

Policy for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs



St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary School

Headteacher: Taralee Kennedy
SENCO: Tim Neal
SENCO Assistant: Sarah Patrick
SEN Governor: Poppy Montgomery

Approved by Governing Body June 2025
Reviewed and Update May 2025
Next Review May 2026

Courage

Resilience

Honesty

Kindness

Matthew 7:24 - "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock"

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Vision Statement

Guided by the parable of the wise and foolish builders, our school is committed to building strong foundations for every child, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. We believe that wise planning, early support, and inclusive practice create an environment where all pupils can access learning, feel valued, and flourish. By removing barriers and meeting individual needs, we ensure our provision is built on firm foundations of care, equity, and high expectations for all.

1. Aims

St Nicholas-at-Wade School's Policy for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs aims to:

Ensure our school fully implements national legislation and Kent Local Authority's guidance and expectations.

Sets out how our school will:

- Support pupils with SEND ensuring our best endeavours to provide the appropriate provision to enable positive outcomes.
- Provide an inclusive environment that enables pupils to access all aspects of school life alongside their peers.
- Provide pupils with the skills and attributes that enable them to become confident individuals who can successfully live fulfilling lives.
- Support pupils with SEND to realise their aspirations and achieve their best.
- Communicate with pupils with SEND and their parents or carers ensuring co-production and seek pupil and parent or carer voices to fully involve them in decision making and discussions to support their child's provision.
- Communicate and explain the roles and responsibilities of key school and external professionals who are supporting the provision for pupils with SEND.
- Ensure the SEND Policy is understood and implemented consistently by all staff and is monitored by Governors

At St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary, all pupils irrespective of need access a broad and balanced curriculum which is delivered through high quality inclusive teaching to enable every pupil to make progress and reach their full potential socially, emotionally and academically. When required to do so, the school will make reasonable adjustments to support pupils with SEND. The school sets high expectations and aspirations for each individual pupil, working together with them, and their parents/carers to ensure that pupils with SEND become confident and independent children and young people who are able to successfully transition to the next phase of their education or adult life.

2. Legislation and Guidance

This policy is written in line with:

- Children and Families Act 2014 – Part 3: [Children And Families Act 2014 Part 3](#)
- Special Educational needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2015:
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014: [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#)
- Equality Act 2010: [Equality Act 2010](#)
- School Admission Code 2021 [School Admission Code 2021](#)
- The School Information Regulations: Updated 24/10/24

Maintained Schools: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online>

Governance in Maintained Schools Handbook 2024: [Governance in Maintained Schools](#)

Kent Local Authority:

The Local Authority's Offer can be found in the SEND Information Report

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs>

Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education (CATIE)

[A Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education \(kelsi.org.uk\)](#).

What does inclusion mean in Kent?

'As the champion of families, children, and young people our collective priorities are to be certain that all children and young people are engaged with and included in the provision of high-quality inclusive education. Ensuring that, whatever their circumstance or ability, our children have a sense of belonging, feel respected, are valued for who they are and develop the knowledge and skills required for adult life. In doing so, we strive to achieve a continuous improvement in standards, a significant narrowing of achievement gaps for vulnerable groups of learners and a wholly inclusive education system which ensures:

- Equitable access for all. Sufficient, appropriate, quality education provision is available for all children and young people in Kent.
- No child is left behind. All children and young people are supported to be engaged fully in their education.
- Effective collaboration. There is collaboration and multi-agency working providing a self-informing, sustainable system which supports the education of all.' (KCC: CATIE p 2-3)

Special Educational Needs Mainstream Core Standards (ordinarily available provision) : [Special Educational Needs Mainstream Core Standards](#)

The Mainstream Core Standards:

- Sets out the provision that the Local Area has agreed should be ordinarily available for Children and Young People with SEND
- Provides guidance and advice to support schools to meet the needs of and include Children Young People with SEND
- Provides clear guidance to schools on the statutory duties regarding the inclusion of Children and Young People with SEND

- Provides information to all stakeholders on the work of schools in relation to the inclusion of Children and Young People with SEND.

The school is working towards the ultimate goal of growing independent young people as they prepare for adulthood. All provision and support at St Nicholas-at-Wade School works towards achieving the Kent Children and Young People Outcomes Framework



Our SEND policy should be read in conjunction with our school's /Academy's policies published on our website :

- SEN Information Report
- Safeguarding policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Attendance and punctuality policy

3. Definitions

Definition of SEN

' 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 or her.

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty if he or she:

- Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- Has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools to mainstream post-16 institutions'

(DFE/DOH 2015: 15-16)

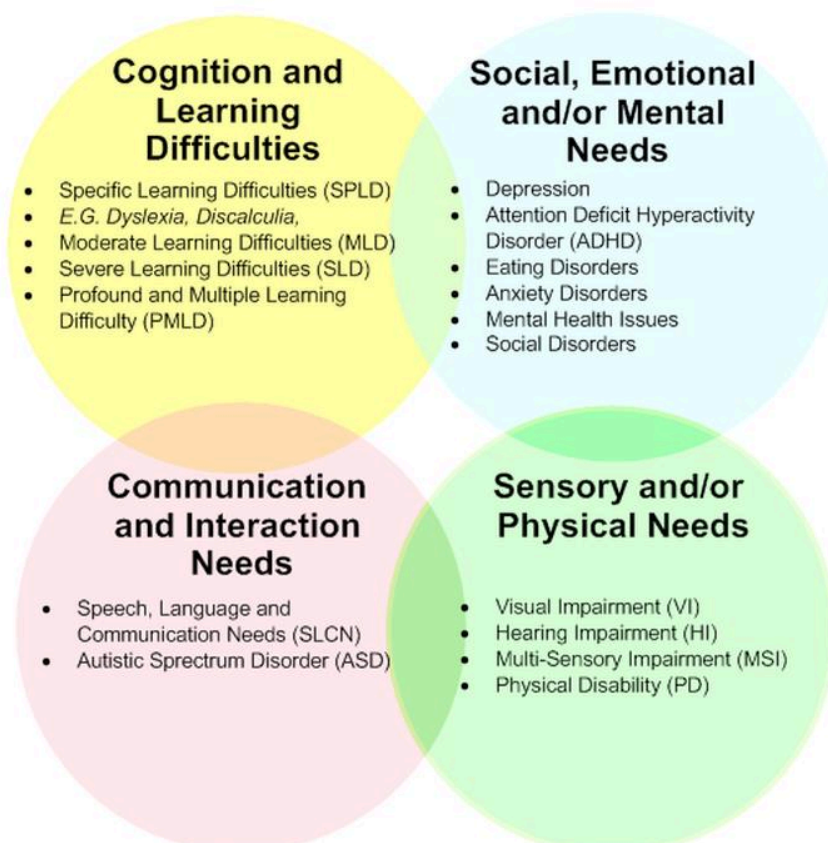
Definition of Disability:

'Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010—that is '...a physical or mental impairment which is a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.' This definition provides a low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'Long term' is defined as a 'year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. This definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is sufficient overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN. Where a disabled child or young person requires a special educational provision they will also be covered by the SEN definition'

(DfE/DOH 2015: 16)

The 4 Areas of Need

The needs of pupils with SEN are grouped into 4 broad areas. Pupils can have needs that cut across more than 1 area, and their needs may change over time.



Special Educational Needs Register:

At St Nicholas-at-Wade School, the SENCO will regularly review the SEN register as part of the Graduated Approach. The SENCO will work in co-production with parents/carer and if required key external professionals to ensure high quality SEN provision is in place, informing parents/carers of any changes that have been agreed. School staff will also be informed, and records updated accordingly on the appropriate school system. A diagnosis does not necessarily mean that a pupil will be placed on the SEN register if the universal and targeted provision the pupil is accessing is enabling them to make good progress.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) support

'SEN support means support that is additional to, or different from, the support generally made for other children of the same age in a school. It is provided for pupils who are identified as having a learning difficulty or a disability that requires extra or different help to that normally provided as part of the school's usual curriculum offer. A pupil on SEN support will not have an education, health and care plan.'

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england>

4. Inclusion and Equal Opportunity

At St Nicholas at Wade Primary School, we are firmly committed to fostering an inclusive environment where every child is provided with equal opportunities to flourish, regardless of their background or individual needs. Our mission is to ensure that all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN), receive a high-quality education which allows them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

To achieve this, we adopt the assess, plan, do, review approach, ensuring that each pupil's unique needs are identified and addressed systematically. This cycle begins with thorough assessment, where we engage collaboratively with pupils, parents, and educators to understand individual learning requirements. Building on this understanding, we meticulously plan tailored, high-quality inclusive opportunities that promote active engagement and participation in all aspects of school life.

During the 'do' phase, our dedicated staff implement the planned strategies and interventions, monitoring progress closely to ensure that the educational experience is maximised for every pupil. We place significant emphasis on the voice of the child throughout this process; their insights are invaluable in shaping their personalised learning journey. Furthermore, we engage parents and teachers in meaningful dialogue, ensuring that targets set are not only aspirational but also realistic and achievable.

Our commitment extends beyond merely meeting statutory requirements. We strive to foster an environment where progress is celebrated and potential is limitless, hence we set targets that inspire rather than cap achievements. As part of our ethos, we continuously review the effectiveness of our approaches, adapting our methods to best support the diverse needs of our learners.

At St Nicholas at Wade Primary School, we believe that an inclusive education is the cornerstone of a prosperous future for all children. By working collaboratively with families and the wider community, we aim to empower our pupils, helping them to become confident, independent individuals who are prepared to embrace the challenges of the future.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

St Nicholas at Wade Primary works strategically in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2015

The school will ensure that pupils, parents and carers have:

- Access to impartial information, advice and support throughout their time in the school/academy to help them make informed decisions and choices about their future.
- Are effectively supported to understand their rights and decision-making processes and choices regarding their plans and support.
- An understanding of their individual plans, outcomes, provision and support and the reasons why some changes may not be possible

(Area SEND inspections: framework and handbook updated April 2024)

5.1 SENCO

At St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary our SENCO is **Tim Neal**.

Contact details:

Tel: 01843 847253

Email: tim.neal@st-nicholas-birchington.kent.sch.uk

He has 3 years experience in this role and has worked as a primary teacher for almost 20 years. He is currently working towards achieving the National Professional Qualification for SEND.

Our SENCO Assistant is **Sarah Patrick**.

Contact details:

Tel: 01843 847253

Email: Sarah.Patrick@st-nicholas-birchington.kent.sch.uk

The SENCO has an important role to play with the headteacher and governing body with regards to the strategic oversight and implementation of St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary School's SEN policy and development.

They will:

- Oversee the day-to-day responsibility and implementation of the SEND policy.
- Ensure all statutory requirements are adhered to throughout the year
- Co-ordinate provision for children with SEN using the graduated approach – Assess, Plan, Do, Review to review and monitor provision for all pupils with SEN.
- Communicate and provide all staff with the key SEN and medical information, advice, guidance, and strategies to support pupils with SEN ensuring high quality provision across the school/academy.
- Collaborate with teachers, support staff, parents and carers regarding all aspects of their child(ren)'s provision including interventions and outcomes.
- Offer professional guidance to staff to secure high quality inclusive provision in the classroom and throughout the school day.
- Collaborate with curriculum leaders to remove barriers to learning.
- Develop and lead whole school continued professional development to ensure high quality provision for all pupils with SEN.
- Liaise with the relevant Designated Teacher where a looked after child or young person has SEN
- Liaise with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies.
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 regarding reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- Be the key point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services

- Ensure the school keeps up-to-date records of all pupils with SEN.
- Ensure any pupils who has a part time timetable is agreed with parent/carers, is registered on the KELSI website and a clear re-integration strategy is planned in conjunction with the parent/carer and pupil.
- Hold status in order to have capacity and authority to make change.
- Ensure genuine coproduction and collaboration with the wider community.
- Advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- To keep up to date with key national and local SEN development.
- Attend key meetings organised by the local authority such as The Countywide SENCO Forum to ensure they have up-to-date strategic and operational information.
- Is fully involved in all aspects of transition planning whether phased or in year regarding pupils with SEND, following expectations set out in the District Plans and Kent Transition Charter. Ensuring parents/carers are fully informed throughout the transition period.
- Work closely with other colleagues and SENCOs in their Community of Schools.

