



Hester's Way Primary School

Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and Disability



Hester's Way Primary School is an inclusive school that welcomes all children

Where a child has a special educational need or disability we will make all reasonable adjustments to meet those needs to make sure your child is able to meet their full potential

What does SEND support look like at Hester's Way Primary School?

Quality first teaching – the class teacher will plan lessons according to the needs of different groups of children. Children's progress in lessons is carefully monitored and assessments are completed regularly to track how each child is doing.

Sometimes children are taught in smaller groups to help them to achieve their next steps in reading, writing or numeracy. This could be with a teacher or a TA.

Some children will need more individual 1:1 support. This could be for reading, writing, numeracy or perhaps with an emotional or social need.

What is SEND Support?

Some children are identified as needing 'SEND Support'. These children will have an individual education plan called a 'My Plan' that the class teacher will use to record how best to support their learning in school.

Parents/carers will be invited to set targets or review the 'My Plan'. This is a good opportunity to talk to the class teacher and SENCO about your child. Your child's My Plan will also be discussed at Parents Evenings.



What is SEND?

A special educational need or disability (SEND) is when a child needs additional support in learning to help them achieve their full potential. SEND has 4 broad areas of need as defined by the new Code of Practice (2014):

- **Communication and Interaction**
 - children who experience speech, language or communication difficulties
 - children with an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)
- **Cognition and Learning**
 - Children who learn at a slower pace than their peers
- **Social, emotional and mental health difficulties**
 - Children who are withdrawn or isolated
 - Children who display challenging behaviour
 - Children with mental health difficulties
- **Sensory and/or physical needs**
 - Visual impairment
 - Hearing impairment
 - Multi-sensory impairment
 - Physical difficulty



How will school support my child if they have medical needs?

Some medical conditions will need support from school for your child to manage them in school. If this is the case the class teacher in conjunction with you as a parent/carer and health professionals will write a care plan together. This is usually for children with medical conditions such as diabetes or epilepsy.

How will school know that my child has a special educational need or disability (SEND)?

Teachers will use a range of information to identify a child who is having a difficulty in an area of learning. Assessment information, observations and reports from Nursery/pre-school or previous schools are all used to identify needs. The class teacher will discuss any concerns about a child's progress with the SENCO, Mel Richards. The class teacher would always talk to the parent/carer about any concerns. Your observations and thoughts as a parent/carer are very important.

How will Hester's Way Primary School involve your child and parents/carers in their learning?

Class teachers involve the children in their own learning by using verbal and written feedback as part of normal lessons. Children will also have opportunities to talk to teachers and TAs about their progress regularly. Where a child needs some more targeted support we place them on a My Plan, if there are more complex needs the child/family will have a My Assessment written followed by a My Plan+. If a child has diverse and complex needs reaching the threshold for more specialist support for high needs then an EHCP may be applied for, following the graduated pathway. This is being assessed and reviewed regularly.

How will the school let me know if they are concerned about my child? What can I do to help?

The class teacher will talk to you either at a parents' evening or at another arranged meeting after school. Class teachers may suggest things that you could try at home to support your child's learning. Making sure that your child is ready for school, has good home structures and routines, completes homework and reads regularly at home are all ways you can help them make progress in their learning.



How can I let the school know that I am concerned about my child?

Talk to us! Firstly, talk to your child's class teacher about your concerns. You can also talk to the SEND coordinator (SENCO) in school, just ask the office to organise an appointment for you. The Pastoral Support Team are always happy to talk to any parent/carer who is worried about their child and can usually help and support families or direct you to someone who can.

Will my child be included in activities outside school or school trips?

Children identified as having a SEND are encouraged to take part in all activities in school including after school clubs. School will use specially designed coaches that can accommodate wheelchairs if necessary.

There may be occasions where special arrangements need to be made for a child whose behaviour could be a risk to the safety of other children or adults. On these occasions the teacher may ask a parent/carer to attend a trip and be responsible for their own child.

How will school support my child when they move classes or leave for another school?

The SENCO will liaise with other schools to ensure the transitions are as smooth as possible. The class teacher will send detailed information about your child to their new school as soon as possible, and will be available for advice or to answer any questions that the new school may have.



If I am not happy, what can I do?

Speak to your child's class teacher, they are often in the best position to answer questions or help your child in school. You could also speak to the SENCO (Mel Richards). The Head teacher or a member of the Pastoral Support Team.

What training do teachers and teaching assistants (TAs) have to be able to teach children with SEND?

All teachers and TAs have on-going professional development to improve standards of teaching and learning. Training may be on subject specific areas such as writing or on the best ways of supporting children with additional needs such as Autistic Spectrum Disorder or a Visual Difficulty. Training is either delivered in school by the SENCO, Mel Richards, external professionals or teachers/TAs may go on courses out of school.

How can school support parents/carers and families?

We have a Pastoral Support Team that can provide support to families who are experiencing difficulties in school or in the community. The team are based in the POD on the junior playground. Please contact Mel Richards or Kaytee Parish if you have concerns.

Contact

melrichards@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

Chair of Governors chair@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk