assist access of disabled children, and the school's accessibility plans
  - Make sure that there is a qualified teacher designated as SENCO for the school and that the key responsibilities of the role are set out, and monitor the effectiveness of how these are carried out
  - Determine their approach to using their resources to support the progress of pupils with SEND

The SEND link governor is Cheryl Francis

The SEND governor will:

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

### **8.3 The Head Teacher**

The headteacher will:

- Responsibility for the day-to-day management of SEN provision
- The Headteacher will make budgetary, staffing and resource decisions
- Work with the SENCO and SEND link governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision within the school
- Work with the SENCO and school governors to make sure the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- Have overall responsibility for, and awareness of, the provision for pupils with SEND, and their progress
- Have responsibility for allocating the school's notional SEND budget and any additional funding allocated by the LA to support individual pupils
- Make sure that the SENCO has enough time to carry out their duties
- Have an overview of the needs of the current cohort of pupils on the SEND register
- Advise the LA when a pupil needs an EHC needs assessment, or when an EHC plan needs an early review
- With the SENCO, monitor to identify any staff who have specific training needs regarding SEN, and incorporate this into the school's plan for continuous professional development
- With the SENCO, regularly review and evaluate the breadth and impact of the SEND support the school offers or can access, and co-operate with the LA in reviewing the provision that is available locally and in developing the local offer
- With the SENCO and teaching staff, identify any patterns in the school's identification of SEN, both within the school and in comparison, with national data, and use these to reflect on and reinforce the quality of teaching



#### **8.4 Class teachers**

- Each class teacher is responsible for the progression and attainment for all pupils in their class, this includes those with SEN, and they should ensure lessons and learning experiences are accessible and appropriate for all as part of quality first teaching.
- The class teacher is responsible for the identification of needs and delivery of programmes of work for the SEN pupil in the classroom including adaptations of learning for pupils with SEN.
- Working with the SENCO the class teacher is responsible for monitoring and reviewing outcomes of these additional provisions and decide on any changes to provision. Recording these interventions and evaluating them via the appropriate procedures.
- Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions, and consider how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- The class teacher will liaise with parents and keep them informed at all stages of provision for special needs teacher/ parent meetings and where needed through written contact.
- 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.
- Ensuring they follow this SEN policy and information report

#### **8.5 Parents or Carers**

Parents or carers should inform the school, through the child's class teacher if they have any concerns about their child's progress or development.

Parents or carers of a pupil on the SEND register will always be encouraged to n the opportunity to provide information and express their views about the pupil's SEND and the support provided. They will be invited to participate in discussions and decisions about this support during parent's evenings. They will be:

- Asked to provide information about the impact of SEN support outside school and any changes in the pupil's needs
- Given the opportunity to share their concerns and, with school staff, agree their aspirations for the pupil
- Given an annual report on the pupil's progress

The school will take into account the views of the parent or carer in any decisions made about the pupil.

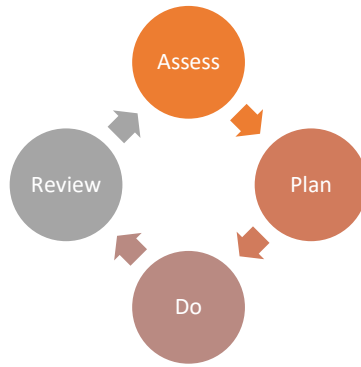
#### **8.6 Continued Professional Development**

The SENCo has gained up-to-date training from Canterbury Christ Church University and achieved The National Accreditation for Special Educational Needs Coordinator.

Regular training will be sought through outreach services, SNAPDRAGONS and MEDWAY Council to ensure policies and practice are following the most recent findings and research. For example, ADHD, ASD, Dyslexia/ Dyscalculia, metacognition training has been delivered, trauma informed practice.

