

Working Together



A guide to Special Needs

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Sources of Information

Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014

The local offer

Local authorities are now obliged to publish a local offer with information about the available provision and how to access it. The aim of this is to make provision more responsive to the needs of young people with SEN.

Please visit the School's website to see Jesse Gray's Local Offer

Nottinghamshire county council's website:

www.nottinghamshire.sendlocaloffer.org.uk

Ask Us Nottinghamshire is part of the Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS) established in the County as part of the reforms to the systems of supporting special educational needs and disabilities introduced by the Children and Families Act 2014.

Ask Us Nottinghamshire fulfills many of the roles and functions that were previously undertaken by the Parent Partnership Service. The service provides impartial information, advice and support for parents/carers of children with SEND, aged 0- 25 years.

<http://www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk/kb5/nottinghamshire/directory/service.page?id=YmqugCdb3a4>

What are Special Educational Needs?

A child has Special Educational Needs if he or she has:

- ◆ **A learning difference** - a significantly greater difference in learning than the majority of children of the same age, or a disability which makes it difficult to use education facilities generally provided locally, and if that learning difficulty calls for
- ◆ **Special educational provision** - provision additional to, or different from, that made generally for children of the same age in local schools

There is a wide range of special educational needs for which children may need extra support. Sometimes these needs are only short term, others may continue through a child's school life and some children may have a specific diagnosis. The needs generally fall into one or more of the following categories.

Cognition and Learning

Indications may be:

- delayed language development
- memory difficulties
- limited concentration
- difficulties with independent learning

Communication and Interaction

Indications may be:

- difficulties in following instructions, routines and maintaining attention to task
- tendency to display obsessive behaviours and/or inappropriate language and communication - can result in loss of friends or distracting teaching staff
- uneven progress between subject areas due to problems with particular aspects of learning
- uneven developmental profile

Social and Emotional and Mental Health Needs

Indications may be:

- incidents of disruption/ disaffection
- Mood is frequently very low, affecting self-esteem and limiting ability to engage. difficulty remaining on task results in frequent disruption
- progress below expectations in many areas - often associated with frustration and disaffection
- fluctuations to mood and unpredictable attitudes to learning tasks
- difficulties in making and maintaining appropriate relationships
- Anxiety limits school attendance and impacts progress in learning

Sensory, Medical or/and Physical

Indications may be:

- does not make expected progress with support of additional equipment and appropriate curricular approaches
- experiences difficulties undertaking some tasks/working at the same pace as peers
- exhibits signs of increasing fatigue towards end of day/session
- may show signs of frustration in classroom/setting
- experiences difficulties forming relationships with peers
- isolation during lunch/social times
- a specific disability eg hearing or sight loss

Terms Explained

The local offer is the services that are available in Nottinghamshire. More information is available at: <http://nottinghamshire.sendlocaloffer.org.uk/>
As part of the local offer the Jesse Gray SEND policy sets out our aims and provisions in more detail.
(see the Jesse Gray School website.)

What is the Local Offer?

What is a SENCO?

A Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is a member of staff responsible for keeping an overview of special needs in school.

A Teaching Assistant who works alongside the class teacher and supports groups of children and individuals to access the curriculum and reach their targets.

What is a TA?

What is an SEN Support Plan?

An Individual Plan which sets out small step focused targets and how they will be achieved

A person trained to make judgements on children's educational development. They work in a number of schools and have an overview of the needs of local children.

What is an Educational Psychologist (EP)?

What is an Inclusion Support Teacher?

An experienced teacher who school can ask for advice and help. They work in a number of schools and also offer training to support staff.

An experienced teacher trained to support children who are experiencing behavioural difficulties and give advice to their teachers.

What is a Behaviour Support Teacher

What is the Ask Us Nottinghamshire Scheme?

An organisation which offers support and advice to parents of children with special educational needs.

A meeting (in addition to the normal parents' evenings) for the parents/carers to meet with other agencies who support a child with special needs. These happen termly for children who have a SEN SUPPORT PLAN

What is a review?



What is inclusion?

Inclusion means *all* children, whatever their needs, are welcomed into school, and supported to take an active part in all areas of school life to become integrated member of our school community.

Information comes to us in many different ways:

- from you
- from pre-school or Nursery
- from Early Years Support Services
- from staff working with your child
- from other people working with your child
- from listening to and observing your child
- from tests, assessments and tracking systems in school



How do we know who needs help?



What does school do to help?

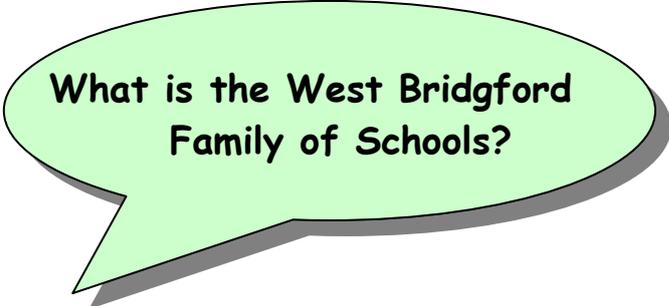
There is a national **Code of Practice** which helps ensure children have access to a similar system of support whichever school they attend.

Many children may receive help in class through work which matches the way they learn.

Some children will have extra help from another adult to achieve targets from their SEN Support Plan

A few children may benefit from support and advice from other sources and specialists.

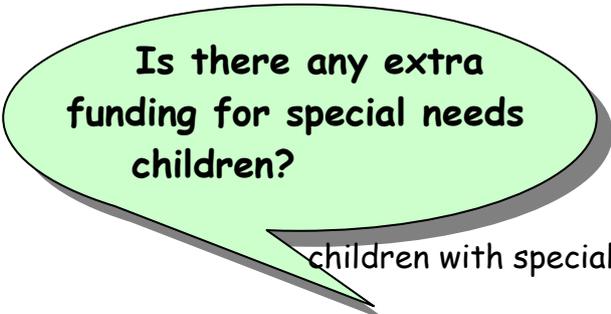
A very small number of children will have exceptional needs that require the school to request support from the West Bridgford Family of schools or Children and Young People's Services.



What is the West Bridgford Family of Schools?

West Bridgford Family of schools which includes:
West Bridgford Infants School
West Bridgford Junior School
Heymann Primary School
Greythorn Primary School
West Bridgford School

This group is chaired by the Family SENCO, a senior member of the team. We are allocated a pot of money to support children with special needs within our family and moderate bids to ensure this money is allocated fairly. We support each other and share training.



Is there any extra funding for special needs children?

There are several ways in which children with special needs are supported.

- The majority of children's needs will be met in the normal classroom setting without the need for additional funding. The terms for the following levels of funding will change, but the process will be the same.
- **PLACE funding.** Some children will need additional support other than that normally provided by the classroom teacher. This funding comes directly into the schools budget.
- **AFN funding** (additional family need). A few children may continue to give concern or may have a specific diagnosis that requires additional help. This funding goes to the family of schools and the SENCO has to put in a bid to the family to access this funding. The

bids are moderated and if granted the funding is expected to be supported by the school's money.

- **HLN funding** (higher level need). Occasionally a child may have complex or more severe needs which require more consistent adult support to access the curriculum. This funding has to be applied for through the Local Authority. The bids are moderated and if granted the funding is expected to be supported by ASN and AFN money.
- **Medical funding** If a child has complex medical needs which require some form of physical intervention (e.g. injection, catheterisation) we may be eligible to access this funding. It has to be applied or through Local Authority.

How can you help?

- Make sure school knows about any major changes in your family or worries you may have.
- Encourage your child with reading, spelling and homework.
- Try to come to all meetings such as reviews and parents' evenings.
- The most important help you can give is continual encouragement and praise



**We'll achieve the best
results if we work together.**

More detailed information on what we offer can be found in the school SEND policy available on the school website.

If you want know more or have *any* queries or concerns please phone school on 0115 974 8002 and ask for Hardip Thompson, SENCO or email hthompson@ga.jessegray.notts.sch.uk

or contact your child's teacher