



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

At Chiseldon Primary and Nursery School, we take great pride in being a school that values inclusivity and support, making sure that every child receives a curriculum and school experience tailored to their unique needs. Our facilities and premises have been modified to ensure accessibility for disabled individuals. We offer a variety of interventions focused on reading, writing, and mathematics, aimed at providing additional support to pupils with special requirements. To assist parents, we organise informative workshops, offering them extra guidance and assistance.

The current trend is that we have a growing population of SEND pupils, and parents are becoming more aware of their rights and want to ensure that the correct support is in place for their child/children. We have had two Looked After Children (LAC) currently, and our Designated Teacher, Spencer Allen, has worked tirelessly to support this process. As a school, we haven't had any LAC for about 10 years, and Spencer has had to arrange several lengthy meetings for this process, which was very time-consuming but a beneficial process. He was even highlighting to the Local Authority (LA) the rights the children have, and many of these attendees were not aware of this.

Further trends around SEND are that we have submitted several Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) applications, many of which have been rejected. The LA is breaking the law by asking for further evidence, which is not legal. This process has been extremely time-consuming and very frustrating. They are still expecting us to jump through several hoops, and the LA themselves are extremely behind, as they are not fulfilling the 20-week deadlines they need to stick to.

We recently adapted our Individual Education Plan (IEP) template to ensure that the targets set by class teachers are more SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound). We have ensured to embed examples and have completed staff meetings to follow this up.

We attended the BANDING review meeting with the LA, which we initially thought was a very exciting process, as we believed the LA was finally listening to schools and would be costing out Section F and paying it rather than using bandings. However, the review has highlighted that this appears not to be the case, and we still have a banding scheme. Mr. Allen will be able to update slightly more as he was in the meeting more recently, where this came to light.

We had a brilliant SEND coffee morning where Swindon SEND Family Voice attended and spoke to our parents, staff, and governors. As a school, we certainly have a good reputation for supporting SEND, and this was being played out, albeit slightly embarrassingly for myself and Mr. Allen, but the praise was kind.

Key Challenges

- Funding remains a challenge, as the EHCP process does not fund Section F correctly, and we are fighting it.
- The EHCP process does not work, as EHCPs are getting rejected, which is breaking the law.
- We have a few more EHCPs to submit, but it is going to be a lengthy process to continue to fight them.
- Although we might be getting EHCPs, unless they are funded correctly, they are worthless.

SEND Data

- We currently have 5 EHCPs.
- We have one already gone through the Assessment process, which is well over the 20-week deadline, and I have chased.
- We have two in the Assessment process, but haven't heard back, and the deadline for information was this week.
- We have had three rejected because there was not enough evidence, which is against the law!
- We have two more to submit by the end of this term.

SEND Policy Update



Lastly, our SEND policy does need updating, but I haven't updated it yet because I have had some recent guidance from the LA regarding universal provision, which I need to include and get my head around. I will do that this term and upload it to the Governor Hub.