

# Pensby High School Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy

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lead:	
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Equality Impact Assessment	On the policy

# **Version Control Sheet:**

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# **Consultation with Stakeholders**

List of key individuals/committees or groups this policy has been for consultation

Name of individual/committee Chair	Stakeholder involvement	Date

# **Record of changes to this document**

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Changes approved in this document by	<b>/</b> :	Date:

Section	Amendment	Deletion	Addition	Reason
Number	(shown in Bold			
	italics)			
Throughout	Change of the word			Adapted is more
	'differentiated' to			appropriate.
	'adapted'			
p.7	Information about			To prevent concern
	the Shadow List.			that all support for
	When 'removed			students stops if
	from the SEND			removed from SEN
	register onto the			register.
	Shadow List'			
p.8	Change from			Adaptation is more
	'differentiation to			appropriate than
	adaptation'			differentiation
p.9	'meet with the			New Assistant SENCO
	SENCO, Assistant			in role.
	SENCO and other			
	staff prior'			
p.10			The Assistant	New Assistant SENCO
			SENCO works	in role.
			alongside the	
			SENCO.	
P.11			discussed with	New Assistant SENCO

		the SENCO or	in role.
		Assistant	
		SENCO	
p.10			

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Name of committee Chair	Stakeholder involvement	Date

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# SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES POLICY

## **A - INTRODUCTION**

## 1) GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

At Pensby High School we believe that: -

- All students share the legal right to a broad, balanced, relevant curriculum, which is adapted to meet individual needs. Where necessary, reasonable adjustments will be made in line with the Equality Act 2010.
- All students should have the opportunity to participate fully in every area of the school community without regard to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, educational ability or physical disability.
- The needs of all students who may have Special Educational Needs and disabilities (SEND) must be addressed and there should be a flexible and staged structure of planning and provision for meeting SEND.
- There is a collective responsibility shared by all our teachers and teaching support staff to provide a progressive and enriching education for all our students including those with any learning, physical, sensory or emotional difficulties.
- Opportunities for home-school liaison should be encouraged, developed and maintained.
- When necessary and appropriate, we will draw on the knowledge and expertise of other professionals and outside agencies in order to cater for the specific needs of individual students.

#### In brief

All teachers are teachers of Special Educational Needs and disabilities (SEND).

Provision for a student with SEND should match the nature of their needs.

All students are entitled to adapted learning opportunities.

All students can learn and make progress.

## 2) DEFINITION OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice: 0-25 years states:

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

This includes when the child or young person:

- 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.

Where a disabled child or young person requires special educational provision then they will also be covered by the SEN definition.'

## The Four Categories of Special Educational Needs:-

- Cognition and learning
- Communication and interaction
- Social, mental and emotional health
- Sensory and/or physical

Children and young people's needs often fit definitively into one of the categories. However, it is recognised that some needs or difficulties may span across two or more categories.

Please refer to Appendix 1 for more detail on the four categories.

## **B - MANAGEMENT OF PROVISION**

1) IDENTIFICATION, IMPLEMENTATION and REVIEW of SEND

## **Identification of Students' Needs**

During the summer term, before students start at Pensby, there are several visits to Primary schools and meetings with parents or carers, students and staff. This interaction helps to identify students who may require support and provision when arriving in September.

During the first term all students will carry out standardised tests. These include:-

- NGRT (National Group Reading test
- NGST (National Group Spelling test) on line

These tests do not require any prior revision or preparation.

In addition to the standardised tests, all students are monitored by their subject teachers. From the test results, observations and discussions with parents or carers and students, an overall picture is made of the new intake. This helps us to determine the appropriate level of support for all individuals.

#### Criteria of SEND

All students across all year groups are monitored and reviewed at regular points by Subject teachers, Area Team Leaders, Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership Team. Concerns are highlighted and referred to the SENCO if student progress is not as 'expected' especially in contrast with their peers and in comparison with their baseline data. When a significant gap is caused by an additional need, typically from one (or more) of the four categories, the young person will be placed on the SEND register. The 'SEN Support' will allow the student to make the progress expected and to work to their full potential.

