

A decorative graphic consisting of two overlapping blue circles. The circles are drawn with a thick, slightly irregular blue line, giving them a hand-drawn or watercolor-like appearance. The circles are positioned in the upper left and upper right areas of the page, with the right circle partially overlapping the left one.

St Wilfrid's Catholic Academy

SEND Information Report

Meet our team here at St Wilfrid's Catholic
Academy!

Mrs M Stonier
(SENCO)

Mrs E Taylor
(Safeguarding Officer)

Mrs S Green
(Family Support Worker)

Liz Thomas
(Governor Champion)

You can contact any of our team by calling 01782 235676

Inclusion

St. Wilfrid's Catholic Academy is a mainstream primary school that welcomes and values all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

St. Wilfrid's Catholic Academy is founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our faith underpins our commitment to creating a nurturing environment where every child, regardless of their needs, is loved and valued. We strive to live by His words:

'Love One Another as I Have Loved You.'

At St. Wilfrid's Catholic Academy, we believe that every member of our school community is special and unique. We are all equal and important, and this belief is central to our approach to supporting children with SEND. We are dedicated to fostering a community where children with SEND can flourish, develop a love of learning, and deepen their understanding of service and justice. We believe that by nurturing their unique talents and providing targeted support, we enable all children to reach their full potential, both academically and personally.

Inclusion at St. Wilfrid's Catholic Academy means actively recognising and celebrating differences. We are committed to meeting the diverse needs of all our pupils, including those with SEND, by taking positive and proactive steps to ensure they have equal access to all educational opportunities and experiences offered by the school.

Who do I talk to if I have any concerns about my child's learning needs or disabilities?

Initially, parents may wish to speak to their child's class teacher regarding any concerns about their child.

The class teacher can then liaise with the SENCO or other appropriate staff, where applicable.

The school SENCO, Mrs Stonier, can be contacted through the school office.

How does St. Wilfrid's know if children need extra help, and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

Here at St Wilfrid's, we are committed to providing quality first teaching for all of our pupils.

- All children attending school will be monitored and observed in line with the relevant curriculum. Any concerns will be discussed with parents/carers.
- We have an open-door policy where parents/carers can speak with staff about concerns regarding their children.
- If you have concerns, appointments can be made with the SENCO, class teacher, or senior leaders.
- The school has a dedicated Special Educational Needs coordinator (SENCO) who monitors your child and liaises with you and outside agencies if required.
- Parent Consultation days are held three times a year, giving time for sharing progress and discussing the appropriate next steps for your child.

What are the kinds of special educational needs for which provision is made at St Wilfrid's Catholic Academy?

We address the needs of our children using the four main areas outlined in the Code of Practice (2015), these are:

<p>Communication and Interaction Speech, Language, and Communication Needs (SLCN). This includes children who have difficulty saying what they want to or understanding what is being said to them, and children who do not understand or use social rules of communication. This includes children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder who are likely to have particular difficulties with social interaction. They may also experience difficulties with language, communication, and imagination, which can impact how they relate to others.</p>	<p>Cognition and Learning. This includes children whose learning difficulty could result in them learning at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation. Learning difficulties cover a wide range of needs and include, for example, children with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) and children with a Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD), which encompasses conditions such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dyspraxia. These children may need additional support in some areas of the curriculum.</p>
<p>Social, emotional, and mental health difficulties. (SEMH) Children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional challenges that manifest in many ways. They may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging behaviours, along with children who may have disorders such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or attachment disorder. We work with CAMHS and other appropriate agencies to support these children.</p>	<p>Sensory and/or physical needs. This includes children who require special educational provision because they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities generally provided. This includes Visual Impairment (VI), Hearing Impairment (HI), Multi-Sensory Impairment (MSI), and Physical Disability (PD). We work with specialist services to access appropriate support that enables these children to engage in their learning.</p>

At St Wilfrid's, we are aware that these needs may be interrelated and that children may have more than one area of need. All areas of need will be taken into account when deciding on how best to support each individual child.

How does St Wilfrid's Catholic Academy identify young people with SEND?

Before a child enters our nursery setting, our staff carry out home visits to find out about the children who are due to start with us. This includes discussing whether the child has already received any support for their needs. We also have discussions with any day nurseries if your child has attended a previous setting, and this provides details of any outside agency input.

If your child has a special need or disability, we will:

- * Use the Assess, Plan, Do, Review graduated approach to supporting their needs - this will involve:
- * Talking to you about your child's difficulties in learning or disability so that we can understand their needs.
- * Assessing your child's learning so we know which skills they need to learn next.
- * Asking the Special Educational Needs Coordinator to support and advise teachers so that your child can learn in the best way for him/her.
- * Having a range of programmes to help children who need extra support in an area of their learning and/or development.

