



## **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Report 2024/25**

Heathcote Primary School is a fully inclusive mainstream school that is committed to providing an appropriate and high quality education for all children living in our local area.

The Headteacher, staff and governors will do their utmost to support and provide suitable provision for any pupil who has an identified special educational need or disability.

We support children who have barriers to learning within the areas of Cognition and Learning; Communication and Interaction; Social Emotional and Mental Health; and Sensory and/or physical needs.

Our ethos is aimed at enabling children with any SEND to achieve their full potential, be fully included in our school community and make a successful transition to Secondary School and beyond.

Our whole school has a shared responsibility to monitor the progress of all pupils, identifying need as and when it arises therefore allowing us to provide the appropriate targeted support to meet each child's needs.

We believe that all children, including those identified as having SEND, have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum and to be fully involved in all aspects of school life.

All schools in Warwickshire have the same special educational needs and disability duties, and are expected to provide support for children and young people who have additional needs.

These duties come from the SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25. You can find out more information about Warwickshire's Local Offer on the website: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send>

School Admission arrangements can be viewed on our website:  
[https://www.heathcoteprimaryschool.co.uk/website/admissions\\_arrangements\\_/393924](https://www.heathcoteprimaryschool.co.uk/website/admissions_arrangements_/393924)

We follow Warwickshire guidelines which can be seen at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions)

Below are the frequently asked questions about Heathcote Primary School and its SEND provision:

### **How does the school know if my child needs extra help?**

*Prior to joining Heathcote* your child may have been identified as having SEND and this information could be:

- Information and any assessments from their previous school or nursery setting
- Informal indications from parent
- Reports and discussions with other professionals

*Once your child starts school:*

- All children's progress is tracked and monitored against national and school expectations.
- If concerns are raised about the rate of progress, or the health and well-being, safety or social and emotional health of a pupil, then the class teacher will raise the concern as appropriate.

- The class teacher will inform the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) who will provide additional advice.
- The SENDCo, class teacher, parents and child will discuss next steps and put support in place.

### **What should I do if I'm concerned that my child may have special educational needs or isn't making progress?**

- Your child's class teacher will be your first point of contact if you have any concerns.
- The SENDCo may become involved to support and advise you and the class teacher in the best provision for your child.
- Our school SENDCo is Mrs Jenny Verhofstad. Please contact her if you feel the need to discuss any issues related to your child's learning and/or emotional well-being. She will get back to you as soon as possible either via e-mail or a phone call. Her details can be found on our school website under School Info and Special Educational Needs.
- Warwickshire Local Authority also provides helpful support and advice for parents go to: <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/>

### **How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?**

- Each child is assessed individually according to the SEN Code of Practice and will be supported through clear targets dependent on the individual need.
- We will begin build a one page profile around your child's strengths and support needed. This may include social and emotional targets.
- If your child is having difficulties with basic academic skills, Individual Target Plans (ITPs) are created to support children with making progress in English and Maths. They show short term targets which are regularly reviewed
- For some children additional assessments from other outside services, such as educational psychologists, SEND Supported providers, and speech and language therapists. These will be needed to provide information to the school about how to support the child. This enhanced level of support is called 'SEN Support'.
- Regular review meetings with parents/carers and appropriate staff are carried out to discuss the child's progress and any additional needs that require support.
- Pupil progress meetings are held three times a year within school to track progress and decide upon further support, if needed.
- If the child's needs are more complex or require a greater level of support than the school can offer from their resources we may request an 'Education, Health and Care Plan' (EHCP) via the local authority in order to ensure we can secure further support. At least two terms of high-level intervention through the 'Assess-Plan-Do-Review' cycle needs to have taken place to make this referral.
- EHCPs are provided for children whose learning needs are severe, complex and lifelong or need individual support in school to such an extent in order for them to function in our mainstream primary school.

### **How will school staff support my child?**

- Your child's needs will be met within the class wherever possible, supported by quality first teaching; including lesson planning that takes account of the needs of each child.
- Lessons are adapted and pitched so that all children can learn and progress.
- The progress of all children is reviewed on a regular basis in conjunction with the Senior Leadership Team in school.
- The class teacher may develop a plan for your child, overseen by the SENDCo, setting appropriate targets. This plan will be reviewed at least three times a year to ensure that the support in place remains appropriate.
- Children on the SEND register will have IEPs which show the targets they are working on in school: these will be visible to your child and the staff that work with them. These targets will be changed when appropriate, once they have been achieved.

- Where necessary children will take part in a range of interventions which are suitable for their needs.
- Where necessary the school may seek support from a variety of outside services. This will be discussed with you and a referral only made with your full permission.
- The School Standards Committee is responsible for ensuring that funding is used appropriately, and for monitoring teaching and accessibility. There will be a designated SEND Governor, who works with the SENDCo.
- Children work in a variety of groupings, such as small supported groups, 1:1, mixed ability and similar ability groups.

### **How will I know how well my child is progressing?**

- Review meetings (parents evening or more frequently if required) with you to discuss progress and targets.
- Children's targets (on their ITPs) coming home termly so you can support at home.
- Teachers and the SENDCo are available to meet parents if you require further advice or want to know how your child is getting on.