If a student has been identified as having *an additional* need from one of the four categories then this does not necessarily mean they will be placed on the SEND register. This will be dependent on their progress and meeting the appropriate criteria. This also applies to students who have been placed on the SEND register. When 'SEN Support' has allowed the child or young person to make expected progress they will be removed from the SEND register onto the Shadow List. Students placed on this list will continue to be monitored and receive any provision necessary. Parents or carers will officially be informed of any changes.

## **SEN Graduated Approach**

A graduated approach is used in the implementation of SEND provision at Pensby.

• Level 1: Quality First Teaching (non-register support)

Quality First Teaching - Subject teachers respond to all students and their needs within the classroom. This is primarily done through *adaptation*, whether students have or do not have a Special Educational Need. This approach meets the requirements of the majority of our students.

Level 2: SEN Support (SEND register)

At level 2 – Students have a 'One Page Profile' or an 'Additional Support Plan'.

• Level 3: Education Health Care Plan's (SEND register)

At level 3 – Students have a 'Person Centred Plan'. This will be produced in collaboration with the student, parents/carers and relevant outside agencies.

The process for all 3 levels of the Graduated Approach is:

Assess

Review

Do

## **Overview of the Graduated Approach**

Student is highlighted as 'Cause for Concern' as they are not making expected progress.

This could be by teachers, parents/carers, other school professionals or outside agencies.

Collation of information (co-ordinated by the SENCO)

Determine appropriate level of support

Implementation of support

## **Level 1: Quality First Teaching**

Adaptation
Appropriate advice and strategies
Effective use of resources within the classroom

## **Level 2: SEN Support**

One Page Profile or Additional Support Plan
Utilisation of additional resources/skills
Access Strategies (individualised)
Consultation with Outside Agencies (where appropriate)

#### Level 3: Education Health Care Plan

This is a statutory assessment process and is the responsibility of the Local Authority. They collate, assess and make decisions relating to the issue of the EHCP.

EHCP (level 2 – no additional funding)
EHCP (level 3- additional LEA funding depending on the provision required)

Person Centred Plan Contact with Outside Agencies

#### **Review**

Student progress will be reviewed after every monitoring point (approx. every 12 weeks)



## **Termly Review Considerations**

Is the student making expected progress?
Is the student meeting the outcomes set?
Is the student responding to the level of support given?
Does the level of support need to remain, increase or decrease?

## **Expected Progress/Attainment is:-**

On target and/or making expected levels of progress In line with their peers (from similar baseline points) Preventing the attainment gap widening Closing the attainment gap

## **C - WORKING WITH OTHERS**

## 1) WORKING WITH PARENTS/CARERS

The school will actively seek the involvement of parents in the education of their children. It is recognised that it is particularly important with students who have special educational needs where the support and encouragement of parents or carers is often the crucial factor in achieving success. The active help and involvement of parents or carers is encouraged in our efforts to ensure a happy and satisfactory school career for their child. We try to ensure that a parent or carer feels confident and welcome in his or her relationship with the school whether in parents or carer interviews or in informal contact with the school.

Concerns which trigger different arrangements or additional provision in school are always discussed with parents or carers. Their knowledge and views are crucial in identifying needs, planning and reviewing provision. Parents or carers of students with SEND have the opportunity to meet with the SENCO, Assistant SENCO and other staff prior to the child's entry to school and are urged to maintain contact.

Parents or carers will always be kept informed about their child's special educational needs and how they are met by the school in accordance with the recommendations outlined in the Code of Practice. Communications between the parents or carer and the school will be consistently maintained.