Developed from DfE/DOH SEND Code of Practice 2015:108-109

5.2 Headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Work closely with the SENCO and SEN link governor to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision across the school.
- Work with the SENCO and governors to ensure the school adheres to all legislative and statutory guidance keeping up to date with all key national and local policies and expected SEN practice.
- Ensure the SENCO has sufficient time and resources to effectively carry out their role.
- Work closely with the SENCO to carry out their duties employing the Graduated Approach, using their 'best endeavours' and when required making reasonable adjustments to ensure the school is providing high quality SEN provision.
- Have overall responsibility for the provision for pupils with SEN, their progress, and outcomes.
- Have the responsibility for monitoring the school's notional SEN budget and any additional funding allocated by the LA to support individual pupils or SEN provision for groups of pupils.

5.3 SEND Governor

Our Governing Body/Trustees board have a legal responsibility to pupils with SEN as defined in the Children and Families Act 2014 and SEND Code of Practice 2015.

The SEN governor will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEN issues at governing board meetings.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEN and disability provision within the school and update the governing body following monitoring visits.
- Work with the headteacher and SENCO to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school.

Governing bodies have legal duties in relation to pupils with SEND that are set out in the [Children and Families Act 2014](#) and the [SEND code of practice](#).

Governing bodies should have an individual responsible for specific oversight of the school's arrangements for children with SEND.

The [SEND code of practice](#) assists the governing body and the link or lead governor in supporting and promoting discussions with regards to outcomes for learners with SEND.

DfE: Maintained schools guidance guide: updated 2 October 2024 [Maintained Schools Handbook](#)

5.4 Teachers

All teachers are teachers of pupils with special educational needs. Our SENCO(s) provide a vital strategic role and provides significant advice and support to teachers, but the responsibility for the learning and progress of all children lies with the teacher.

'High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the starting point in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and SEN support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching.

Schools should regularly and carefully review the quality of teaching for all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils, and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered.' (DfE/DoH SEND Code of Practice 2015: 25)

Every teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every pupil in their class
- Instilling high aspirations for every pupil.
- Delivering a broad balanced curriculum embedding high-quality inclusive teaching strategies and resources
- Working closely with teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan, monitor, track and assess the impact of support and interventions, and how they can be transitioned and embedded in the classroom.
- Working with the SENCO to review each pupil's progress and development, and decide on any changes to provision.
- Ensuring they follow this SEN policy.

5.5 Parents and carers

Parents and carers should inform the school if they have any concerns about their child's progress socially, physically, emotionally, or academically or if there are any changes to provision that have been advised by key external professionals working with their child following an appointment.

Parents/ carers are actively involved in all aspects of the decision-making process through meetings or agreed forms of communication and are afforded every opportunity to contribute discussions regarding their child's SEN provision.

5.6 The pupil

Seeking the voice of the pupil is an important aspect of ensuring the SEN provision is highly effective for every pupil with SEN. Pupils are given every opportunity to express their view and provide information to support review meetings as part of our Graduated Approach in year meetings and for pupils with an EHCP the statutory Annual Review. However, the voice of the pupil can be sought at any time throughout the school year.

6. SEN Information Report

Our SEN policy works in conjunction with our SEN Information report which sets out how this policy is implemented in the school.