- * Checking on progress frequently and inviting you to a meeting to discuss that progress at least once a term.
- * Asking for advice from an educational psychologist, advisory teacher, speech and language therapist, or health colleague if we are unsure how to help your child make progress.
- * Telling you how to get in touch with Parent Partnership Services (SENDIASS), who can offer advice and support.
- * Informing you about how to make a complaint if you are not happy with what we are doing to support your child.
- * Talking to you if we think we need to consider asking the local authority to carry out a coordinated assessment of your child's needs because more advice/resources are needed to help your child make progress.

How will St Wilfrid's support my child?

- Your child's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) will work closely with you, their class teacher, and any external agencies involved to monitor and support your child's progress carefully. We believe in a strong partnership between home and school.
- We create 'Pupil Passports' in close collaboration with you, your child, and all professionals involved in their education. These passports are personalised documents that outline the specific support your child will receive, which may include one-to-one assistance or small group work, all tailored to their unique needs. Your child's passport is a living document, regularly reviewed and updated to reflect their evolving progress and needs.
- Your child's class teacher and dedicated support staff will work directly with them, implementing agreed strategies and next steps to foster their development and learning journey.

Our SENCO, class teacher, and support staff are readily available to discuss and explain your child's educational plan in detail, ensuring you feel fully informed and involved.

What Interventions Will Be Offered to a Child with Special Educational Needs?

Your child is unique and valued, and we are committed to supporting their individual journey.

- **Tailored Teaching:** All teachers carefully plan lessons to meet your child's specific needs. This includes differentiated activities in a rich, supportive learning environment, where adults provide guidance to ensure both safety and opportunities for your child to extend their experiences.
- **Pupil Passports:** We use Pupil Passports to share important information with all staff working with your child. These plans focus on supporting your child's physical, social, and cognitive development, ensuring consistent and personalised care.

- **One-to-One Support:** When necessary, your child will receive one-to-one adult support. This ensures their safety, helps them engage fully with learning, and supports a positive and inclusive classroom environment.

How does St Wilfrid's assess and evaluate the effectiveness and sufficiency of its arrangements and provision for children with SEND?

- The class teacher or support staff can be spoken to at the beginning or end of the day. The school's Special Educational Needs coordinator (SENCO) can meet with parents/carers by prior appointment.
- Pupil Passports are reviewed with your class teachers, Special Educational Needs coordinator (SENCO), and your child termly.
- External agencies involved with your child can visit the school to observe or work with the child.
- A rigorous tracking system is in place to monitor your child's progress and attainment.
- Targets and next steps will be shared with parents /carers, and suggestions to support children at home will be given through the termly newsletter and curriculum webs.

- Training for parents/carers is offered through our Family Support Worker.

How does St Wilfrid's ensure that my child or young person stays safe outside of the classroom?

- All trips and visits are staffed with an appropriate ratio of adults to children unless one-to-one is required.
- All areas visited are wheelchair accessible.
- Risk assessments are carried out for any activity where there is some form of risk anticipated. Staff may also visit the trip location before the school trip to gather additional information and be aware of any support children may require. Staff will plan and set specific requirements if a child needs them to keep them safe.

- In the Early Years, Key Stage One, and Key Stage 2, staff are at the door every morning and every afternoon to greet parents and children. This provides an opportunity to speak with parents regularly and ensure a smooth transition to and from school.

How will St. Wilfrid's manage my child's medicine or personal care needs?

- We follow the requirements of the latest DFE advice (Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions- Updated 2017, see policy).
- Any medicines that are required to be taken are kept in the school office, and parents sign a form detailing when and how they need to be taken. Any specific medication required, e.g., inhalers or EpiPens, is kept in the classroom/with the child at all times.
- Any toileting or eating needs are managed sensitively and in consultation with the parents to agree on the best approach.

- Where a care plan is necessary, staff work with the school nurse, SENCO, and family to create the plan, and then copies are given to all staff working with the child.
- Any child's care plan will detail what should happen in an emergency. In the event of a medical emergency, an ambulance is called, and parents are contacted.

What support is available to assist with my child's emotional and social development?

We are lucky to work with Mrs Green, our Family Support Worker, who can offer support both in a supervisory capacity and as someone to listen to your child. This can provide a quiet space and time away from the classroom for your child should the need arise.

If there are significant concerns about your child's emotional welfare and needs, we can also refer to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), which can work with parents and children to help them move forward.

What expertise is available at St. Wilfrid's in relation to SEND?

