

Special Educational Needs Information

Archibald First School



Having fun, learning together.

At Archibald First School, we are;

Curious Learners who...

- Ask questions, enquire, process, reason and evaluate
- Generate ideas and look at things from different angles
- Make connections in our learning and connect our ideas in imaginative ways
- Are well-informed about the world around us

Caring Learners who...

- Care about ourselves, others, and the world around us
- Are respectful, tolerant, aware, and empathetic
- Take ownership of our actions and behaviour at school and beyond
- Work together to share ideas, listen to others and consider other possibilities
- Celebrate differences and the diversity of our world
- Consider other people's feelings and listen to each other's opinions
- Care about the world's management and sustainability

Creative Learners who...

- Are imaginative and innovative
- Develop creative thinking skills
- Are able to discuss critically, solve problems and make well-informed choices
- Investigate and experiment with new ideas

Courageous Learners who...

- Have self-confidence and high self-esteem
- Have a desire to try new things
- Are determined, adaptable and resilient
- Are able to use our voices to articulate our points of view and to challenge issues we perceive as unjust

Our mission statement is the back drop for all we do in school, including our work with our children with additional learning needs. This document gives families information about the variety of ways we ensure support for our children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to achieve their potential. We provide a full range of educational and pastoral support to all, which results in our children with SEND making at least good progress.

The information here is general; each child is an individual and will receive unique provision and resources where necessary.

If you would like further information, or a chat, please contact our SENCo, Mrs Angela Ward by email via office@archibaldfirstschool.co.uk or phone on 0191 285 1957.

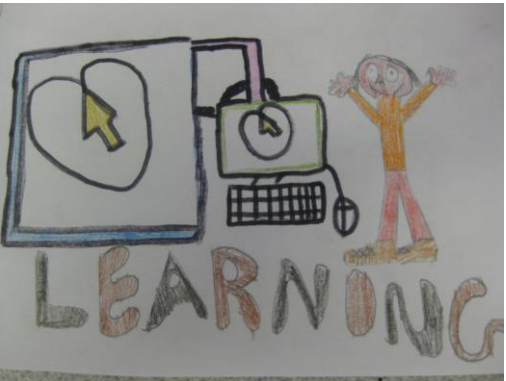
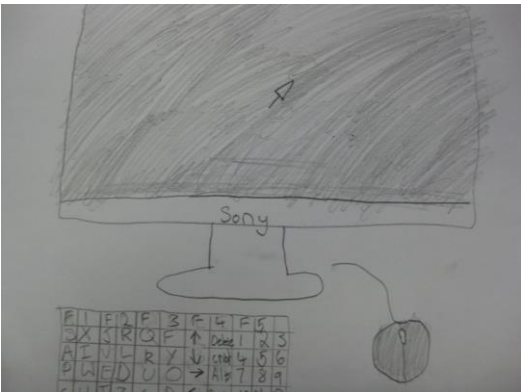
There are a number of reasons why a child may be identified as having SEND:

- They are having significant difficulty with their learning and making far less progress than would be expected.
- They have a specific learning difficulty, for example dyslexia.
- They have emotional or mental health difficulties.
- They have difficulties with social communication and interaction.
- They have sensory and/or physical needs, for example a hearing impairment.

For all children at Archibald School who have an additional need we:

- Recognise that the family is the expert on their child and work in partnership with them.
- Deliver high quality teaching, adapting the curriculum and our resources to ensure children can access the learning.
- Employ a fully qualified Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) to lead on SEND provision across the school.
- Assess and review the learning (progress and achievement) of our SEND children, using that information to inform future planning and teaching.
- Provide teaching assistants in class who work with SEND children and also, importantly, support other children so that the teacher has more opportunities to work with the SEND children.
- Hold regular meetings for teaching assistants with the SENCo, to review children, interventions and resources and to adapt provision where necessary.
- Support our families with children with SEND, formally through review meetings and informally through our “open door” approach. Families are also advised of other services and organisations which may offer further advice and support.
- Where appropriate, we involve children in reviewing targets on the Pupil Support Plans and attending part of the review meetings.
- Seek advice from outside agencies to ensure each child’s needs are fully identified and understood and to learn from specialists how best to support our SEND children. **(Link: Outside Agencies/Parent links)**
- We evaluate intervention groups and strategies on a half-termly basis.
- Regularly evaluate our teaching resources to ensure they are accessible to all SEND children.
- Ensure our school activities and trips, as far as is possible, are accessible to all our SEND children.
- Hold termly review meetings with families for children with a higher level of SEND.
- Provide on-going SEND training and information for teachers and teaching assistants
- Liaise closely with middle schools at transition times to ensure SEND pupil information is clearly communicated and recommendations heard so that the move to middle school is as smooth as possible. **(Link: SEND Policy)**
- Arrange extra visits to middle schools are arranged for children who need this to ensure a smooth transition. **(Link: SEND Policy)**