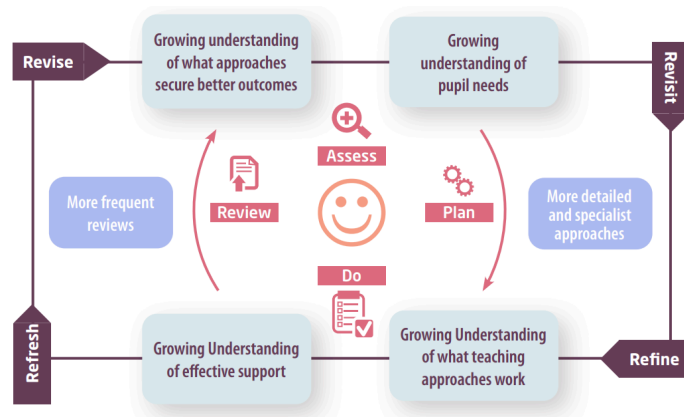
The SEN Information Report is updated annually or if necessary, when changes to the information may be required during the academic year.

7. Admissions and Accessibility

To ensure access for pupils or parents with disabilities our school building has a specially designed toilet and ramp access to all doors. The Disability Equality Scheme includes an accessibility plan to improve provision which is reviewed annually or in response to new pupil admissions. All pupils regardless whether they have a special educational need will be involved in the full life of the school. This includes being encouraged to join and participate in clubs, school teams, sports, assemblies, plays and trips. If needed, extra resources will be considered for purchase to enable full curriculum access. Parents can contact key staff directly at the end of the school day or if unavailable, via the school office. Information is made available to parents in a variety of formats including letters, website and text messages.

8. Our School's Approach to SEN

St Nicholas at Wade Primary School effectively employs the assess, plan, do, review model to enhance educational outcomes. By systematically assessing student needs, devising tailored plans, implementing instructional strategies, and reviewing progress, the school ensures adherence to mainstream core standards while fostering an inclusive learning environment. This is called **The Graduated Approach**.



8.1 The kinds of special educational need for which provision is made

The school will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils 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.

DfE/DOH SEND Code of Practice: 2015, 6.17

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social, emotional and mental health needs.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, the school will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment using the school graduated approach, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. The school will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether the school can provide it by adapting the universal offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

At St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary, provision is made to support pupils with additional needs irrespective of whether a pupil has an education health and care plan in conjunction with The Continuum of Provision and Need and using the Graduated Approach.

At St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary, we will ensure our 'best endeavours' to meet the needs of pupils with an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with the following kinds of special educational need: Cognition and Learning Difficulties, Communication and Interaction, Sensory and/or Physical Needs and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. Decisions on the admission of pupils with an EHCP are made by the Local Authority.

The Graduated Approach to SEN Support at St Nicholas at Wade Primary School

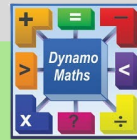
Once a pupil has been identified as having SEN, we will take action to remove any barriers to learning, and put effective special educational provision in place. This support will be delivered through successive rounds of a 4-part cycle known as the graduated approach.

ASSESS

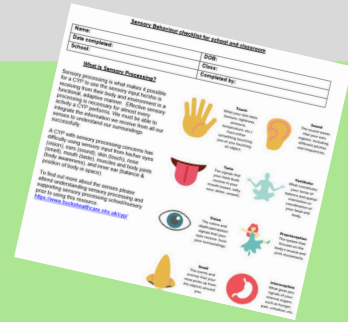
The pupil's class teacher and the SENCO will carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. The views of the pupil and their parents/carers will be taken into account. The school may also seek advice from external support services. The assessment will be reviewed regularly to help make sure that the support in place is matched to the pupil's need. For many pupils, the most reliable way to identify needs is to observe the way they respond to an intervention.



CoPS



Speech & Language Link



PLAN

In consultation with the parents/carers and the pupil, the teacher and the SENCO will decide which adjustments, interventions and support will be put into place, the expected outcomes, and a clear date for review.

All staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of the pupil's needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided and any teaching strategies or approaches that are needed. This information will be recorded on our management information system and will be made accessible to staff in an individual education plan.

Parents/carers will be fully aware of the planned support and interventions, and may be asked to reinforce or contribute to progress at home.

