



## **SEND Information Report for Ebor Gardens and Victoria Primary Academies 2018-19**

At Ebor Gardens and Victoria Primary Academies we have an inclusive ethos and strive to support **all** children to achieve at school. We work closely with our children, families and a wide range of professionals to ensure the best possible educational outcomes. Early identification of children with SEND enables early intervention to be implemented and extra support to be put in place.

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO) at both schools is Mrs Helen Mills. All SEND provision in school is closely monitored, reviewed and evaluated by the Heads of school and Mr Ian Goddard (Executive Principal) who reports to the school governing body on how individual needs are being met.

The following policies are on the school websites and reflect the school's commitment to the inclusion, safety and well-being of our children:

SEND Policy  
Accessibility Plan  
Medical Conditions Policy  
Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy  
Positive Behaviour Policy

Equalities Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Further information about services for pupils with SEND in Leeds can be found on the Leeds City Council Local Offer page <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/local-offer/leeds-local-offer/special-educational-needs-disability>.

## **What do I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?**

If you have concerns regarding your child's progress or well-being at school these should be discussed with their class teacher. You may also wish to contact our SENDCO. Arrangements will be made for a meeting where school will listen carefully to concerns and put appropriate actions in place. This may involve observation or assessment in school, additional support within the classroom, support through our nurture team or referring to other professionals such as the Complex Needs Service, Educational Psychology or Speech and Language Therapy if necessary.

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

The academic progress and well-being of all children is monitored closely and, where there are concerns raised by staff, parents will be informed and support put in place. This support may be provided through classroom staff or our nurture provision. Additional support for families is available through our Parent Support Advisers.

Where a Special Educational Need has been identified, the class teacher will plan a programme of provision which will be overseen by the SENDCO and any other professionals involved with the child. The programme will be delivered by teachers and support staff either individually or as part of a small group and will be reviewed termly by the class teacher. Where further support is required, the class teacher will meet with the SENDCO to discuss additional strategies.

## **How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?**

Children learn in different ways and our curriculum recognises the need for practical experiences and resources to support classroom learning. Teaching staff work together to plan an appropriately differentiated curriculum that meets the specific needs of all our learners. All children have access to quality teaching. However, for some children further additional support may be needed to help them achieve their targets. Children may also be grouped to access targeted support or specific resources in lessons.

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

Both of our school buildings provide excellent facilities for children with additional needs. The school buildings are fully accessible to wheelchair users with disabled toilets and lifts between floors. Ebor Gardens has a care suite. If your child requires specialist equipment in school this can be purchased using the funding allocated to support SEND. For further information, please see the individual school's Accessibility Plans.

## **How will I know how well my child is doing and how will you help me support my child's learning?**

Progress against individual targets is shared termly at Parent Consultation evenings and through annual reports. Where there are concerns about progress or your child's well-being, school will contact you to discuss this. In addition, if you have concerns, you can contact school to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher or the SENDCO. We are flexible with how regular these meetings are depending on the needs of the child.

We encourage parents/carers to be involved in supporting their child's education in consultation with the class teacher. This may involve homework tasks or reinforcement of classroom strategies in the home.

## **What support will there be for my child's overall well-being and social, emotional and behavioural development?**

At Ebor Gardens and Victoria Primary Academies we work hard to provide a caring and supportive ethos. We embrace a restorative practice approach, encouraging children to think carefully about their actions and the impact on others. Each school has a pastoral team who have responsibility for the well-being of the children. They can support children and families with attendance, behaviour and emotional issues. Nurture groups run throughout the week for identified children. Referrals are made through class teachers or other members of school staff. We have a qualified counsellor employed to work across both schools, referrals are made through the school SENDCO and in consultation with parents. Staff are happy to meet with you to discuss how we can best support your child.

Our Pastoral/Family support teams are trained in the Early Help Plan (EHP) process and school ensure members of staff attend meetings and liaise with professionals involved. All our staff are trained in Child protection procedures and we also have a team of staff who are specially designated to ensure the Safeguarding of all children

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

All staff in school are aware of a range of Special Educational Needs and are able to plan and resource lessons in response to the needs of the children they teach. Staff members receive specific training to support individual needs (such as Autism, Speech and Language, supporting pupils with Down's Syndrome) either through external agencies or internally as appropriate. Members of our team have undertaken training in Nurture principles and use this to develop a nurturing ethos in

school We have staff trained to deliver Play Therapy and a qualified counsellor employed to work across both schools.

In addition to the support we provide in school we work in partnership with many different agencies and professionals. We have access to specialist support through Leeds City Council Complex Needs service. We also commission additional Speech and Language Therapist and Educational Psychologist time from the funding allocated to support SEND.

Other agencies and professionals we work with include:

Health Visitors  
The School Nursing Team  
Complex Needs Team (SENIT)  
NHS Speech and language Therapy  
STARS (Specialist support for children with Autism)  
Physiotherapy/Occupational therapy  
Educational Psychologist  
CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)

### **What training and development is done by staff supporting those with SEND?**

All staff employ a variety of approaches to teaching, including multi-sensory techniques such as Numicon. All teachers have accessed Tier 1 Autism training. Key staff have been trained in Team-Teach de-escalation techniques to support pupils displaying challenging behaviour.

The SENDCO has completed the National Award for SEN Co-ordination in addition to training courses related to specific SEND, such as Tier 3 autism training, Dyslexia awareness, PECS communication strategies and Attachment and Trauma training. The SENDCO attends regular network meetings to ensure that school is kept up to date with the latest developments.

Additional training for staff is matched to the needs of pupils in the school. For example, staff in Early Years have received bespoke training in using visual support strategies to support pupils with communication difficulties, and key members of staff have accessed training to support pupils with Down's Syndrome.

If a child has a medical need then a Health Care Plan is written with the professional involved and staff have training in order to support the child e.g. epi-pen training and epilepsy.

### **How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom?**

At Ebor Gardens and Victoria Primary Academies our aim is to ensure all children with SEND are able to access all activities and school trips enjoyed by their peers. Parent/carers may be involved in planning of activities to ensure safety and inclusion. Risk assessments are carried out and procedures put in place to enable children to participate whenever possible. Children with additional needs are encouraged and welcome to join in with our extra-curricular activities. Any additional support required to access these can be discussed with the SENDCO.

### **How will the school help my child on transfer to the next phase of education?**

Transition between year groups is carefully planned for all children, with additional support provided where necessary. Early Years leaders ensure that children starting school are visited at home or in another setting to ensure a smooth transition into Nursery. The SENDCO will attend meetings with parents and nursery settings where appropriate to ensure provision is in place before starting school.

The SENDCO has close links with local secondary schools and will arrange meetings with the secondary school SENDCO to support transition. Where a child has a high level of need, this process may start during Year 5 to support selection of an appropriate secondary school. Throughout Year 6 there can be opportunities for extra visits to the High School to see the facilities and talk to key staff who will be involved in supporting your child. These visits may be supported by school staff.

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

School has an identified budget for SEND. Decisions about the notional SEN budget are made in consultation with the governing body and reflect a priority of need. This is used to provide resources, training and intervention support within school to meet the needs of our pupils. Additional top-up funding (FFI) for identified children with a high level of need, is applied for by the SENDCO and allocated according to criteria set by Leeds City Council. The school uses the additional funds to put appropriate support in place to meet the specific needs of a child. This may be for specialist equipment or resources to support your child's progress or, if necessary, may take the form of a key worker to support the child to access a personalised timetable, develop independence and access all areas of the curriculum.

Additional funding for nursery pupils with low-level and emerging SEND (SENDIF) is also available following criteria from Leeds City Council and is used to provide early intervention support for our youngest pupils.

## **How are parents involved in the school and how can I be involved?**

We welcome parents/carers to become involved in school life. We regularly invite parents and carers to assemblies and performances, and coffee mornings are held to provide an informal opportunity for parents to meet and discuss ideas.

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

If you have any concerns about your child please speak directly to their class teacher or call the school office on 0113 2482449 (Victoria) or 0113 2482750 (Ebor) to make an appointment with the SENDCO

If you are considering applying for a place at Ebor Gardens or Victoria Primary Academies please contact our school office on the numbers above who will be happy to arrange to show you around.

If you wish to know more about the Local Authority's Local Offer please visit <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/local-offer/leeds-local-offer/special-educational-needs-disability>.

If you want more information about our provision for children with SEND or want further information about other support services or the Local Offer then please contact the SENDCO, Helen Mills.

Mrs Helen Mills  
Senior SENDCO

Ebor Gardens and Victoria Primary Academies