



## **Meeting the Needs of Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

### **What support to expect for your child?**

The Pegasus Academy Trust (PAT) is committed to supporting all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), in common with other Croydon schools. We are committed to providing an appropriate and high quality education for all our children. We believe that all children, including those identified as having SEND, have a common entitlement to be offered a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum, which is accessible to them, and to be fully included in all aspects of school life.

### **Children and Families Act 2014**

The Children and Families Act builds on the Government's commitment to work to improve services for vulnerable children and to support strong families. It aims to ensure that all children and young people can succeed, no matter what their background. The Act supports changes in the systems for adoption, children looked after, family justice and SEND.

The system for children and young people with SEND continues to provide services that support the best outcome for all. The Act extends the SEND system from birth through to 25, giving children, young people and their parents/carers greater control and choice in decisions and ensuring their needs are properly met.

The 3 main reforms are

- Replacing statements and learning difficulty assessments with a new birth-to-25 Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This will support children into further education and training and offer families personal budgets so that they have more control over the support they need;
- Improving cooperation between all the services that support children and their families particularly requiring local authorities and health authorities to work together;
- Requiring local authorities to involve children, young people and parents in reviewing and developing provision for those with SEND and to publish a 'Local Offer' of support.

### **The Local Offer**

Each local authority (LA) is required to inform children, young people and parents/carers about the provision available for children and young people with SEND. This will include a variety of services provided by the LA and how to access them.

Every school in the LA is also required to provide information about what support is available for children in their care. To clarify this, the Government, aided by parents/carers, have sought to answer the most frequently asked questions.

More information about Croydon's Local Offer can be found by following this [link](https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs):  
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs>.

<b>Information and Guidance:</b>	
<b>How do staff in The Pegasus Academy Trust know if children need extra help?</b>	
<b>Parents/carers</b>	Speak to the teacher about any concerns they may have and share information; Inform the school that their child has specific medical or physical needs that require support.
<b>Teachers</b>	Highlight a child as not making good progress; Identify a significant change in a child's behaviour and/or learning.
<b>Who should I contact to discuss the concerns or needs of my child?</b>	
<b>Class teacher</b>	He/she is responsible for:  Adapting and refining the curriculum to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils; Checking on the progress of your child and identifying, planning and delivering any additional support required to aid progress; Contributing to devising SEND support plans, in the form of a Pupil Passport (PP) to prioritise and focus on the next steps required for your child to improve learning; Applying the school's SEND policy.  If you have concerns about your child you should speak to your child's class teacher first. You may then be directed towards the Inclusion Manager.
<b>Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) or the Inclusion Manager</b>	They are responsible for:  Coordinating provision for children with SEND and developing the school's SEND policy; Ensuring that parents are:
<b>Whitehorse Schools</b> – Kate Wigston, Stephanie Larkman and John Bonnici <b>Ecclesbourne Primary</b> – Karen Hammond <b>Beulah Infants</b> – Kate Wigston  <i>(Contact details can be found on the <a href="#">Pegasus Academy Trust website</a>)</i>	a) Involved in supporting their child's learning and their access to services; b) Kept informed about the range and level of support offered to their child; c) Included in assessing, planning and reviewing how a child is doing d) Consulted about planning successful movement (transition) to a new class or school.  Liaising with a range of agencies outside school who can offer advice and support to help pupils work towards overcoming any difficulties; Providing specialist advice and facilitating training to ensure that all staff are skilled and confident about meeting a range of needs.
<b>The Head of School</b>	They are responsible for:  The day to day management of all aspects of the school, including the provision made for pupils with SEND.
<b>SEND Member of the Academy Council</b>	They are responsible for:  Supporting the school to evaluate and improve the quality and impact of provision for pupils with SEND across the school.

## **Assessment, Planning and Review:**

### **How can I find out about how well my child is doing?**

Ongoing monitoring is carried out by class teachers / Year Group Leaders / Inclusion Managers / Heads of Schools to identify pupils who are not making adequate progress.

Following further assessments, and after discussions with key staff and parents, additional support may be put into place to help work towards overcoming any difficulties.

This additional support is documented by the school. In consultation with the class teacher, Inclusion Manager and parents, short term targets, based on the desired outcomes for the child, are agreed which prioritise key areas of learning. Where external agencies are involved, their advice and recommendations are included in this planning. Actions agreed take into account each pupil's strengths as well as their difficulties.

In some cases, and for pupils who already have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), teaching assistant support may be allocated. The level of support will reflect the complexity and severity of needs. There will be an expectation that pupils should develop independent learning skills, as far as possible, and not become reliant on adult supervision.