Individual Education Plan					
Name:	Date of Birth:		SENco:	Tim Neal	
Area of Need(s)	Cognition and Learning	Diagnosis/ Medical	Professionals Involved		
	Communication and Interaction				
	Social and Emotional				
	Physical and Sensory				
Teacher/					
What is working well?	Social stories Comic strip conversations/storyboard Be vigilant for signs of increasing generalised anxiety and deteriorating wellbeing.	Child's Strengths/Special Interests:		Long-Term Outcomes	
Child's Voice					
What is working well?		Child's Strengths/Special Interests:		Long-Term Outcomes	

DO

The pupil's class teacher retains overall responsibility for their progress.

Where the plan involves group or 1-to-1 teaching away from the main class or subject teacher, they still retain responsibility for the pupil. They will work closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved, to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching.

The SENCO will support the teacher in further assessing the pupil's particular strengths and weaknesses, in problem solving and advising on how to implement support effectively.



REVIEW

The effectiveness of the support and interventions and their impact on the pupil's progress will be reviewed in line with the agreed date.

We will evaluate the impact and quality of the support and interventions. This evaluation will be based on:

- The views of the parents/carers and pupils
- The level of progress the pupil has made towards their outcomes
- The views of teaching staff who work with the pupil

The teacher and the SENCO will revise the outcomes and support in light of the pupil's progress and development, and in consultation with the pupil and their parents/carers.

8.2 The identification and assessment of pupils with special educational needs

In line with this SEND Code of Practice (DfE/DoH 2015) pupils at St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary are identified as either having no SEN, having SEN with support, or having a SEN with an Educational Health and Care Plan.

At St Nicholas-at-Wade Primary, progress is closely monitored throughout the year to review their academic progress. Every pupil in the school has their progress tracked three times a year as part of our Pupil Progress Meetings. However, pupils with SEN may have more frequent assessments. We formally monitor the impact of interventions three times a year, with informal monitoring and reflection throughout the intervention period. We then adjust provisions accordingly.

Teachers carry out regular assessments to track progress and identify pupils who despite using high quality inclusive teaching strategies are:

- Working significantly slower than their peers who have the same starting point.
- Are unable to maintain or improve their progress rate
- Are unable to close the attainment gap in line with their peers or the gap is widening.

This may also include progress and development in areas other than academic attainment such as social, emotional, and physical.

To support pupils, the school use a range of assessments to review and monitor the broader developmental needs and progress of all pupils. At St Nicholas-at-Wade we are experienced in using the following assessment tools e.g. Speech Link, Language Link, Boxall Profile, LUCID CoPs and LASS (assesses a child's memory) Dynamo Maths Assessment. These tests will enable the early identification of difficulties that a pupil may present - add context with regards to school setting. Information collected from the testing will inform the appropriate intervention and provision to support progress and outcomes.

Teachers at St Nicholas-at-Wade are responsible for classroom provision delivering a well sequenced and resourced curriculum and use high quality inclusive teaching strategies which are scaffolded, with adaptations made to meet a pupil's needs.

When teachers identify an area where a pupil is making slow progress or where they have concerns, they will follow the school's early identification of need's protocol. Teachers will inform parents/carers at an early stage to make them aware and discuss the further supporting strategies that the teacher will use to help the pupil.

However, if progress does not improve the teacher will inform the SENCO to have an initial discussion about whether this lack of progress may be due to a special educational need. In this instance, the SENCO will, in consultation with the pupil's parents/carers, discuss further support.

We have access to external advisors who are able to use more specialist and specific assessment tools. We draw on advice from: Health professionals including, paediatricians, clinical psychologists, CAMHS, Speech and Language therapists, Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists. As well as Specialist teaching services including; Early help; Thanet Inclusion Support Service (TISS) and other specialist teaching services.

The purpose of a more detailed assessment will identify what additional resources and/or different approach is required to enable the pupil to make better progress. These will be shared with parents/carers, written into SEN provision plans, which are regularly reviewed, refined, and revised. At this point the SENCO will have identified that the pupil has an additional need because the school is making provision for the pupil which is additional and different to what is normally available. Teachers will be informed throughout the process and training will be delivered to ensure the provision is of a high quality.