#### 2) WORKING WITH STUDENTS

Students who are placed on the SEND register at Level 2 or 3 will be involved in the One Page Profile, Additional Support Plan or Person Centred Planning process. The child or young person's opinions and views are paramount to enabling the student to successfully meet or exceed their expected outcomes. The procedure will be dependent on the needs of the child or young person, and will allow for maximum opportunity to express their thoughts.

#### 3) OUTSIDE AGENCIES

A number of outside or external agencies work with the SENCO and pastoral team in supporting students with SEND.

- Special Educational Needs Assessment and Advice Team (SENAAT)
- Autism Social and Communication Team
- Educational Psychology Service
- Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Speech and Language Service
- Hearing Support Service
- Vision Support Service
- Specialist Support Team for students with medical and/or physical needs
- Health Service
- Kilgarth Outreach Service
- Independent counselling service

## D) - ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Governing Body has the overall legal responsibility for determining the school's general
  policy and provision for students with SEND. They must have regard to the Code of Practice
  when carrying out their duties. The governing body appoints a member to have a specific
  overview of the school's work with regard to SEND via The Student Personal Development and
  Well Being Committee.
- The Headteacher is responsible for the management of all aspects of the school's work
  including provision for students with SEND. He keeps the governing body fully informed and
  holds the key strategic management role, which promotes and fosters developing policy and
  practice in the school.
- **The SENCO** is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the school SEND policy, co-ordinating efforts to meet SEND in the school in line with the Code of Practice and acting as a focal point for enquiries about SEND. The co-ordinator also carries responsibilities in contributing to the in-service training of staff, and in consulting parents or carers and the Special Needs governor.
- The Assistant SENCO works alongside the SENCO in all aspects of SEND provision.
- Area Team Leaders, Subject Leaders, Pastoral Leaders have the middle management responsibilities of planning and implementing SEND provision with their staff teams.
- All Adults carry key responsibilities for progress in teaching and learning within the school and in establishing the social context for learning. Teachers do have legal responsibilities in delivering and reviewing provision for students with an Education Health Care Plan.
- Non-Teaching Staff include Progress Mentors for one to one support for a student whose EHCP or PFA notes this provision. Progress mentors provide extra support for a variety of needs predominantly within the classroom working in conjunction with the subject teacher.
- The Data Manager works closely with the SENCO and Assistant SENCO to ensure students who
  could potentially meet the criteria for Access Arrangements receive their entitlement by
  following the guidelines provided by JCQ (regulatory body). The SENCO is ultimately
  responsible for organising and overseeing these assessments.

#### **E - STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Staff development in school takes on many forms but the crucial point is that we establish a school culture in which staff are learning all the time and are willing to share successes and failures. Inservice training needs related to special educational needs will be identified by the SENCO in consultation with individuals and line managers. The arrangement and provision of training to staff will help them develop skills and expertise in taking responsibility for the full range of learning and SEND within their classroom.

## F - TREATMENT OF CONCERNS - COMPLAINTS

• Any concerns about arrangements or provision made should be discussed with the SENCO or Assistant SENCO in the first instance.

The SENCO is Mrs E Price.
The Assistant SENCO is Ms E Simpson.

- If concerns persist, the parent or carer, child or young person may discuss matters with the Headteacher.
- A more formal complaint can be made following the School Complaints Procedure which can be found on the school websites.

## **G - EVALUATING SUCCESS**

The governors will gauge the success of the policy by the achievements of students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

In addition, evidence will be gathered regarding:

- Success of the identification process on entry in Year 7
- Staff awareness of individual student need
- Consultation with parents/carers
- Consultation with the child or young person
- Academic progress of students with special educational needs and disabilities
- The increase in the level of inclusion achieved within the school setting as a percentage of time
- Student attendance
- Number of exclusions

The SEND policy will be reviewed annually.

September 2023.

