



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Policy Title:	SEND Policy
Author:	SENCO
Date of most recent review:	June 2023
Date of next review:	June 2024
School Mission Statement: Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised.	

Aims

George Abbot School respects the unique contribution which every individual can make to the community and seeks to place this contribution within a clear structure which both embrace the highest possible academic aspirations and accepts individual differences in ability, aptitude and levels of skill.

Our SEND policy and information report aims to:

- Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN).
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEN.

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the statutory [SEND Code of Practice January 2015](#) and the following legislation:

- [Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEND and disabilities
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the SEND information report
- The [Equality Act 2010](#) which informs the school's Equality Policy.
- [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions 2015](#), which sets out arrangements for schools to support pupils with medical conditions.

Definitions

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

They have a learning difficulty or disability if they have:

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

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

Roles and responsibilities of SEND Leadership:

The SENCO is Mrs J Richings jrichings@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Overall responsibility for SEND provision
- Year 7 students with SEND needs
- Alternative and flexible provision

- SEND interventions
- Leadership and management of the SEND Team

Deputy SENCo – Ms Lomas-Chandler vlomas-chandler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Year 8 & 9 students with SEND

Deputy SENCo – Mrs C Donaldson cdonaldson@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Year 10 & 11 students with SEND

Deputy SENCo – Ms J Wallace-Jones jwallacejones@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Year 12 & 13 students with SEND

Exam Access Arrangements (EAA) - Ms B Barratt bbarratt@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Testing students for EAA
- Managing applications for EAA

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Coordinator – Mrs T Freeland tfreeland@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Assessment of EAL students
- Delivery of EAL support

Haven Provision Lead – Mrs J Matthews jmatthews@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Responsibilities:

- Managing provision within the Haven
- Liaising with students, parents and HOYs of students in the Haven

Designated Lead for Safeguarding– Mrs T Young tyoung@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

They will:

- Work with the Headteacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school
- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEN and EAL, including those who have EHC plans
- Monitor the quality of provision and the impact of interventions
- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEND receive appropriate support and high-quality, inclusive teaching
- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEN support, including carrying out annual reviews for students with EHC plans and managing provision mapping
- Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure pupils and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- Work with the Headteacher and governing board to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- Ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date

Roles and responsibilities of the SEND Governor

The SEN Governor will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND and disability 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

Roles and responsibilities of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

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

Roles and responsibilities of class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every pupil in their class through the delivery of inclusive teaching methods
- Delivery of identified strategies in the classroom according to the Surrey Ordinarily Available Provision [Ordinarily available provision \(schools\) | Surrey Local Offer](#)
- Working closely with any learning support assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- Working with the SENCO to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision
- Ensuring they follow this SEND policy

SEN Information Report

The kinds of SEND that are provided for

Our school currently provides additional and/or different provision for a range of needs, including:

- Communication and interaction; for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties which mean that pupils will experience difficulties with social interaction, language or imagination
- Cognition and learning; for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and problems with processing information
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties: for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), behaviours related to underlying mental health difficulties, anxiety, attachment disorder
- Sensory and/or physical needs: for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties link to brain injury, epilepsy, cerebral palsy or disability which requires specialist support or equipment to access learning

Whilst these identified areas are the primary needs, we also consider the needs of the whole child, which also may impact on other aspects of the pupil's progress. These could include:

- Attendance and punctuality
- Health and welfare
- Behaviour for learning
- Being a looked after child (LAC)
- English as an additional language (EAL)
- Being in receipt of Pupil premium (PP)

Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs and outcomes

It is widely accepted that a pupil's needs should be identified and met as early as possible. Therefore, effective transition from and liaison with primary schools is where this process starts. We will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment within their first term at school, which will build on previous settings and key stages, where appropriate. Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:

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

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs. Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN.

Teaching, pastoral and SEND staff track the progress of pupils in their classes, planning and implementing interventions if a pupil is not making progress. Heads of Faculty (HoF) and the SENCO track the progress of groups and individuals and work alongside teaching staff to plan appropriate interventions to improve progress.

There are regular progress meetings allowing discussion by key staff, including SEND staff and members of the SLT (Senior Leadership Team), around pupils who are underachieving and interventions agreed upon. These interventions are monitored for effectiveness and impact.

Parents can also raise a concern with the SENCO if they feel their child is demonstrating signs of anxiety in relation to school or not making progress.

Moving a pupil on or off the SEND Support List:

Where a SEND need is identified, parents will be informed and the student will be placed on the SEND Support List.

The following sources inform a decision to place pupils on the SEND Support List and movement off the list:

- Information from previous school
- KS2 attainment/baseline testing outcomes
- Staff concerns
- Information from the parent/carer
- Specialist teacher /professionals reports
- MIDYIS/NGRT internal assessments
- Reading and spelling quotients
- Medical or professional reports
- Advice from multi-professional agencies
- Progress monitoring

When a pupil has made sufficient and sustained progress towards achieving their personal targets and it is felt that they are able to maintain this with inclusive classroom teaching, they may be removed from the SEND Support List. The school will continue to monitor pupils recently removed to ensure good progress is maintained.

Consulting and involving pupils and parents

We listen to the views and experience of parents/carers and the pupil. In some cases, we draw on the assessments and guidance from other educational professionals, where appropriate.

Where SEND Support is required, the SENCO - with the parent/carer – will design a plan which outlines the adjustments, interventions and support which will be put in place for the pupil, as well as the expected impact on progress and outcomes, including a date when this will be reviewed. When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

Targets for the pupil are shared using child friendly language. All staff who work with the pupil are made aware of the plan in the form of a SEND Information Sheet, which the student will create in collaboration with the SENCO, and parents if required.