### **What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?**

*We currently have teachers and teaching assistants who have had specific training in the following areas:*

- Speech and language
- Dyslexia
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Nurture
- Mental Health First Aid
- Paediatric First Aid
- Positive Handling and Team Teach
- Thrive

*We also access support from a variety of other services including:*

- Educational Psychology
- Speech and Language Therapy (SALT)
- SEND Supported
- School Health (Compass/Connect for Health)
- Early Help Team
- Education Support, Behaviour and Attendance Service
- Occupational Therapy (including supporting dyspraxia, fine motor, gross motor needs and those sensory issues linked to an Autistic Spectrum Disorder)
- Physiotherapy
- RISE (a family of NHS-led services providing emotional wellbeing and mental health services for children and young people in Coventry and Warwickshire)
- Counselling services (Snowford Grange and Time4Hope)
- Warwickshire Children and Families Front Door (multi-agency safeguarding hub)
- Children's Services – Social Care
- Young Carers
- Virtual School Service

### **What training have staff had, or are undertaking, to support children with special needs?**

- All staff have regular Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Training is sourced by the Headteacher and the SENDCo and uses relevant outside services in conjunction with identified needs.

- Medical training to support pupils with medical care plans such as Epi-pen and Asthma training.
- The school are working with the PINS Project to support further development.
- Online training from the Behaviour Support Services is also utilised
- The school works with the Virtual School to support further development.

### **What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?**

Support we can provide in school may include:

- Nurture groups
- 1:1 counselling
- Occupational therapy support
- Social skills and friendship groups
- Encouraging 'pupil voice'
- Positive behaviour support
- Reasonable adjustment items are provided on a need basis e.g. balance cushions, fidget and focus items, ear defenders
- Sensory Circuits
- Sensory Pathways
- Movement breaks
- Emotional Scaling
- Emotion Coaching approach
- Inclusion in My Happy Minds Project
- Medicines can be administered in school with signed parental permission. There are nominated first aiders in school with paediatric first aid qualifications. Identified staff have refresher updates and training on the use of Epi-pens and inhalers.
- If your child has significant medical needs including severe allergies you will need to speak to the SENDCo and to discuss how we can best support you and your child. This might include drawing up a Health Care Plan in conjunction with a member of the School Health Team.

### **How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom, including school trips?**

- We make every endeavour to ensure that activities outside the classroom and school trips are available to all.
- Risk assessments are carried out for each trip and a suitable number of adults are made available to accompany the pupils, with 1:1 support wherever necessary.
- Parents/carers are invited to accompany their child on a school trip if this ensures access.
- After school clubs are available to all pupils. Vulnerable pupils are given priority and adjustments will be made to support their participation.
- Health and safety audits will be conducted as and when appropriate.

### **How accessible is the school environment?**

- The school site is wheelchair accessible including access to the playgrounds.
- We have a disabled toilet that is large enough to accommodate full changing and is suitable for wheelchair users.
- Adaptations are made to classrooms to enable all children to have appropriate access.
- We are carrying out sensory audit in order to make school more comfortable for everyone
- Alternative quiet spaces are available around school during lunchtime

### **How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, transfer to a new school... or into the next stage of education and life?**

- Induction events take place during the summer term for all children who are joining the Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception) in September.

- The class teacher and teaching assistant conduct home visits for children beginning EYFS.
- We aim for a good transfer of all SEND information, including reports when children transfer to new schools.
- Previous schools are contacted for information sharing purposes.
- Flexible transition plans and timetables from Pre-School into the EYFS are developed to take account of an individual child's needs and parental views.
- Transition to new classes is facilitated by sessions during the summer term with the new class teachers and teaching assistants.
- A child's new school is always invited to attend any reviews prior to transition.
- We encourage the pupil voice (children are asked their views on an issue either individually or in small groups).
- If your child would be helped by a photograph book/passport/social story to support them in understanding their moving on, then one will be made for them.
- When new children join us throughout the school year and opportunity for them to meet the teacher and walk round the school is provided
- The support documents are sought by the SENDCO along with a conversation about your child's support
- An opportunity to meet with the SENDCO can be made available at any point throughout the year

### **How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?**

- The Special Educational Needs (SEND) budget is managed by the Headteacher with the Academy Finance team, SEND Governor, SENDCo and school administration team.
- Resources (including support from external professionals) are requested and ordered as necessary to support each pupil's individual learning.
- Regular meetings are held to monitor impact of extra support.

### **How will you support my child emotionally and socially?**

- School PSHE programme
- My Happy Minds Project
- Building Relationships Policy (including anti-bullying) and procedures
- PEACE Meetings
- Thrive Programme
- Snowford Grange and Time4Hope Counselling
- Mentoring sessions with LifeSpace
- Lego sessions

### **Who can I contact for further information?**

- ☐ Class teacher
- ☐ Mrs Jenny Verhofstad, SENDCo
- ☐ Mrs Stephanie Rowett, Headteacher
- ☐ Mrs Kim Abernethy, Deputy Headteacher
- ☐ School Office
- ☐ Warwickshire also provide parent support and advice <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/>
- ☐ Warwickshire local offer: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send>

Please do not hesitate to contact our school if you would like any more information:

Heathcote Primary School  
Vickers Way  
Warwick

CV34 7AP

Phone: 01926 290330

Email: [admin2056@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2056@welearn365.com)

Website: [www.heathcoteprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.heathcoteprimaryschool.co.uk)

*This offer is accurate now, but services are regularly reviewed and could change. All information will be updated as soon as possible to reflect any new service offer.*

**Glossary** – notes taken directly from the ‘Special Needs and Disability Code of Practice; 0-25 years – September 2014’ by the Department for Education and Department for Health

**SEND** – Special Educational Needs/Disability - A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him to her. A disability as defined under the Equality Act 2010 is a “physical or mental impairment which has a long term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities”.

**EHCP** – Educational, Health and Care plans – The purpose of an EHCP plan is to make special educational provision to meet the special educational needs of the child, to secure improved outcomes for them across education, health and social care and, as they get older prepare them for adulthood.

A request for an EHCP can be done by the parents of the child or a person acting on behalf of the school with the knowledge and agreement of the parents. The Local Authority must determine whether the EHCP assessment is needed and must communicate its decision to the parents within 6 weeks of making the request.