# **APPENDICES**

APPENDIX 1	Four Categories of Special Needs
APPENDIX 2	SEND referral form (for staff)
APPENDIX 3	SEND register criteria
APPENDIX 4	SEND information report
	Standard Equality Impact Assessment Tool
APPENDIX 5	

## **APPENDIX 1: Four Categories of Special Needs**

## **COGNITION AND LEARNING**

## **Specific Learning Difficulties (SPLD)**

The child or young person may have a learning difficulty in one or more areas.

Specific learning difficulties include dyslexia, dyspraxia, and dyscalculia.

## **Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)**

Learning takes place at a slower pace than their peers when acquiring skills and/or understanding concepts. This occurs despite differentiation.

In addition students may also have low self-esteem, low levels of concentration, speech and language delay and under-developed social skills.

Children or young people with Cognition and Learning difficulties may require:-

- More detailed differentiation
- More support in sequencing
- Chunking of work
- The use of practical and visual activities to support and consolidate learning
- Extra time for tasks
- Extra time for processing

The level of support will depend on the severity of the child or young person's cognitive difficulties, and whether there are any additional compounding needs.

## **COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION**

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) includes Autism and Asperger's syndrome.

The child or young person may have difficulty with communication, social interaction, imagination and inference.

They may be easily distracted or upset with change to their familiar routine or in response to certain stimuli.

If changes in the environment or structure of the lesson are going to occur then some forewarning for the child or young person may be helpful.

Precise and clear explanations can help to reduce confusion and/or anxiety.

## **Speech, Language and Communication Needs**

Some children and young people may have difficulties expressing their opinions, ideas and thoughts.

They may have difficulty understanding what is being said.

Visual and/or hearing difficulties could also lead to communication difficulties.

Allowing and promoting alternative means to communicate should be encouraged.

The enrichment of oral language environments is valuable.

## SOCIAL, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Difficulties with emotional and social development may lead to immature social skills.

The child or young person may become withdrawn or isolated as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour.

They may find it challenging to maintain healthy relationships.

Some children and young people have recognised disorders e.g. ADHD, anxiety disorder, attachment disorder, autism, pervasive developmental disorder, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia.

Mental health difficulties can manifest in different ways such as:-

Low mood (depression or anxiety)

Conduct problems e.g. ODD, aggression, self-harm or eating disorders.

The SEND and Pastoral support teams work together to offer support for children and young people with emotional, social and mental health difficulties. They provide access to counselling and make referrals to the appropriate services such as Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) depending on the needs of the student.

## SENSORY AND/OR PHYSICAL NEEDS

There can be a wide range of sensory needs that affect young people and children across the ability range. Some students with a multi-sensory impairment will have difficulty with their hearing and vision causing further restrictions in accessing the curriculum.

Minor adaptations may be required to their physical environment, study programme or curriculum.

Effective use of support and advice from the Specialist Support Teams e.g. Hearing support service and Vision support service.

Some students with a physical disability will require on-going support and equipment to allow full access to the curriculum.

Reasonable adjustments should be made under the Equality Act 2010.

## **Disabled Children and Young People**

The specific duties that early years providers, schools, post-16 institutions and local authorities have towards disabled children and adults are included in the Equality Act 2010.

The main points are:-

They **must not** discriminate against, harass or victimise disabled children and young people;

They **must** make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled children and young people are not at a substantial disadvantage compared with their peers.

This duty is anticipatory: adjustments must be planned and put in place in advance, to prevent disadvantage.

# **APPENDIX 2: SEND Referral Form**



# SEND Cause for Concern Referral Form (for staff use)

Student name:	care respect inspire
Form:	
1. Please tick which area(s) of SEND is/are of concern for this student	
□ Cognition and learning	
☐ Communication and interaction	
☐ Social, mental and emotional health	
☐ Sensory and/or physical needs	
2. Briefly explain the difficulties this student is having accessing the cu	rriculum.
3. Briefly explain how you have adapted the work for this student.	
4. Please state any other relevant factors relating to this student.	
Name of teacher completing this form:  Date:	
Action taken by SENCO:	

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability Register**



#### **Outline of Criteria**

## Basic criteria for a student to be placed on the SEND register

1) They must **not** be making age related progress over a period of 12 weeks **AND** they will typically be in **at least one** of the **four categories of need**.

## The four categories of need are:-

- Cognition and Learning
- Communication and Interaction
- Physical and/or Sensory needs
- Emotional, Social and Mental Health
- 2) An official diagnosis of need with relevant documentation should be from a specialist teacher and/or health care professional.
- 3) Wave 1 of the relevant Provision Map must have been implemented and monitored primarily.

#### Basic criteria for a student to be **removed from** the SEND register

- 1) They must be making age related progress over a period of 12 weeks.
- 2) Wave 1 support must be planned and ready to implement allowing the student to sustain their recent progress after additional intervention/support ceases.

#### Expected progress/attainment is:-

In line with their peers (from similar baseline points)

Preventing the attainment gap widening

Closing the attainment gap

#### **Additional Information**

If a student has a diagnosed need it does not mean they will automatically be placed on the SEND register.

We have a 'shadow list' for students who have additional needs but are making expected progress. Please note this is not an official register. It is a list so students do not get overlooked! There is only one register.

Their needs are also identified to promote awareness and to allow for adaptation.

The progress of all students on the official SEND register **and** the Shadow list will be tracked and recorded by the SENCO after every monitoring point (approx. every twelve weeks).

If you have any concerns over a student then complete the SEND referral form and pass it to the SENCO.

#### **APPENDIX 4**

# Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Report PENSBY HIGH SCHOOL

One of the greatest challenges facing schools is the provision for appropriate learning opportunities for all pupils. Within schools there are pupils who experience barriers to learning as a result of their disability, additional needs and social grouping.

We, as a school, are responsible for ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to succeed, whatever their individual needs and the potential barriers to their learning may be.

Information and Guidance			
Who should I contact to discuss the concerns and needs of my child?			
SENCO: Mrs E Price	If you have any concerns about your child then the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) will:		
eprice@psf.wirral.sch.uk	<ul> <li>listen to any concerns you may have</li> <li>plan any additional support your child may receive</li> <li>discuss with you any referrals to outside professionals to support your child's learning</li> </ul>		
Assistant SENCO: Ms E Simpson	You can also contact the Assistant SENCO who will liaise with the SENCO.		
esimpson@psf.wirral.sch.uk			
Form Tutor, Class teacher, Pastoral Support Team	Speak to your child's Form Tutor, Class teacher or any member of the Pastoral Support team. They will pass on any concerns to the SENCO or Assistant SENCO.		

## **Assessment, Planning and Review**

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

On-going monitoring takes place by students' teachers to identify students who are not making progress and/or who have behaviour needs which are affecting their ability to engage in learning activities.

After discussions with key staff and parents, additional support may be provided. This could be in targeted small group and/or individual support to help overcome any difficulties.

The views of the student or young person about their support will be given consideration at this stage. This additional support is documented in a Pupil Centred Plan, a Learning Plan or a School Support Plan.

Where external agencies are involved, their advice and recommendations are included in these support programmes. Actions agreed take into account each student's strengths as well as their difficulties. In some cases, progress mentor support may be allocated.

This support is deployed to ensure your child can engage in lessons and wider school activities and to facilitate independent learning to support transition to adulthood.

Formal review meetings are held as required. Parents, relevant external agencies and, when appropriate, students are invited to this review and their contribution is valued. The impact of support offered is considered along with the progress towards targets set. Support arrangements will be updated and revised accordingly.

If not involved already, this might include referrals to external agencies. The outcomes of these meetings will be formally recorded. If your child is continuing to have significant difficulties, further external expertise may be requested.

### **Tests and Examinations: Access Arrangements**

For some students, additional arrangements and adjustments can be made to enable them to fully access a range of tests. This might include additional time, rest breaks or the use of a scribe or laptop.

The SENCO or Assistant SENCO will inform you about eligibility and applications for these arrangements. Only tests and assessors authorised by the school and recognised by JCQ can be accepted for access arrangements for public examinations.

#### **Curriculum and Teaching Methods**

## How will teaching be adapted to meet the needs of my child?

Teachers are skilled at adapting teaching to meet the diverse range of needs in each class. Daily planning takes into account individual students' needs and requirements.

Adaptation is approached in a range of ways to support access and ensure that all students can experience success and challenge in their learning.

Grouping arrangements are organised flexibly with opportunities for both ability and streamed setting to maximise learning opportunities for all.

Progress mentors are used flexibly to help groups and individual students with a long-term goal of developing independent learning skills.

Monitoring takes place to avoid students becoming over reliant and dependent on this adult support.

#### Intervention

# What support could my child receive to help them access learning and the curriculum?

## Access to learning support staff

- ➤ In core subjects
- > In practical subjects
- > For group work
- Before school, during break, lunchtime and afterschool
- Rolling programme of literacy and numeracy intervention

## Strategies to support and develop literacy

- Focused reading lessons, with paired or 1:1 reading
- Small group intervention programmes
- Ability setting throughout all years starting in Year 7

# Strategies to support/develop numeracy

- ➤ 1:1 and small group intervention programmes
- Ability setting throughout all years starting in Year 7

#### Provision to facilitate and support access to the curriculum

- Short-term withdrawal from class depending on need
- ➤ In-lesson support
- Staff provided with suitable strategies to support differing needs within the classroom

## Strategies/support to develop independent learning

- Mentoring by Progress Mentors/Key Workers
- ➤ Individual and/or small group programmes working on study skills
- > Homework club
- > Planners for all year groups
- Visual timetables for class/and or individual students where necessary.

#### Intervention

# What pastoral support could be provided to meet the needs of my child?

## Strategies to support the development of students' social skills and enhance self-esteem

- Lunchtime clubs
- > After-school clubs
- Mentoring
- Student Support Centre available lunch/break time
- Social skills work

## **Mentoring activities**

- Nurture chats by Progress Mentors
- Pastoral support mentoring
- School reward system
- > Form Tutors

## Strategies to reduce anxiety/promote emotional wellbeing

- > Transition support, visits and events
- Individual support from Pastoral Staff
- Regular contact and liaison with parents as necessary
- Open door policy

# Strategies to support/modify behaviour

- School sanctions and reward system as set out in School Behaviour Policy
- Pastoral Support Plans report process
- ➤ Behaviour Support Services: Outreach Facilities
- Mentoring
- Individual Behaviour Plans

## Support/supervision at unstructured times of the day

Break time - safe haven

- > Lunch clubs safe haven
- Trained staff supervising during break periods

#### Personal and medical care

Individual Health Care plans for students with medical needs which impact their daily education

## Children looked after (CLA) with additional needs

Termly PEP meetings and regular care planning meetings are held with social workers and foster carers to review, plan and implement appropriate support in education.

# **Accessibility**

## How will the school ensure that my child has equal access?

## Access to strategies/programmes to support occupational/physiotherapy needs

- Advice of professionals disseminated and followed
- Use of any recommended equipment

# Access to modified equipment and ICT

- Specialist equipment as required on an individual basis to access the curriculum
- Modified equipment as recommended by specialists

## Access to the school building

Adaptations to the school site as required to increase accessibility

## Access to activities outside the classroom/school trips

Provisions will be made as required to meet individual needs

## **Partnerships with External Agencies**

## What support from outside does the school use to support my child?

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:

#### Liaison and Communication with Professionals and Parents

- Regular meetings as required
- SENCO available at all Parents Evenings
- > Referrals to outside agencies as required
- > Speech and Language Therapist Support and advice for specific individual students
- Sensory Support
- Special Educational Needs Assessment and Advisory Team (SENAAT)
- Relevant professionals attend at regular intervals to see specific students and to liaise with the SENCO/Assistant SENCO.

