

Woodfall Primary and Nursery School - SEND Local Offer

Our Approach to Supporting Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

At Woodfall Primary and Nursery School, we are committed to ensuring that all children are valued equally and have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Our curriculum is carefully tailored to meet individual needs and abilities, empowering every child to become an active learner and achieve their full potential.

Our Commitment to SEN Provision

We are dedicated to providing high-quality support for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) through:

- **Effective management systems** aligned with the latest Code of Practice (2014, updated April 2020 and September 2024).
- **Strong communication** between teachers, SEN pupils, parents, Cheshire Academies Trust, outside agencies and the local authority.
- **Valuing parental input** - we recognise parents' knowledge and expertise about their own children.
- **Encouraging pupil participation** - children are supported to take an active role in reviewing their progress and completing a 'Look at Me Now' review.
- **Ongoing staff development** to manage the complex needs of pupils effectively and ensure high-quality support.
- **A structured review cycle** to monitor, assess, and adjust learning strategies for continuous improvement.
- **Addressing barriers to learning** in all curriculum areas through thoughtful and inclusive teaching practices.

Our Principles

Our SEN policy is built on the following guiding principles:

We value all children equally.

Every child is encouraged to reach their intellectual, emotional, physical, and social potential.

Effective assessment, planning, and recording are key to meeting individual needs.

Open communication between staff, parents, and pupils is essential.

All children are entitled to experience success in an inclusive setting.

Our Objectives

We aim to:

- Regularly assess, record, monitor, and review each child's progress.
 - Ensure all staff are familiar with the SEN Code of Practice and their responsibilities.
 - Design tailored teaching strategies to meet the needs of each pupil.
 - Work closely with external agencies to provide a multi-disciplinary approach.
 - Evaluate and improve inclusive practices at individual, class, and school levels.
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What Is the Local Offer?

The Children and Families Bill (2014) requires all local authorities and schools to publish details of available services for children with SEN and their families -this is the 'Local Offer.'

The Local Offer aims to:

- Improve choices and transparency for families.
 - Help parents understand the range of available support and services.
- More information about services available across Cheshire West and Chester can be found at www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.
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Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does Woodfall identify if my child needs extra support?

We identify additional needs through:

- Concerns raised by parents, teachers, or the child.
- Limited academic progress.
- Significant changes in behaviour or emotional well-being.
- Regular assessments, book scrutiny, lesson observations, and pupil progress meetings conducted by the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team (SLT).
- We follow a Graduated Approach (see separate Identification of Need document):

Wave 1 - on watch

Wave 2 - initial concerns

Wave 3 - SEN Support

Wave 4 - Top-up funding/ EHCP in place

2. What should I do if I think my child may have SEN?

- Speak to your child's class teacher first.
 - If further support is needed, contact the SENCO (Mrs. Harker-Dempsey) who coordinates SEN support and resources.
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3. How will Woodfall support my child?

- **Individual Education Plans** - Your child's programme will be designed by the class teacher and adapted to their needs.
- **Small Group or 1:1 Support** - Delivered by highly skilled Teaching Assistants (TAs) in targeted interventions.
- **One Page Profiles** - a clear, quick snapshot of a child's key information to help support their learning and well-being.
- **External Expertise** - We work with professionals including:
 - Educational Psychologist
 - Speech and Language Therapist
 - Occupational Therapist

- o Physiotherapist
 - o CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
 - o Autism Team
 - o Visual Impairment Service
 - o School Nurse
 - o Specialist Medical Consultants
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4. How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

- Quality First Teaching, with work differentiated to meet each child's abilities.
 - TAs may provide additional small group or 1:1 support.
 - Individual goals are set as part of the SEN Child Profile for children who have an EHCP (Wave 4 of the Graduated Approach) and reviewed termly. Additionally, a formal review takes place annually.
 - Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are used to support children whose needs are within Wave 2 or Wave 3 of the Graduated Approach
 - Specialist equipment such as writing slopes, seating wedges, and magnifiers may be provided where needed.
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5. How will I know how my child is doing?

- Termly progress reports with specific targets.
 - Termly parent-teacher meetings.
 - Additional meetings with the SENCO if required.
 - Informal check-ins and communication through a home-school diary (if needed).
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6. How can I support my child's learning at home?

- The termly report will include suggested focus areas.
 - Homework may be adjusted to suit your child's needs.
 - If necessary, a home-school communication book will be provided.
 - The class teacher or SENCO can recommend strategies to support your child's learning and emotional well-being at home.
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7. How will Woodfall support my child's overall well-being?

- PSHCE curriculum to support emotional and social development.
 - Paediatric First Aid and EpiPen-trained staff.
 - Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) available for emotional support.
 - Lunchtime club for children needing structured social time.
 - Positive behaviour systems
 - Use of Zones of Regulation
 - Crew Culture - emphasising teamwork, accountability, and a shared sense of purpose, often with a strong focus on collaboration, personal responsibility, and mutual respect.
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8. What specialist services are available at or accessed by the school?

- ELKLAN-trained HLTA for speech and language support.
 - Staff trained in autism, dyslexia, and behaviour management and Gestalt Language Processing amongst others.
 - Manual handling training for staff supporting physical needs.
 - Team Teach - a training program focused on promoting positive behaviour management and de-escalation strategies
 - Support from Cheshire Academies Trust SEND Lead
 - Support from external agencies as needed.
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9. How will my child be included in school activities and trips?

- All trips and activities are accessible to all children.
 - Risk assessments are carried out to accommodate individual needs.
 - Adaptations or 1:1 support may be provided if necessary.
 - Pre-visit discussions with parents to ensure a successful experience.
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10. How accessible is the school environment?

- All buildings are single-level and wheelchair accessible.
 - Disabled toilets and parking spaces are available.
 - Wide corridors allow for easy movement.
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11. How will you support my child during transitions?

- Nursery and Reception staff visit feeder settings.
 - Transition meetings for pupils with SEN.
 - Enhanced transition plans for children moving to secondary school.
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12. How are resources allocated for SEN?

- SEN budget allocated annually to meet identified needs.
 - Funding used for staff deployment, intervention programmes, and specialist equipment.
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13. How is the type and level of support determined?

- Based on individual needs and progress.
 - Recommendations from external agencies are incorporated.
 - Parents are involved in decision-making at every stage.
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14. How can parents be involved in their child's education?

- Open-door policy for regular communication.
- Termly review meetings to set and assess goals.
- Formal review for pupils with an EHCP or top-up funding.

15. Who can I contact for more information?

- **Class teacher** - for day-to-day concerns.
- **SENCO (Mrs Chloe Harker-Dempsey)**
- **Headteacher (Mrs Helen Hough)**
- **SEND Link Governor (Mrs Julia Bryant)**
- More information available via the local authority website www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

We are proud of our inclusive culture at Woodfall Primary and Nursery School, where every child is supported to succeed and thrive.