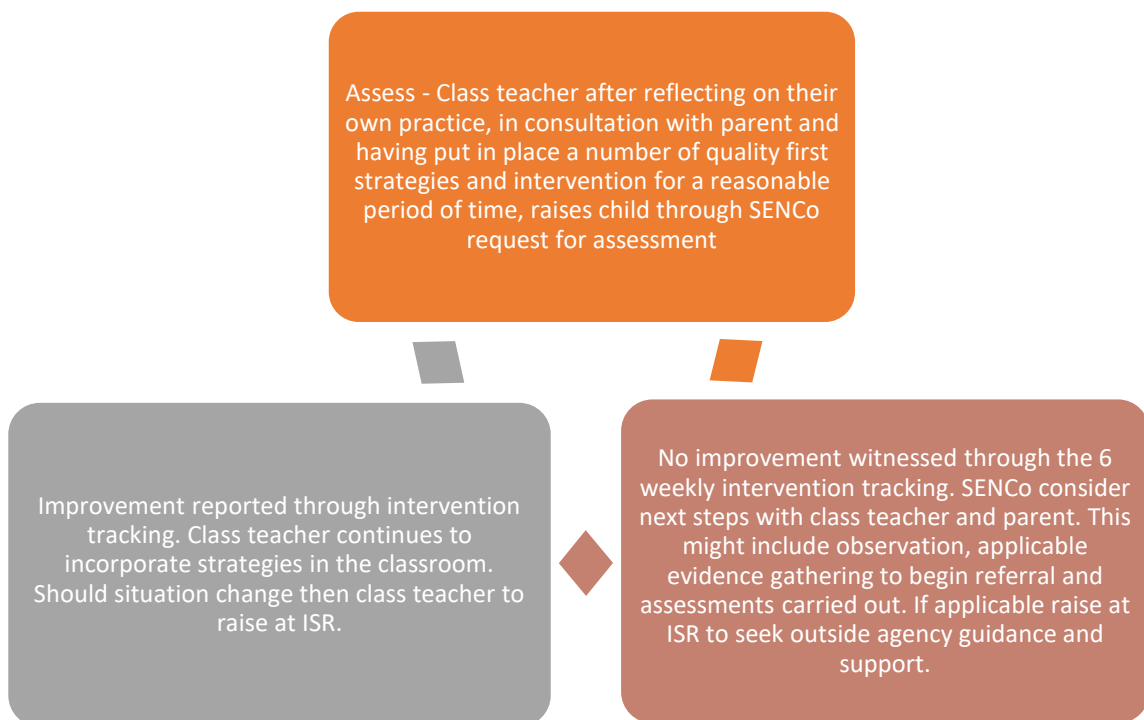
Training needs are identified by staff themselves or by the Headteacher in partnership with the SENCo, to meet the needs of children in school or those known to be coming into school.

### **9. Supporting children with SEND – A graduated approach**



Horsted has adopted the graduated approach in line with the SEN Code of Practice (2015). (see appendix 3)

Where a pupil is identified as having SEN, schools should act to remove barriers to learning and put effective special educational provision in place. This SEN support should take the form of a four-part cycle through which earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupil's needs and what supports the pupil in making good progress and securing good outcomes. This is known as the graduated approach. It draws on more detailed approaches, more frequent review and more specialist expertise in successive cycles in order to match interventions to the SEN of children and young people.