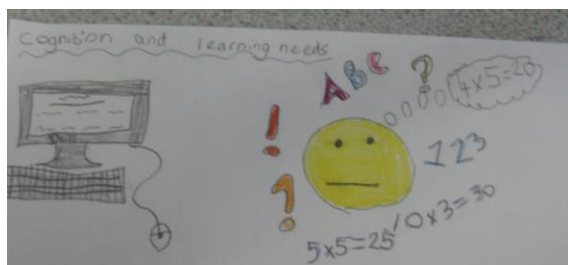
Specific provision is also provided for the different areas of need. The table below explains the detail of this support.

Type of SEN	Support provided in school
<p>Communication and Interaction Autism, Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SCLN)</p>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use visual timetables in all classrooms and use individual ones with specific children when needed to support children to understand what will happen and when. • We have designated teaching spaces with reduced distractions and low stimulus. • We offer additional support during break and lunch time when appropriate. • We use social stories to help children learn how to approach different social situations. • We run small groups focusing on friendship and social skills. • We run small groups focusing on social communication. • We have a variety of resources available to use, depending on a child's sensory difficulties. • Time is spent with children helping them to identify situations that cause anxiety and finding ways to relieve that anxiety. • Family, Advice and Support Team (previously North East Special Needs Network NSNN) newsletters are published on our website to share information with parents. • We run small group speech and language sessions. • We access the expertise and advice of the local authority Communication and Interaction team. • We can refer to NHS Speech and Language. • We can refer to paediatric OT. • We can access the expertise and advice of the LA Educational Psychology Service. • We employ a private Educational Psychologist to manage non-statutory assessments. • Our school nurse supports children to understand their diagnoses.

Cognition and Learning Needs

Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)

Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)



- We access the expertise and advice of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Outreach Service (SENDOS) to ensure the needs of children are clearly identified.
- We provide small group support with a focus on literacy or numeracy skills, depending on need.
- We use intervention programmes to improve literacy or numeracy skills - e.g. Lexia, IDL, Little Wandle phonic intervention, numeracy interventions.
- We provide resources to support children with specific needs- e.g. coloured overlays and reading rulers to help with reading for our dyslexic children.
- We can access support from the LA educational psychology team.
- We employ a private Educational Psychologist to manage non-statutory assessments.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs

Mental Health Condition

Social Difficulties

Emotional Difficulties



- We provide excellent pastoral care for our children and their families.
- We have a dedicated Family Support Adviser (FSA) for social, emotional and mental needs – Mrs Diana West:
diana.west@archibaldfirstschool.co.uk
- We provide counselling for individuals and their families using external providers.
- We run one-to-one sessions focusing on emotional understanding and expression.
- We create **positive support plans** where necessary, to ensure children can access the curriculum and all children remain safe.
- We complete risk assessments and then take action to ensure the safety and inclusion of all children, whenever possible, in all activities.
- We provide one to one and small group nurture sessions for vulnerable children.
- We put in place short term support for children with specific emotional needs, for example, bereavement, adoption, fostering.
- Two members of staff have completed intensive attachment awareness training which has been disseminated to all staff.
- Two members of staff have completed Relational and Restorative Practice training. This is being rolled out across the school.
- Two members of staff have completed EBSNA training with the Local Authority Educational Psychology service.
- Staff are trained in PACE principles.
- We run small group sessions with a focus on social skills.
- Staff are trained in the use of Positive Handling techniques.
- We seek the expert advice and support of outside agencies, including the School Nurse, Barnardo's, Educational Psychology Service and the Children and Young People's Service (CYPS).
- We access the expertise and advice of the local authority SEMH specialist teachers and EPs.
- We provide extra visits to middle schools for children who require this for a smooth transition.

(Link: Anti-Bullying Policy)

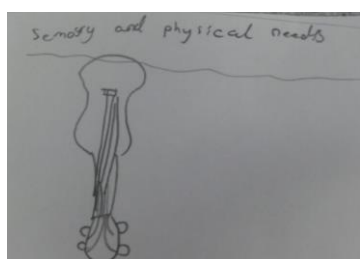
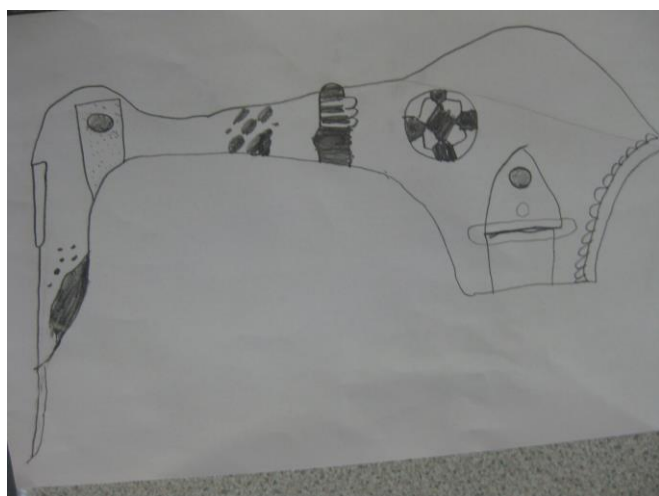
Sensory and Physical Needs

Hearing/Visual Impairment

Physical Disabilities

Multi- Sensory Impairment

Medical Needs



- We provide support and practical aids where appropriate to ensure pupils can access the curriculum.
- We seek advice and guidance from school health for pupils with significant medical needs.
- Appropriate staff receive training in the use of Makaton.
- We run intervention sessions to improve pupil skills, e.g. gross and fine motor skills.
- We request and act upon advice and guidance from the Newcastle Children's Vision Team and Hearing Impairment Team.
- Two members of staff are being trained by the Vision Team to support children with significant visual impairment.
- When it is appropriate, we use ICT to enhance pupil's access to the curriculum.
- When required staff receive training in understanding the impact of a physical or sensory need on the teaching of learning of the child.
- All main entrances to school have ramps fitted to allow wheelchair access.
- Appropriate resources to support children with a physical disability will be provided with advice from link OT and/or physio.
- Classroom environments will be risk assessed and any reasonable adaptations made.
- Our school has a Changing Places accessible toilet.
- Our staff understand and apply the Medicine Policy.
- Dedicated staff have been comprehensively first-aid trained.
- Our school nurse can support with medical and physical needs.

(Links: Accessibility Policy; First Aid and Medicine Policy, Supporting Children with Medical Conditions in Schools Policy, Children with Medical Needs who Cannot Attend School)

If you have any concerns about your child's learning or well-being please come in to school. We shall be happy to discuss things and work with you as we all seek to support your child in our school. Email Angela Ward at office@archibaldfirstschool.co.uk or telephone 0191 285 1957. Thank you.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy was reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body. The policy will be reviewed annually by the Full Governing Body.

Reviewed: Summer 2024

Next Review: Summer 2025



Parent Links

Extended glossary of terms:

<https://as-uk.org/index.php/information/glossary-of-sen-terminology>

Children and Families act 2014

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted>

SEND Code of Practice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/special-educational-needs-sen-code-of-practice-and-regulations>

Newcastle City Council Local Offer

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/kb5/newcastle/fsd/localoffer.page>

Newcastle Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Information, Advice and Support Service, (formerly known as the Parent Partnership Service)

sendiassadmin@newcastle.gov.uk

The National Autistic Society

www.autism.org.uk

Education Healthcare Plan

<http://www.ehcplan.co.uk/>

Family Advice and Support Team: Supports families with disabled children/young people from birth to 25 years)

Admin: 0191 281 8737

Email: information@skillsforpeople.org.uk