Review meetings are held at least termly via parents' evenings, pupil passport review meetings or other arranged meetings between the Inclusion Manager, teacher and parent(s). Parents, pupils and, sometimes, relevant external agencies are invited to these reviews. When a pupil has an EHCP a formal annual review is also undertaken to which relevant external agencies are also invited. The pupil's views are always presented whenever possible. Reviews consider the impact of any support and intervention, along with the progress towards targets set. Support arrangements and targets are updated and revised accordingly. If not involved already, this might include referral to external agencies. The outcomes of these meetings are formally recorded. For pupils who are known to an external agency this is done via a Pupil Passport which aims to provide a complete picture of that pupil, including their strengths, the support they receive (both from internal and external sources) and targets which reflect the advice offered by the professional.

When the advice of an external agency is sought, the parents are included in the initial assessment process which normally involves a meeting between a parent and the professional. After the child has been assessed, feedback is usually provided in the form of a written report and /or a follow up meeting. The child's views are always considered either through a direct observation or a discussion, dependant on age and ability. When a child requires ongoing support from an external agency their name is placed on the school's SEND Register; it is removed when the external support is no longer required.

If your child needs require further support to secure the best possible outcomes for them across education, health and social care, an Education Health and Care (EHC) Needs Assessment will be requested from the LA. Your Inclusion Manager will explain this process and further details can be found in Croydon's Local Offer (published on their [website](#)). A link to [Croydon's Local Offer](#) can also be found on the home page of the [Trust's website](#).

### **Tests and examinations: Access arrangement**

For some pupils additional arrangements and adjustments can be made to enable them to fully access a range of tests, including national tests such as the Key Stage 1 and 2 SATs. This might include additional time, rest breaks or use of a scribe. Your Inclusion Manager will inform you about eligibility and applications for these arrangements where necessary.

<b>Curriculum and Teaching Methods (including groupings and interventions):</b>	
<b>How will teaching be adapted to meet the needs of my child?</b>	
In addition to planned differentiation in the classroom, interventions can be used to help overcome a range of difficulties. Examples include, but are not limited to:	
<b>Intervention</b>	<b>What Is It?</b>
<b>Language: Partners in Talk / Chatterbox / Oracy Project</b>	Speech and language therapy which is delivered to small groups of children on a weekly basis. This therapy is overseen by the School Speech and Language Therapist and informed by the children's care plans
<b>Reading Project</b>	Daily one-to-one reading / questioning
<b>High Frequency Word (HFW) Spelling Project</b>	Daily one-to-one HFW reading /spelling
<b>Writing Intervention</b>	Teacher intervention delivered in small groups to support and extend children's writing
<b>Fischer Family Trust (FFT)</b>	Key Stage 1 one-to-one reading and writing intervention
<b>Number Project / Number Box</b>	Daily one-to-one focused target work to support basic numeracy skills
<b>Numeracy Intervention</b>	Teacher intervention, delivered in small groups, to support and extend children's numeracy skills /understanding
<b>Learning Mentor</b>	Trained adult supporting individuals /groups socially, emotionally and behaviourally (including bullying) and running lunch time support groups
<b>Family Support Worker</b>	Trained adult supporting families and signposting for external agency support
<b>Access:</b>	
<b>What arrangements are made to enable my child to benefit from, and take advantage of, the full school curriculum and extra curriculum activities?</b>	
We have an accessibility plan in place to ensure that pupils with SEN and Disability can take part in all aspects of school life and that school buildings and outdoor spaces are appropriately adapted. Access arrangements currently include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wheel chair access;</li> <li>○ Disabled toilet facilities.</li> </ul> Depending on the needs of the child, an individualised access and/or medical care plan will be put into place in line with the medical needs policy which can also be found on the website.	

<b>Staffing Expertise:</b>
<b>How skilled are staff in meeting the needs of my child?</b>
An ongoing programme of training is in place to ensure that all teaching staff have appropriate skills and knowledge to support provision for children with SEND.
Recent training has covered understanding and meeting the needs of children diagnosed with Autism and ADHD, differentiating the curriculum, phonics teaching and behaviour management. In addition, specialist teaching assistants have been trained by the Speech and Language Therapist and individual, one-to-one, teaching assistants receive training relevant to the needs of the pupils they support.
Our Inclusion Managers actively engage in a range of opportunities to share best practice and keep abreast of current local and national initiatives and policies to support pupils with SEND. The Trust also seeks advice and guidance from local special schools to review, evaluate and develop provision for pupils who have the most complex needs.

<b><u>External Partnerships:</u></b>	
<b>What support from outside does the school use to help my child?</b>	
The school works with a number of external agencies to seek advice and support to ensure that the needs of all children are fully understood and met. These include, but are not limited to:	
<b>Educational Psychology Service</b> Our attached Educational Psychologists (EP) are: Hannah Fleming – Ecclesbourne and Whitehorse Alison Whyman – Beulah Infants	The Educational Psychology Service: Assess children; Give advice when there is a problem; Talk to parents, teachers and children; Support the school to plan for the future to meet a pupil's needs.
<b>Speech and Language Therapy Service (SALT)</b> Our attached Speech Therapists are: Ruth Wheeler – Beulah Infants, Ecclesbourne, Whitehorse Jane Nichols – Beulah Infants Nursery, Ecclesbourne Nursery, Whitehorse Nursery	The Speech and Language Therapist: Assesses children; Gives advice when there is a problem; Talks to parents, teachers and children; Supports the school to plan for the future to meet a pupil's needs; Trains staff to deliver therapy; Oversees Partners in Talking / Oracy.
<b>Behavioural Support Service</b> Primary Behaviour Support Team	The Primary Behaviour Support Team: Assess children's needs; Identify strategies to support behaviour; Work alongside the teacher to implement and evaluate strategies/support; Support the school to plan for the future to meet a pupil's needs.
<b>Communication Support Service</b> Visual Impairment & Hearing Impairment Services	The Communication Support Service: Assess function of hearing/vision; Inform staff about the nature and degree of pupil's impairment and the problems that may arise; Discuss the management of the pupil in the classroom and around the school; Advise on how to adapt materials and equipment to enable the pupil to access the curriculum; Advise on special skills training (e.g. mobility and signing) and equipment.
<b>Occupational Therapy Service</b>	The Occupational Therapy Service: Provide advice and intervention for children with who experience difficulties with everyday tasks at home, school and at play including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• specialist equipment</li> <li>• home adaptations</li> <li>• development of play and personal care skills</li> <li>• splinting for chronic conditions</li> <li>• coordination and fine motor skills development</li> <li>• sensory processing and integration</li> </ul>
<b>Croydon SEND Team</b>	The Croydon SEND Team: Liaise with the school and panel to assess requests for EHCPs Monitor annual reviews; Support parents with school placements / transitions.
<b>Croydon Literacy Centre</b>	The Croydon Literacy Centre: Delivers specialist teaching provision to support children with severe literacy difficulties.

<b>CAMHS</b> (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)	Croydon Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service: Provides a comprehensive multidisciplinary service offering assessment, treatment, advice, training and consultation.
<b>Virtual School for children who are 'looked after'</b>	The Virtual School for children who are 'looked after': Oversees and monitors provision for children who are in the care of the Local Authority.
<b>Family Lives Parent Partnership Service</b>	The Parent Partnership Service (a registered charity): Provides independent information and advice and guidance for parents / carers of children and young people with SEND.
<b>National Autistic Society</b>	The National Autistic Society (a registered charity): Supports adults / children with autism; Offers information and support; Provides seminars for parents and staff; Runs clubs and activities for families.

<p><b>Transition:</b></p> <p><b>How will the school help my child to move to a new class / year group or to a different school?</b></p> <p>Children and young people with SEND can become particularly anxious about 'moving on' so we seek to support successful transition:</p> <p>Wherever possible, the young person will be involved in planning and understanding their transition. This may be supported by social stories and visits to the new setting/class.</p> <p><b>When moving to another school:</b> The new school's SENCO / Inclusion Manager will be contacted and information shared about special arrangements and support that has been provided to help your child achieve their learning goals in their current provision; All records are passed on, as soon as possible, in a way that ensures confidentiality.</p> <p><b>When moving classes /key stages in school</b> An information sharing meeting will take place with the new teacher; Opportunities will be given to visit the new class / teacher.</p> <p><b>In Year 6 /7 Transition</b> The SENCO / Inclusion Manager will attend a Primary to Secondary Transition meeting to discuss the specific needs of your child and the nature and level of support which has had the most impact; In some cases, additional multi-agency meetings maybe necessary to create a more detailed 'transition plan'. This may include additional visits to or from the new school.</p>
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Further information about the Pegasus Academy Trust SEND provision can be found in the SEND Policy on the [Pegasus Academy Trust website](#).

Further information about support and services for pupils and their families can be found in: The [Local Authority Local Offer](#) on the [Croydon Education and Learning website](#).