

IRIS School Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy

1. Philosophy and Purpose

At IRIS School, we are committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment that promotes the achievement and well-being of all students, including those with special educational needs. We recognize that every child is unique and may require different forms of support to reach their full potential.

2. Objectives

- To identify and assess the special educational needs of students as early as possible.
- To ensure that all students receive the necessary support and resources tailored to their individual needs.
- To promote the involvement of parents and caregivers in planning and decision-making.
- To enhance staff understanding of SEN and foster a culture of inclusion within the school community.
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the SEN provision regularly.

3. Definition of Special Educational Needs

Special Educational Needs are identified as those students who have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of their peers, which may include challenges related to:

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Social, emotional, and mental health difficulties
- Sensory and/or physical needs

4. SEN Identification and Assessment

- The school will implement a graduated approach to identifying and assessing SEN, in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice (2015).
- Teachers will use regular assessments, observations, and feedback to identify students who may require additional support.
- The SEN Coordinator (SENCo) will work with teachers, parents, and external specialists to conduct detailed assessments and develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) when necessary.

5. Provision for Students with SEN

- Tailored interventions will be provided based on individual needs, which may include:
 - Targeted teaching strategies
 - Access to specialized programs and resources
 - Adjustments in teaching styles or classroom settings
 - Additional support from teaching assistants or specialized staff

6. Role of the SEN Coordinator (SENCo)

- The SENCo will oversee the school's SEN policy and practice, ensuring compliance with legal requirements.
- The SENCo will coordinate the identification and assessment of students' needs and liaise with parents, teachers, and external agencies.
- The SENCo will provide guidance and support to teaching staff in implementing appropriate strategies and interventions.

7. Parent and Caregiver Involvement

- We believe in the importance of collaboration with parents and caregivers. Communication will be maintained through regular meetings, updates, and progress reports.
- Parents will be encouraged to share their insights about their child's needs and contribute to the development of IEPs and support strategies.

8. Training and Professional Development

- Staff will receive ongoing training and professional development on SEN issues, inclusive practices, and specific strategies for supporting students with various needs.
- The school will encourage a culture of continuous improvement and learning among staff to better support students.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

- The effectiveness of SEN provision will be regularly monitored and evaluated through assessments, observations, and feedback from staff, students, and parents.
- The SENCo will report to the senior leadership team and the school governing body on the progress of students with SEN and the effectiveness of interventions.

10. Review of Policy

- This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of students with special educational needs.

11. Contact Information

For more information regarding our SEN policy, please contact:

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