It is important to note as stated in the SEND Code of Practice (DfE/DoH,2015 6.23) that slower than expected progress and lower attainment does not automatically mean a pupil would be recorded as having SEN.

If the pupil is able to make good progress using this additional and different resource but would not be able to maintain this good progress without it, the school will continue to identify the pupils having special educational need. If the pupil is able to make good progress without the additional or different resources, they will not be identified as having special educational needs. When any change of identification of SEN is amended, parents/carers will be notified.

The school will ensure that all teachers and support staff who work with a pupil with SEN or have an additional need are made fully aware of the provision that each individual pupil requires.

8.3 Consulting with Parents

All parents of pupils at the School are warmly invited to attend two meetings per year to discuss their children's progress, alongside receiving three written reports annually. We are also pleased to accommodate additional meetings upon request to facilitate open communication.

As part of our standard teaching arrangements, all pupils will have access to supplementary instruction should progress monitoring indicate a need for additional support; it is important to note that such provisions do not imply a special educational need. These interventions will be systematically recorded, tracked, and evaluated on a Provision Map, which will be shared with parents of children registered with Special Educational Needs (SEN) three times a year.

Parents will be encouraged and supported to engage actively in the assessment, planning, and review processes. Furthermore, those with pupils holding an Education, Health and Care Plan will be invited to participate in an annual review, which aims to include relevant external agencies whenever possible. We are committed to ensuring that all information is accessible for parents.

9. Complaints about SEND Provision

Complaints about SEN provision at St Nicholas-at-Wade should be made to the headteacher [Mrs Taralee Kennedy] in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

Parents/carers of pupils with disabilities have the right to make disability discrimination claims to the first tier SEND tribunal if they believe that the school has discriminated against their child. 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

All complaints relating to a named member of staff must be sent to the headteacher.

If a complaint is not resolved after it has been considered by the governing body and you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, pages 246 and 247 of the SEND Code of Practice [SEND Code of Practice](#)

10. Glossary

- **Access arrangements** – special arrangements to allow pupils with SEND to access assessments or exams
- **Annual review** – an annual meeting to review the provision in a pupil's EHC plan
- **Area of need** – the 4 areas of need describe different types of needs a pupil with SEND can have. The 4 areas are communication and interaction; cognition and learning; physical and/or sensory; and social, emotional and mental health needs.
- **EHC needs assessment** – the needs assessment is the first step on the way to securing an EHC plan. The local authority will do an assessment to decide whether a child needs an EHC plan.
- **EHC plan** – an education, health and care plan is a legally-binding document that sets out a child's needs and the provision that will be put in place to meet their needs.
- **First-tier tribunal/SEND tribunal** – a court where you can appeal against the local authority's decisions about EHC needs assessments or plans and against discrimination by a school or local authority due to SEND
- **Graduated approach** – an approach to providing SEND support in which the school provides support in successive cycles of assessing the pupil's needs, planning the provision, implementing the plan, and reviewing the impact of the action on the pupil
- **Intervention** – a short-term, targeted approach to teaching a pupil with a specific outcome in mind
- **Local offer** – information provided by the local authority which explains what services and support are on offer for pupils with SEND in the local area
- **Outcome** – target for improvement for pupils with SEND. These targets do not necessarily have to be related to academic attainment
- **Reasonable adjustments** – changes that the school must make to remove or reduce any disadvantages caused by a child's disability
- **SENCO** – the special educational needs co-ordinator
- **SEN** – special educational needs
- **SEND** – special educational needs and disabilities
- **SEND Code of Practice** – the statutory guidance that schools must follow to support pupils with SEND
- **SEND information report** – a report that schools must publish on their website, that explains how the school supports pupils with SEND
- **SEND support** – special educational provision which meets the needs of pupils with SEND
- **Transition** – when a pupil moves between years, phases, schools or institutions or life stages