Parents/carers are asked to share in the monitoring of progress. For pupils with an EHCP, *annual reviews* are held, in line with statutory requirements. These are in addition to progress meetings below.

All pupils have their progress monitored regularly; this is measured rigorously against challenging targets. Parents are invited to parent teacher progress meetings which are held at least twice a year for all pupils.

Additionally, parents of pupils on the SEND Support List are welcome to meet with a member of the SEND department to review their son/daughter's progress. Progress reports are available to parents at all times through the SIMS Parent App.

We will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents when identifying whether they need special educational provision. These conversations will make sure that:

Assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes

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

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

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

The assessment will be reviewed regularly.

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

Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood

At the KS2/3 transition, we visit primary feeder schools to receive information about prospective students. Identified SEND pupils have a bespoke programme of transition. At other transitions, we will share information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is moving to. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this. We will work with parents and other schools, colleges or settings to endeavour to provide the best transition possible for the students and prepare them for change.

In preparing students for adulthood and independent living, we provide students with individualised programmes of activities depending on their needs. This might include work experience, visiting next steps settings and teaching life skills.

Our approach to teaching pupils with SEND

Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class, including where pupils access support from teaching assistants or specialist staff. High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEND. A rigorous system of quality assurance is in place to systematically monitor the quality of teaching and learning. A bespoke programme of CPD is available to staff.

We offer a wide range of interventions to meet the needs of our pupils this includes, ELSA, ELKLAN, Literacy Progress Units, SPLD Sessions, Small Group Maths, Nessy, Lexia, Rapid Reading. A full list is available on the website within the school Provision Map.

Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

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

- Differentiating our curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- Adapting our resources and staffing
- Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key

vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

- Providing Exam Access Arrangements (EAA) to ensure pupils with SEND are able to access exams and internal tests with equity.
- Offering additional interventions to individuals or small groups as required.

A small number of pupils, whose needs are complex and long term, may require a greater level of support than that provided at SEND Support from the school's own resources. For these pupils a request will be made to the local authority to conduct an assessment of education, health and care needs. This may result in an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) being provided. This process is in partnerships with the pupil, parents, the SENCO and other professionals. Once in place, these are reviewed annually until no longer required.

Additional support for learning and staffing expertise

The leadership of the SEND department is distributed across three trained staff with specific focus on defined year groups. This includes a qualified SENCO and two deputies. The Deputy Headteacher for Teaching & Learning, is also a qualified SENCO.

We have 24 Learning Support Assistants (LSA's), including specialist staff who are trained to deliver interventions such as Speech and Language Therapy (SALT), Social Skills (ASD), Emotional Literacy Support and Assistance (ELSA), and English as an Additional Language (EAL). In addition to this, we have a Specialist Centre for pupils with Visual Impairment: this is staffed by a further team of VI teaching assistants who offer 1-1 and in-class support. Learning Support Assistants are deployed to support pupils on a 1:1, small group and class support basis. Deployment is informed by staff feedback, observations, progress data and specialist reports.

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

- Abbey Outreach
- Educational Psychology
- Learning Language Support
- Speech and Language Support
- Physical and Sensory Support
- CAMHS
- Surrey Inclusion Outreach
- Alternative provision providers:
 - The Well Project
 - Skillway
 - Mane Chance
 - Change of Scene
 - Wey Valley College
 - The Hair Academy
 - Satro

Securing equipment and facilities

The SENCO manages a dedicated SEND budget to secure equipment and resources and ensure they are used effectively to support the needs of pupils.

Evaluating the effectiveness of SEND provision

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

- Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions after each cycle or termly
- Using student voice activities
- Monitoring by the SENCO
- Lesson drop-ins to monitor inclusive practices in lessons
- Using provision maps to measure progress
- Holding annual reviews for pupils with statements of SEN or EHC plans

Enabling pupils with SEND to engage in activities available to those in the school who do not have SEND

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 take part in sports day/school plays/special workshops, etc. The Learning Support Department works in conjunction other departments to support pupils in activities that are curriculum related to improve accessibility.

We make reasonable adjustments to ensure equal access to such activities.

Support for improving emotional and social development

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

- Pupils with SEND are encouraged to be part of the school council and engage with opportunities for pupil advocacy, such as being a School Ambassador.
- Pupils with SEND are supported to take part in additional activities where possible to support them in progressing successfully along their George Abbot Journey.
- The Learning Support Department works in conjunction with the PSE Department to ensure emotional and social development is provided to all pupils.
- We are able to provide ELSA support, a six-week intervention, to support the emotional and social needs of pupils who need additional support.
- We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

The local authority local offer

Our contribution to the local offer is contained in the SEN Information Report and is part of Surrey local offer for learners with SEN: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/learning-support/>

Our local authority's local offer is published here:

<https://www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk/kb5/surrey/localoffer/home.page>

Contact details of support services for parents of pupils with SEND

Parents and young people can find information on SEND from:

- The SEND information Report (14 questions), which is updated yearly [Learning Support | George Abbot School](#)
- Surrey Local Offer which includes other agencies who provide a service [Surrey Local Offer](#)
- The school's admission arrangements including tours and brochure [General Admissions | George Abbot School](#)
- Contact the SENCO or one of the team for concerns about a pupil or questions about the SEND process (see contact emails at the beginning of this policy).

Complaints about SEN provision

Complaints about SEN provision in our school should be made to the pupil's class teacher, the SENCO or Headteacher, in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

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

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

Monitoring arrangements

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

Links with other policies and documents

This policy links to our policies on:

- Accessibility plan
- Behaviour
- Equality information and objectives
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions