A Parent and Carer's Guide to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) at St Nicolas and St Mary's CE School

At St Nicolas and St Mary's CE Primary School, we are committed to meeting every child's pastoral, social, physical and academic need to enable them to achieve their full potential. We want children to be inspired by our vision to 'be courageous' and to live and learn through God's faith, hope and love.

Many steps are taken to support your child through their journey. We constantly strive to provide high quality education for all children however some children may require additional support to enable them to achieve their targets.

How do we identify and assess pupils with SEND?

- Teachers constantly observe and assess children in their class so that they understand their individual needs and to ensure they are making good progress with their learning.
- Where a pupil's progress is significantly slower than that of their peers, or fails to match their previous rate of progress, it *may* be that the child has SEND. Information will be gathered, including listening to the views of parents/carers and to those of the pupil.
- There are many reasons for 'falling behind' and it may be that your child *does* need additional support but *does not* have a learning difficulty.

How does our school support children with Special Educational Needs and Disability?

- The level of extra support your child receives will depend on their individual needs. Some of the ways we support children in school include:
  - working with a teacher or Teaching Assistant for intervention work
  - providing additional resources or changing the classroom environment
  - extra help from other services e.g. Speech and Language Therapy.
- While many learners with SEND will have their needs met in this way, under the category of *SEN Support*, some may require an Education Health and Care needs assessment to determine whether it is necessary for the Local Authority to make provision in accordance with an *Education, Health and Care Plan*.

Parental involvement and the child's voice:

- The school works in partnership with children and their parents/carers. This means:
  - we listen to your views and aspirations and to those of your child
  - parents/carers and children are involved in decisions and discussions about school life
  - children and their parents/carers are kept informed about the progress being made.

What should I do if I have any concerns?

- If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress or well-being, then please speak first to your child's teacher at the end of the day or make an appointment through the school office.
- Class teachers will contact you if they are at all concerned about your child.
- The school's SENDCO, SENDCO Assistant, Senior Leadership Team and Headteachers are also available to listen to any concerns you may have.
- Mrs Collins is our Home-School Link Worker. She works alongside families to support the overall well-being of children at our school. Contact her through the school office or by email: homeschoollink@stnm.org.uk.

Other sources of information and help:

- The school's SEND Information Report and contribution to the Local Offer (available on our school website and from the school office).
- The school website: St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School - Inclusion
- *The West Sussex Parent Carer Forum* http://www.westsussexparentsforum.co.uk/
- *The West Sussex Local Offer* https://westsussex.local-offer.org/

For further information contact the:
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