

SEND POLICY AND INFORMATION REPORT

2024/25

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1. Aims

Our SEND policy and information report aims to:

- Set out how our academy will support and make provision for students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEND

South Axholme Academy aims to support students with special educational needs and disabilities by seeking to remove barriers to learning and facilitating participation in all aspects of school life.

The SENDCO, the SEND Team and the Pastoral Team work closely together to provide a wide range of support service for students and their families within the academy and facilitate support from outside agencies if required.

We offer a variety of support for students with individual needs including: in-class support, one to one or small group interventions in English and Mathematics and personalised intervention packages for students with additional needs.

We also provide pastoral support packages for students who may have social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

By working closely with a number of external agencies, we can also offer bespoke packages.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy and information report is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

[Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities

[The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEND co-ordinators (SENDCOs) and the SEND information report

This policy also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Definitions

A student has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability that 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 the 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.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The SENDCO

The SENDCO is Adam Atkinson SEND@southaxholmeacademy-iet.co.uk

They will:

- Work with the principal and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the academy
- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual students with SEND, including those who have EHC plans
- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that students with SEND receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching
- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- Advise on the deployment of the academy's delegated budget and other resources to meet students' needs effectively
- Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority (LA) and its support services
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure that the academy meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- Ensure the academy keeps the records of all students with SEND up to date

4.2 The SEND governor

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 academy and update the governing board on this
- Work with the principal and SENDCO to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the academy

4.3 The Principal

The principal will:

Work with the SENDCO and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision within the academy

Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND

4.4 Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every student in their class
- Working closely with any assistant teachers 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 SENDCO to review each student's progress and development, and decide on any changes to provision
- Ensuring they follow this SEND policy

5. SEND information report

5.1 The areas of SEND that are provided for

Our academy 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
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder that affects how people communicate, interact with others, learn, and behave.
- Moderate/severe/profound and multiple learning difficulties

5.2 Identifying students with SEND and assessing their needs

South Axholme Academy is committed to the early identification of special and additional educational needs and adopts a graduated response in line with the Code of Practice 2014. Students who are making expected progress in line with their target grades and not receiving 'additional to' or 'different from' provision are not deemed to have SEND, despite any diagnosis or screening previously conducted.

We will assess each student's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all students and identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly slower 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
- Widens the attainment gap

Once students are attending South Axholme Academy this continues with a range of in-house assessments and mechanisms including:

- On-line reading and spelling tests for all students
- Reading, spelling and Mathematics tests for identified students
- Dyslexia Screening for identified students
- Dyscalculia Screening for identified students
- Close tracking of academy assessment and data.
- Discussion with teachers and observations
- Readiness for learning assessments
- Strengths and difficulties questionnaire

This identification of individual needs of students is a collaborative process between teachers, support staff, the SENDCO, the deputy SENDCO, the Pastoral Team, the student and parents/guardians.

When appropriate external agencies are asked for advice, such as the Educational Psychology Team, ASET, CAMHS, Speech & Language Team, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Medical Professionals and the Nursing Service.

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 student 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.

5.3 Consulting and involving students and parents

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

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the student's areas of strength and difficulty

- We take into account the parents' concerns
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child
- Everyone is clear on what the next steps are

5.4 Assessing and reviewing students' 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 SENDCO and SEND team to carry out a clear analysis of the student's needs. This will draw on:

- The teacher's assessment and experience of the student
- Their previous progress and attainment or 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 student'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 student 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 student's progress.

5.5 Supporting students moving between phases and preparing for adulthood

We work very closely with our feeder schools for Year 6 transition. The SENDCO will attend the year 6 EHCP Reviews where possible and meet with school to discuss high need students. All Year 11 students are offered post 16 advice and guidance, the post 16 SENDCO is invited to the annual reviews in year 11.

5.6 Our approach to teaching students with SEND

Teaching staff are supported by the SENDCO and the SEND team to providing tailored support to students across the curriculum and participate in the review process for students with special educational needs however, teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the students in their class.

High-quality teaching is our first step in responding to pupils who have SEND. This will be adapted for individual students. We will also provide a variety of intervention.

5.7 Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

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

- Adapting our curriculum to ensure all students 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.
- Adapting our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

5.8 Additional support for learning

We have a number of assistant teachers who are trained to deliver a variety of interventions.

Assistant teachers will support students on a 1:1 basis as required.

Assistant teachers will support students in small groups when required.

We also work with a number of agencies to provide support for students with SEND.

Examples of intervention programmes offered:

- IDL Packages
- Literacy intervention targeting reading
- Paired or small group reading sessions
- Handwriting support
- Development of ICT skills
- Numeracy intervention
- Individual subject intervention
- School Nursing Team

5.9 Expertise and training of staff

The SENDCo is completing the NPOSEND qualification and the deputy is completing the NASENDCo qualification. All staff are provided with relevant training opportunities throughout the year to improve the teaching and learning of young people, including those with SEND. The Academy is supported closely by the SEND team from the Trust and where additional expertise is needed the Trust SENDCO provides this. South Axholme Academy works closely with the Local Authority SEND team.

5.10 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEND provision

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

- Reviewing students' individual progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions
- Using student questionnaires
- Monitoring by the SENDCO
- Holding annual reviews for students with statements of SEND or EHC plans

5.11 Enabling students with SEND to engage in activities available to those in the academy who do not have SEND

All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our students, including our before-and after-school clubs.

All students are encouraged to go on our residential trips

The Academy has a series of pledges that all students aim to complete that develop cultural capital.

All students are encouraged to take part in sports day

All students are encouraged to take part in the SAX mindset days

No student is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEND or disability with reasonable adjustments made where possible.

A copy of the Accessibility plan can be found on the Academy Website

5.12 Support for improving emotional and social development

We support student's emotional and mental well-being. We try to ensure that all students feel supported through a range of interventions including access to the Inclusion and Wellbeing Hub, Pastoral Support, the school nurse and With Me in Mind, Educational Psychologist or Children's Services and CAMHS if required.

All students at the Academy are supervised at lunch and break times and as they arrive and leave school. A Student Leadership Team is effective in leading the development of Health and Wellbeing for all students and all students are encouraged to participate with this process.

We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

5.12 Working with other agencies

The academy is able to seek advice and support from a range of external agencies including:

- Educational Psychology and Specialist Teaching Team
- The Support Service for Pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders
- Education Service for Hearing & Vision
- The Speech and Language Therapy Service
- The School Nursing Service
- Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Services
- Traveller Support Service – Diversity Team
- English as an Additional Language
- Medical Authorities
- Social Services
- CAMHS and the Completed behaviour team

The academy is aware of a range of voluntary organisations who can be contacted for information, advice and support relating to special educational needs and disabilities.

5.13 Complaints about SEND provision

Complaints about SEND provision in our academy should be made to the Principal in the first instance. They will then be referred to the Academy complaints policy.

The parents of students with disabilities have the right to make disability discrimination claims to the first-tier SEND tribunal if they believe that our academy 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

5.14 Contact details of support services for parents of students with SEND

<http://www.northlincslocaloffer.com/what-to-do-if-i-am-concerned-my-child-has-send/>

Contact your local Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) for impartial advice about SEND.

Contact 01724 277665 or help@nlsendiass.org.uk

5.15 Contact details for raising concerns

S Barlow – Principal admin@southaxholme-iet.co.uk

5.16 The local authority local offer

Our local authority's local offer is published here: <http://www.northlincslocaloffer.com/>

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy and information report will be reviewed by the SENDCo and the SEND team 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.

7. Links with other policies and documents

This policy links to the following documents:

- Accessibility plan
- Behaviour policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

IET reserves the right to make amendments to this policy at any time without notice.