Examples of assessments that can be carried out where appropriate -

Assessment Based Tests

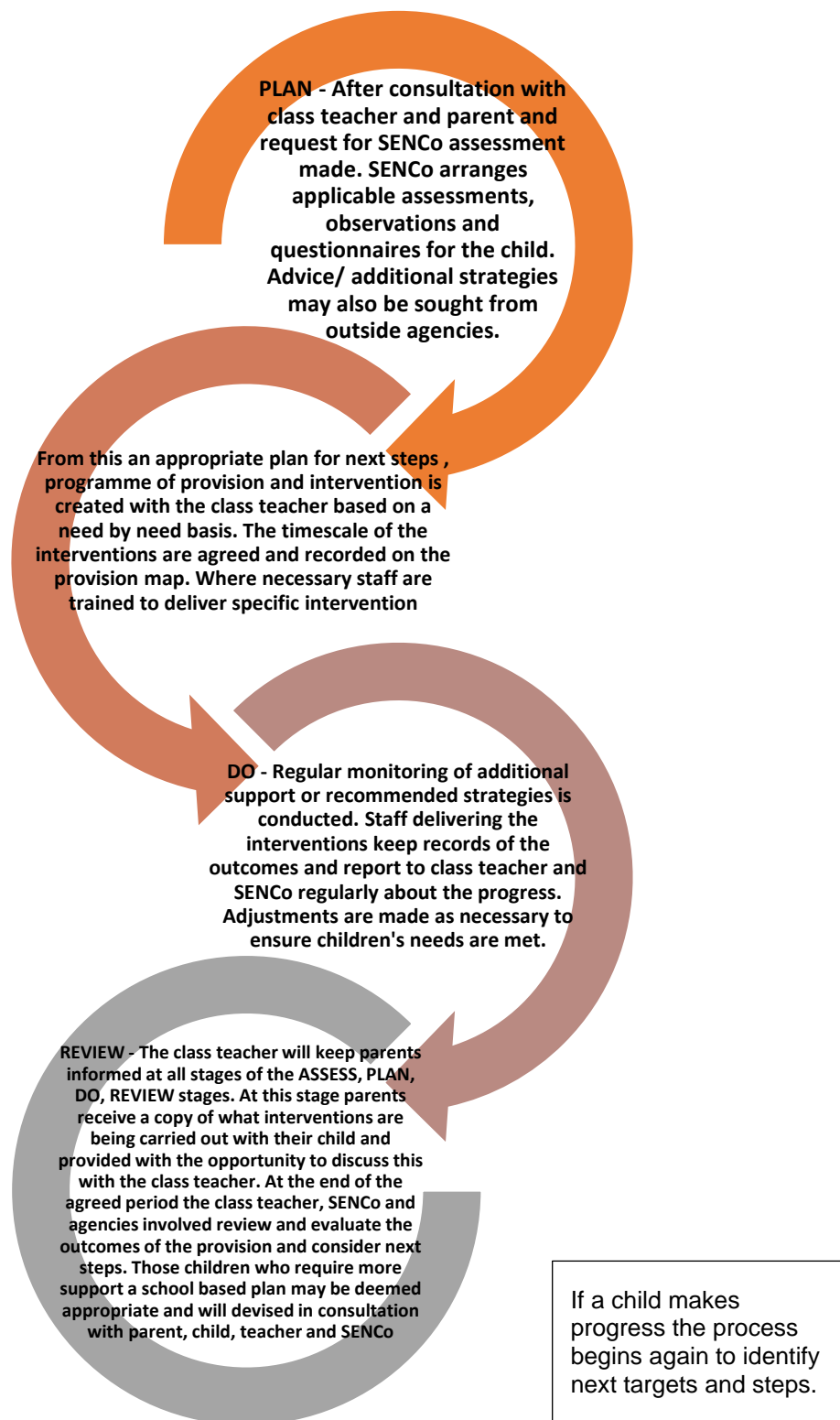
- National Curriculum Assessments
- English and Maths testing
- Speech and Language Link
- Phonics screening
- Read Write Inc (RWI) assessments
- Snapdragons questionnaires
- Medway Core Standards
- BPVS
- Salford reading and comprehension
- Helen Arkell Spelling Test
- Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and DCD Checklists

Assessment based on observation and discussions

- Teacher observations
- Parent observations
- SENCo observations
- Speech and language therapist observations/ assessments
- Specialist Teacher observations and child interviews
- Nursery report
- Previous teacher pen portraits/ handover
- Health records
- Outreach services
- Meet the teacher
- Child Development Questionnaires sent out in Year R

Whole school monitoring cycle

- Book looks
- Data tracking and analysis
- End of year scores
- Pupil progress meetings
- Performance management observations of class teachers
- Parent information evening
- In-school review
- Learning walks
- Drop-ins
- Intervention observations



## 9.1 Levels of support

### School-based SEN provision

Pupils receiving SEN provision will be placed on the school's SEND register. These pupils have needs that can be met by the school through the graduated approach. Where the pupil's needs cannot be adequately met with in-house expertise, staff will consider involving an external specialist as soon as possible.

The provision for these pupils is funded through the school's notional SEND budget.

On the census these pupils will be marked with the code K.

### **Education, health and care (EHC) plan**

Pupils who need more support than is available through the school's school-based SEN provision may be entitled to an EHC plan. The plan is a legal document that describes the needs of the pupil, the provision that will be put in place, and the outcomes sought.

The provision for these pupils will be funded from the school's notional SEND budget, and potentially from the LA (from the high-level needs funding block of the dedicated schools grant).

On the census these pupils will be marked with the code E.

### **10. Provisions at Horsted**

Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the pupils in their class.

High quality teaching is our first step in responding to pupils who have SEN. This will be adapted for individual pupils.

We can also provide interventions such as – (this list is not extensive and not all interventions are suitable for all children)

#### **QUALITY FIRST TEACHING STRATEGIES (examples)**

Fiddle Toys  
Wobble/ Vibrating Cushion  
Ear defenders  
Breakdown learning into individual steps  
30 second processing rule  
Visual prompts/ resources  
Concrete apparatus  
Word banks  
Coloured Overlays  
Extra time  
Presenting work in a variety of ways  
Talking tins  
Note taking  
Praise and Reward  
Process maps  
Pencil grips  
Sloped boards  
Access to laptops  
Checklists  
Timers

<b>PROVISION AND INTERVENTION</b>	
Medway hopscotch personalised interventions	
Forti Trust Outreach Service	
<b>English and Maths</b>	<b>Communication and Interaction</b>
Plus 1 Power of 2 The Hornet Word Wasp SNIP Daily/ Frequent reader Personalised spelling strategy RWI fast track tutoring Fresh Start fast track tutoring Adapted reading books	Speech and Language Link Speech and Language Therapy Language for Thinking NELI programme Advisory Teacher – HI and VI
<b>Cognition and Learning</b>	<b>Emotional, Behavioural and Social</b>
Daily Lesson Support small group or 1:1 Beat Dyslexia Toe-by-toe Sound Linkage Pre-teaching Memory Games – Memory Magic Precision Teaching Misconception Sessions	Quiet Area Rocket Club Lunchtime support Anger Management Lego Therapy Emotional Regulation Social/ Confidence Group ELSA Play Therapy Time to talk Socially Speaking Social Stories Fortis Outreach sessions Starving the anxiety gremlin Starving the anger gremlin
<b>Sensory and Physical</b>	
OT BEAM/ Fizzy Sensory Circuits Fine motor skills – clever fingers, dough disco Handwriting Visual Perception Activities Write Dance Heavy Work Movement Breaks Write from the Start	

### 11. Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

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

- Adapting 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.
- Scaffolding our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

## **12. Additional support for learning**

Many of the staff at Horsted have established a wealth of experience in dealing with a variety of Special Needs. We have a number of teaching assistants who are trained to deliver interventions such as Lego therapy, BEAM, sensory circuits to name a few. Teaching staff will have the opportunity to attend training courses relevant to Special Needs and to further their own professional development.

Teaching assistants will support pupils on a 1:1 basis or small group as and when required.

We work with the following agencies to provide additional support for pupils with SEN:

- Occupational Therapist
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Advisory Teacher
- Educational Psychologist
- School Nurse
- Specialist Teacher for specific learning difficulties

## **13. Funding**

The notional SEN budget is not ring fenced and therefore it is for schools to manage the whole of its budget to include provision for SEN. At Horsted we strive to always use this process to provide the highest quality of SEN support possible, provision, equipment and facilities possible.

The Governors and Head Teacher will determine the appropriate allocation of resources including staffing following receipt about budget allocations from Medway Council. The school allocates the SEN funding based on the whole school needs of children with SEN.

Additional funding for more expensive special educational provision is available from Medway Council. This is provided where the cost of special educational provision required to meet the needs of an individual pupil exceeds the nationally prescribed threshold. (Code of Practice, 2015, p.110) The school provides evidence of how the allocated budget and additional money is used to support the pupil.

## **14. Consulting and involving parents and children**

This school has a commitment to working in partnership with parents. The class teacher will have an initial early discussion with their parents and pupil, where applicable, when identifying whether a child requires additional support or there is a need for special educational provision. These conversations may take place after school or at parents' evenings and will make sure that:

1. Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil including likes, dislikes, areas of strength and difficulty.

2. We consider the parents' concerns
3. Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child
4. Everyone is clear on what the next steps are. The parent is informed of any additional support the child may receive, outside agency involvement going forwards or SENCo support.

If additional support is required parents will be sent home a letter informing them of the provision in place for their child in terms 1, 3 and 5. Parents are also asked to consent to outside agency involvement. Other instances where formal consent will be asked by parents is if class teachers have concerns and would like to discuss a child to seek advice from other agencies in the in-school review (ISR) This will also give parents a chance to comment on their concerns over a child's progress, performance, behavior, health and general development if they should wish.

At any point a parent is actively encouraged to seek advice at first instance the class teacher, then the SENCo or head teacher at any time. Parent's views are sought and acknowledged as part of the identification, assessment, provision and review cycle of SEN support. The SENCo and class teacher will be available at regular parents' evenings for drop-in appointments or formal conversations. If there is a concern before these meetings parents are advised to contact the school office to book an appointment.

We will formally notify parents when it is decided that a pupil will receive SEN support, outside agency advice is sought or they are receiving outside agency involvement or they are being placed on the school's SEN register. This may be from the agency directly or through the school, this may be in person or through writing.

See appendix 4 "Working in partnership with parents"

### **15. Monitoring and evaluation**

Pupil's progress is monitored using teacher assessment and small step tracking three times a year. If a child is receiving additional support the progress of these are monitored on the intervention record sheets at the start and end of the 6-week block and their impact reviewed to see if the additional support should continue or be changed.

Provision maps are used to record additional interventions and data is collected at the start and end using the intervention record sheets and teacher assessment tracking. The SENCo will then monitor and track their effectiveness for individual children and evaluate whether the additional support is meeting the needs of the child.

Quality of teaching is monitored through lesson observations, learning walks and book scrutiny. Feedback is given via parents evening forms and yearly reports.

Parent voice is encouraged when intervention information is sent home, at parents evening and when additional support and advice is gained e.g. in school review, OT questionnaires.

Children with EHCPs will have a scheduled annual review meeting to look through a child's targets and amend as necessary based on their achievement's.



## **16. Transition**

Transition support is highly valued by all of Horsted staff. We are keen to ensure that as a school we offer the best transition for our pupils. Whether this is at the start of their learning journey in Reception, within year group admissions, moving from infants to juniors or moving on to secondary school.

These are just examples of things that we are able to offer and we will adapt to each individual child.

- nursery visits
- nursery observations
- home visits
- school tours
- meet the teacher sessions
- staggered starts
- social stories
- transition books to include pictures of adults and classrooms
- meetings with previous schools
- handover information delivered to new schools
- extensive notes on not only a child's academic history but also their social, emotional and mental health
- tours of new environments
- use of new environments with familiar adult
- new teachers join their current year group

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

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. Where is necessary the school will use resources available to it, to provide additional adult support to enable the safe participation of the pupil in the activity.

Pupils with SEN are encouraged to be part of every aspect of Horsted school life.

## **18. Support for improving emotional and social development**

At Horsted we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all pupils to develop emotional resilience and social skills, both through direct teaching (for instance through PSHE), Social Use of Language Programme (SULP), Emotional Regulation, 'Circle Time', 'Talk Time' and indirectly in every conversation an adult has with pupils throughout the day.

For some pupils with the most need for help in this area we also can provide ELSA support, external referral to Emotional Well-being Team or NEFLT and 'Rocket Club' for pupils who cannot cope on the playground at lunch time.

Pupils in the early stages of emotional and social development because of their special educational needs, will be supported to enable them to develop resilience, beyond that required by pupils who do not need this support.

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 any lunchtime and afterschool clubs

We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

### **19. Anti-bullying**

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing an ethos in school in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable. We aim to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety, and measures are in place to reduce the likelihood of bullying. Curriculum time is dedicated to children understanding what good friendships look like and think about the consequences of negative behaviours towards others. For more information on the measures we have in place please see the school's anti-bullying policy at

<https://www.horstedschool.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=26>

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur. We aim to make all those connected with our school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in school.

### **20. Complaints about SEN provision**

Should a parent or carer have a concern about special provision made for their child they should, in the first instance, discuss this with their class teacher. If it continues this should be referred to the Head Teacher, who will try to resolve the matter and can advise on formal procedures for complaint.

The Complaints procedure for SEN issues follows the same guidelines as complaints for other issues.

If you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 246 and 247 of the [SEND Code of Practice](#).

If you feel that our school has discriminated against your child because of their SEN, you have the right to make a discrimination claim to the first-tier SEND tribunal. To find out how to make such a claim, you should visit: <https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-school/disability-discrimination>

You can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

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

Before going to a SEND tribunal, you can go through processes called disagreement resolution or mediation, where you try to resolve your disagreement before it reaches the tribunal.

### **21. Dissemination**

Critical information is disseminated through the most appropriate of the following means:

- Staff meetings
- Pupil progress meetings
- Direct email of reports from agencies to teachers and teaching assistants

- SEN Information Document and SEN register kept in each class
- In School reviews (ISRs) held three times a year
- Transition meetings
- Shared drive for SEN

In accordance to GDPR all information on children is stored in lockable facilities or used on our secure shared area.

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

- Parenting courses (organized through the SENCo)
- School Nursing – 0300 123 3444
- Kent Autistic Trust – 01634 405168
- Young Medway Parents & Carers Forum
- Medway Small Steps <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/medway-small-steps-service/>
- SENDIAS <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/medway-sendias/>
- Family Action <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/>
- ROCC Stars – Rivermead Outreach Community Challenge <http://www.rivermead.org.uk/rocc/298.html>
- NEFLT <https://www.nelft.nhs.uk/services-kent-medway/>
- A Guide to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities for parents and carers, summing up the new Code of Practice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>
- "My Autism and Me video" <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/15655232>
- Talking to your child about autism <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/pablo-talking-to-your-child-about-autism>
- Hints and tips for children with ADHD <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-adhd/>
- Ten things parents should know about Dyslexia. <https://www.nessy.com/uk/parents/dyslexia-information/10-facts-every-parent-needs-know/>

The school also has access too and knowledge of a range of books and information should you require further guidance and support. Please speak to a member of staff at the office or through [office@horstedschool.co.uk](mailto:office@horstedschool.co.uk) who will put you in contact with the SENCo or FLO.

## **23. The local authority local offer**

The Local Offer will:

- give you information about Education, Health and Care services
- give you information about leisure activities and support groups
- hold all the information in one place
- be clear, detailed, accurate and accessible
- make it easier to find out what you need to know
- help you to find the nearest and most suitable services

- make service provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations

[https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200307/local\\_offer/831/about\\_medways\\_local\\_offer](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200307/local_offer/831/about_medways_local_offer)

Horsted School are part of Medway's local offer under the mainstream school provision.

#### **24. Inclusion and Equality**

Our school is an inclusive school. We aim to make all pupils feel included in all our activities. We try to make our teaching fully inclusive. We recognise the entitlement of all pupils to a balanced, broadly-based curriculum. We have systems in place for early identification of barriers to their learning and participation.

At Horsted we seek to actively encourage equity and equality through our work. No gender, race, ethnicity or disability will be discriminated against.

#### **25. Looked After Children (LAC)**

Please see the school's Looked After Children Policy regarding the support in place for all LAC children regardless of their additional needs or SEN.

#### **26. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy and information report will be reviewed by Katy Baker – **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 head teacher and governing board.

#### **27. Local Authority**

As a school we make data on the levels and types of need within the school available to the local authority. This data will be required to inform local strategic planning of SEN support, and to enable the local authority to identify pupils who have or may have SEN. Such data, collected through the School Census, is also required to produce the national SEN information report.

#### **28. Accessibility arrangements**

##### **28.1 Accessibility arrangements**

Please see our school's accessibility plan [Horsted School - Policies](#)

## **Appendix 1**

Specific learning difficulties (SpLD); - Moderate learning difficulty (MLD); - Severe learning difficulty (SLD); - Profound and multiple learning difficulty (PMLD); - Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN); - Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH); - Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD); - Visual impairment (VI); - Hearing impairment (HI); - Multisensory impairment (MSI); - Physical disability (PD); - 'SEN support' but no specialist assessment of type of need (NSA).

### **1. Communication and interaction**

Where children and young people have speech, language and communication difficulties which make it difficult for them to make sense of language or to understand how to communicate effectively and appropriately with others.

Children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder, including Asperger's Syndrome, are likely to have particular difficulties with social interaction.

### **2. Cognition and learning**

Where children and young people learn at a slower pace than others their age, they may:

- have difficulty in understanding parts of the curriculum
- have difficulties with organisation and memory skills

- have a specific difficulty affecting one particular part of their learning such as in literacy or numeracy
- The term 'learning difficulties' covers a wide range of needs, including moderate learning difficulties (MLD), severe learning difficulties (SLD) and profound and multiple difficulties (PMLD). Specific learning difficulties (SpLD) such as dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia come under this term.

### 3. Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

Children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which present themselves in many ways. They may:

- have difficulty in managing their relationships with other people
- be withdrawn
- behave in ways that may hinder their and other children's learning or that have an impact on their health and wellbeing

This broad area includes attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or attachment disorder. It also includes behaviours that may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression, self-harming and eating disorders.

### 4. Sensory and/or physical needs

Where children and young people have visual and/or hearing impairments, or a physical need that means they must have additional on-going support and equipment.

## Appendix 2

Area of need	Step 1: Quality First Teaching	Step 2: Interventions (Trial for 6weeks)	Step 3: Parental discussion  Possible referral	Step 4: SEND Diagnostic (New interventions may be advised from this before moving onto step 5)	Step 5: SEN Register
Communication with parents	<p><b>Before moving onto step 2.</b></p> <p><b>Face-to-face or over the phone: Make parents aware of initial concerns by speaking to them informally through the class teacher.</b></p> <p>"I just wanted to let you know that we have noticed (NAME) is struggling a little bit with XXX therefore we have put in</p>	<p><b>Class teacher during parents' evenings - Face-to-face or over the phone: Make parents aware that concerns are still there by speaking to them informally. Class teacher also informs parents through letter of the interventions their child is receiving.</b></p>	<p><b>Class teacher face-to-face or over the phone: Make parents aware that concerns are increasing and that you are going to seek advice from the SENCO for other support and strategies that could be implemented.</b></p> <p><b>(SEE SENCO FOR ADVICE ON HOW TO DISCUSS THIS IF UNSURE.)</b></p>	<p><b>Face-to-face, over the phone with class teacher:</b></p> <p><b>Keep parents informally updated on the progress their child is making.</b></p> <p>LOG RECORD OF CONVERSATION</p>	<p><b>Face-to-face or over the phone:</b></p> <p><b>Class Teacher to request a meeting with parents and SENCO to discuss the next steps for their child.</b></p> <p>LOG RECORD OF CONVERSATION AND MEETING</p>

	place XXX to support them”. LOG RECORD OF CONVERSATION	“(NAME) is finding XXX difficult and therefore they are getting some additional support via XXX group...”  LOG RECORD OF CONVERSATION	LOG RECORD OF CONVERSATION		
		<b>Send home intervention letter and provision map every two terms.</b>			
<u>Cognition and Learning</u> Global Delay (GD) Dyslexia Dyspraxia Dyscalculia Auditory processing disorder (APD)	Differentiated planning, activities, delivery and outcomes  Visual prompts/ modelling  Word Banks  Sentence starters  Task Boards  Writing frames  Mind maps  Longer processing time (10 second rule)  Multi-sensory approach	Precision Teaching  Handwriting  Write from the start  Write Dance  Pre-teaching  Read Write Inc (RWI)  Toe-by toe Plus 1 Power of 2 The Hornet Word Wasp SNIP Daily/ Frequent reader Personalised spelling strategy Daily Lesson Support small group or 1:1 Sound Linkage  Memory Games	Meeting/ phone consultation with parents to discuss school and parental concerns with parent and Class teacher (SENCo is available to sit in on this meeting if required)  Discussion documented on parent contact form.  Parents would have been aware of interventions already in place through intervention letter and provision map every two terms.	Salford Reading and Comprehension test  Numeracy Assessment – WRM  Phonics Screening  BPVS  Sound Linkage assessment  Referral to EP	Consider school-based plan, referral to external agencies and targets delivered.  School based plan - Targets to be written with the class teacher and shared with parents and child.  To be reviewed 3 x yearly.
<u>Communication and Interaction</u> ASD	Visual timetables  Simplified/ modified language	Speech and Language Link  Communication in print  My Plan targets from Speech	Complete SENCo referral	Speech and Language Link  Referral to SALT	

Speech and Language need	Children to repeat back Breakdown instructions Increased visual aids/ modelling etc. Communication in print Structured class routines	and Language therapist Language for thinking	form and pass onto SENCo.		
<u>Emotional, Behavioural and Social</u> ADHD OCD	Star of the week Star pegs Whole school/ class rules Class reward system Circle time Emotional Check in	Quiet Area Fiddle Toys Wobble Cushion Rocket Club Ear Defenders Anger Management Lego Therapy Emotional Regulation Social/ Confidence Group Social stories Understanding emotions		Referral to school nurse Referral to EP	
<u>Sensory and Physical</u> Visual Impairment Hearing Impairment Physical disability	Sensory circuits Writing slopes Pencil Grips Slop boards Move and Sit Cushion Fiddle toys	BEAM/ FIZZY Clever fingers Sensory circuits Heavy work Movement breaks OT Student Passport targets Advisory Teacher – HI and VI		Referral to OT or Advisory Teacher	



### Appendix 3

#### **The Graduated Approach**

All staff are obliged to follow and implement the Code of Practice 2015, relating to students with SEND or additional needs. The code is based around an approach of making reasonable adjustments for all students within the classroom and monitoring these changes in the following cycle.

1. **Quality First Teaching** – using our knowledge of the students and their needs we prepare and deliver quality lessons using a variety of methods and provisions.
2. **Concerns** - Review the QFT guidance for strategies and make reasonable adjustments where necessary. Also, ideas to develop the quality first teaching strategies into interventions can be taken from Medway Core Standards and what school has to offer doc. Monitor and record these strategies and their impact using the provision map and intervention records. This is the first cycle of the graduated approach.
  - **Monitor** – evaluation of provision, concerns and strategies are shared with teaching staff by the SENCo and the student is then monitored using the new provision or referred to ISR or for further assessments. This is the second cycle of the graduated approach. (At this stage the student may be placed on the SEN Register if their provision and interventions go above and beyond normal practice)
3. **SEN Register** – using the data gathered the SENCo will determine whether the student is to be placed on the SEN register, what further assessments/ referrals are needed or whether the student can be catered for with QFT and therefore is not placed on the SEN register

**WAVE 1** – we cater for **all** students through quality first teaching.

**WAVE 2** – teachers make **reasonable** adjustment for students and monitor these for impact.

**WAVE 3** – the adjustments become increasingly personalised and cater for individual needs. The cycle will be completed multiple times as the students' needs change.