#### Access to Medical Interventions

- Use of individualised Health Care Plans
- Referral to CAMHS
- Liaison with the School Nursing Team

## **Transition**

# How will the school help my child move to a new group/year group or to a different school?

Children and young people with SEND can become particularly anxious about "moving on" so we seek to support successful transition by:

When moving to another school: We will contact the School SENCO and share information about special arrangements and support that has been made to help your child achieve their learning goals.

We will ensure that all records are passed on as soon as possible.

When moving groups/forms in school: Information is shared with the new teacher.

In year 6 - 7 transition: The SENCO and Assistant SENCO will meet with Primary SENCOs and teachers to discuss specific need of your child and the nature and level of support which has had the most impact. Enhanced Transitions can be scheduled to support students as needed.

In some cases, additional multi-agency meetings may be arranged to create a more detailed "transition" plan which may include more visits to the new school and/or additional visits from the new school.

### **Staffing Expertise**

## How skilled are staff in meeting the needs of my child?

An ongoing programme of training is in place to ensure that teachers and support staff have appropriate skills and knowledge in areas that will improve their teaching and support of children with SEND.

Adaptations for students with SEND are embedded into the school's Twilight training programme.

Our SENCO and Assistant SENCO actively engage with local opportunities to share best practice and keep abreast of current local and national initiatives and policy to support students with SEND.

The school also seeks advice and guidance from local special schools to review, evaluate and develop provision for students who have the most complex needs.

Pensby High School regularly take part in research reviews via the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). Currently we are part of a national review into Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) practice within schools. This is in conjunction with NASEN (National Association for Special Needs), to review our whole school SEND provision. The process will include self-evaluation, reflection of our current practice, and the use of peer reviews which will help to drive forward and improve provision for all learners with SEND. We will also take part in reviews of provision within other secondary schools. Our main focus is to continually improve the SEND provision and outcomes for our students at Pensby High School.

Our SENCO has the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination. Our Assistant SENCO is currently training for the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination.

FURTHER INFORMATION about support and services for students and their families can be found in:

- The Local Authority Local Offer at SENDLO Wirral. Wirral's Local Offer of SEND Services
- SEND Code of Practice 2015 The Department for Education

## **Appendix 5 - Standard Equality Impact Assessment Tool**

The Equality Impact Assessment Tool (EIA) is designed to help you consider the needs and impact your policy or document could have on the equality of individuals and groups. This EIA must be completed by the Policy Author and attached to the policy document when submitted for authorisation and ratification.

Name of Policy or Document: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy				
Name of Author: Emma Price				
Who is this policy aimed at: Whole So	chool Comn	nunity		
Description and aims of the policy/service change:				
Date EIA Completed: 25 April 2016				
Nature of the Change	Yes/No	Details of adverse impact identified		
Does the policy/Service change affect one group less or more	No	If yes to any of the following a full EIA must be completed		
favourably than another on the		iuii EiA must be completed		
basis of:				
	No			
Race or Ethnicity	1			
Nationality	No			
Culture or Heritage	No			
Religion, Faith or belief	No			
Sexual orientation, transgender Gender Reassignment	No			
Age	No			
Mental Health	No			
Physical, sensory or Learning Disabilities	No			
Homelessness, Gypsy/Travellers, Refugees/Asylum Seekers	No			

For advice in respect of answering the above questions, please refer the draft policy to SLT for discussion.

I declare that in assessing the proposed documentation/change I have identified that there is unlikely to be an adverse impact on different minority groups.

Name: Emma Price	Post: Inclusion Manager / SENCo	
Signature:	Date:	
Contact Number:	0151 342 0570	