#### SEND Graduated Support Provision

Stage of support	School Support	Specialist Support	School Based Plan	Educational, Health and Care Plan
Nature of support	QFT/ additional support using	This may be advisory or direct	Additional support to access	This plan considers a

	school's resources	input with the child. It may or may not require some level of funding from the school	the curriculum due to significant and sustained educational needs. The school may apply for funding enabling the school to more effectively support the child	number of needs which include a combination of EHC issues. Additional funding may be available to meet the child's needs.
Criteria for placement	Working below age expectation, making below expected progress	Some children will go straight to this stage if they have a specific need requiring specialist advice e.g. SALT, outreach. Other children will progress to this stage if they are making insufficient progress at the previous stage.	Insufficient progress is being made and standards are significantly below expectation.	Where a child has a significant, severe and sustained need, it may be necessary to enter a multi-disciplinary assessment process in order to consider the need for an EHCP
Moving on	Child will remain at this stage if making progress but still below standard	Child will remain at this stage whilst there is a need for external support	Child will remain at this stage whilst significant modifications/ support is essential to access the curriculum. Annual review.	Child will remain at this stage whilst need remains subject to annual review.
Criteria for exiting	Child is making expected progress and attaining at the expected, or just below the expected standard for their age	When the child no longer needs specialist support they may be removed from the SEN register and placed on the monitoring register if progress is good or better than expected	If progress is such that significant modifications and support are no longer required to enable access to the curriculum	At the end of each key stage, the child will be reviewed and a decision made whether a plan for the next phase of education is required

## Appendix 4

### Working in Partnership with Parents

- Parents are informed of outcomes in reading, writing and Maths 2x yearly through parents evening reports.
- All parents are invited 2 x a year to discuss their child with the class teacher and SENCo on request.
- All parents receive an End of Year Report with an offer of a meeting with the class teacher. This includes data information including phonics screening, end of KS1 results.
- 

BAND	Information Sharing with Parents
A	<p>Children who have not be previously raised as a concern but are now requiring additional provision that is beyond normal classroom differentiation and quality first teaching and added to the provision map</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This does not require formal discussion or written information for parents</li> <li>• These children are not on the SEN register</li> <li>• If after a period of assessment over two terms of consistent additional provision which could be in class at QFT or out of class in small group or 1:1 and where the child has not progressed or met targets the Class Teacher is to have a discussion with parents informing them that their child requires ongoing support and input from the SENCo.</li> <li>• At this point parent discussions are recorded and passed to the SENCo.</li> </ul>
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class teacher to have a discussion with parents informing them that their child requires ongoing support/ an assessment by SENCo or SALT/ OT or asking permission to refer to external agency.</li> <li>• SENCo referral document completed detailing discussion with parents and parent permission obtained and passed to SENCo.</li> <li>• A letter will be sent home to inform parents their child is on the SEND register and will be receiving additional support.</li> <li>• Provision will be recorded on the provision map and sent home 3x yearly with an opportunity for parents to discuss this further with the class teacher and/or SENCo.</li> </ul>
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The children receiving either direct or programme package from SALT/ OT/ specialist teacher/ EP parents will be offered meetings upon receipt of new plans.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision will be recorded on the provision map and sent home 3x yearly with an opportunity for parents to discuss this further with the class teacher and/or SENCo.</li> </ul>
D	<p>These children may have a school-based plan drawn up with the parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents are offered the opportunity to meet or offer their views with class teachers, any outside agencies involved (where possible) and the SENCo 3 x yearly.</li> <li>• In addition, class teachers and the SENCo will ensure formal updates and meetings are held in line with parental requests.</li> </ul>
E	<p>Likely to have an EHCP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents are offered the opportunity to meet or offer their views with class teachers, any outside agencies involved (where possible) and the SENCo 3 x yearly.</li> <li>• The final meeting will be an annual review in line with the code of practice</li> </ul>