- The members of staff all have a wealth of experience and have undergone training. Training is undertaken to equip staff with the necessary knowledge as needs arise. The Graduated Approach document is used to identify any additional needs.
- Speech and Language Therapist, Educational Psychologist, Specialist Advisory Teachers, Health Care Professionals, Hearing and Visual Impairment support, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Advisor.
- Courses on Hearing Impaired (HI), Visually impaired (VI), behaviour management, along with relevant training to support interventions.
- All staff work closely with you and outside agencies to learn specific skills to support children with additional needs.
- All school staff have received updated training on the new SEND Code of Practice and have received regular staff meetings regarding SMART targets, pupil passports, and SEN updates.

- The SENCO offers termly workshops for staff to ask questions, seek guidance, and review passports. The SENCO can provide support to the class teacher/support staff to ensure your child's needs are met.

How accessible is St. Wilfrid's Catholic Academy?

- The building is accessible throughout. Access into all classrooms, halls, and the outdoors is appropriate for use with wheelchairs and walking aids. There is an accessibility toilet on the premises.
- We ensure, wherever possible, that the equipment used is accessible to all children regardless of their needs.
- Staff access training in the use of more specialist equipment, which your child may require. After-school provision is accessible to all children, including those with SEND.
- Extra-curricular activities are accessible for children with SEND.
- The school's Accessibility Plan can be found on the school website.

How will St. Wilfrid's prepare and support my child to transfer to their next education setting?

We recognise that transitions can be difficult for a child with SEND and take steps to ensure that any transition is as smooth as possible.

If your child is moving to another school:

- We will contact the school SENCO and ensure he/she know about any special arrangements or support that need to be made for your child.
- We will make sure that all records about your child are passed on as soon as possible. Support from additional specialist agencies will be sought, e.g., the Autism Outreach Team.

When moving classes in school:

- Information will be passed on to the new class teacher IN ADVANCE, and a planning meeting will take place with the new teacher.
- Pupil passports will be shared with the new teacher.
- Your child will take part in transition visits to their new class to familiarise themselves with their new environment and get to know their new class teacher and, where applicable, any teaching assistants with whom they will be working.

In Year 6:

- The SENCO and Y6 teachers will discuss the specific needs of your child with the SENCO of their secondary school.
 - Your child will do focused learning about aspects of transition to support their understanding of the changes ahead.
- Your child will visit their new school on several occasions, and in some cases, staff from the new school will visit your child in this school.

How are St. Wilfrid's resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?

- The SEN budget is allocated each financial year. The money is used to provide additional support and resources.
- We ensure that the needs of all children who have special educational needs are met to the best of the school's ability with the funds available. This may include the allocation of additional TA support in 1:1 or group settings, intervention teacher input, and/or specific resources to meet individual needs.
- The budget is allocated on a needs basis in consultation between the Principal, SENCO, and the Senior Leadership Team.

- The children who have the most complex needs are given the most support, often involving a teaching assistant.
- Parents are involved in the decision-making process through consultation with the SENCO in the development and evaluation of Pupil passports.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?

- All children are unique and individual, and as such, all teaching is of the highest standard, and differentiation is made in all age groups.
- If a child needs additional support, the SENCO will work with class teachers, key people, parents/carers, and outside agencies to ensure appropriate support.
- When children join the school, support is allocated using the information provided by the child's previous school or setting.

- During the school year, provision is regularly adjusted to meet the changing needs of individuals in consultation with the SENCO, class teacher, outside agencies, and parents.

How can parents be involved with St. Wilfrid's?

- We always strive to work in partnership with parents/carers and welcome their involvement.
- Questionnaires are distributed to all parents and carers twice yearly, allowing you to evaluate and comment on our school's performance.
- We hold events regularly for parents and carers (celebration assemblies, workshops, Coffee Mornings).
- All parents/carers are very welcome to make an appointment to discuss children's needs, however large or small, at any time.
- We also welcome parent/carer volunteers in school.

How will I be involved in decisions about my child's learning?

- All parents of children in our school are invited to attend a Parent Consultation three times a year. These are designed to discuss a child's progress, the targets they are working towards, and how parents can help at home. Annual Reports are sent home in July to give an overview of the year. Parents can also meet with Class Teachers at other times throughout the term, and this can be arranged through the school office.
- If a child is part of an intervention, this will also be discussed so parents are aware of the support the child is having, how well interventions have gone, and what they can do to help. Parents can arrange an appointment with the class teacher or SENCO to discuss these in more depth.
- Parents of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan are also invited to attend a review meeting, at least once a year. All information from outside professionals will be discussed with you and the person involved directly, or, where this is not possible, in a report.
- Homework will be adjusted as needed to suit your child's individual needs.
- Alongside the home school diary, an additional home/school communication book may be used to support contact with you, when this has been agreed to be useful for you and your child.

Current Services/Agencies/Specialists linked to St.
Wilfrid's Catholic Academy:

School Nurse- 0300 124 0362

Speech Therapy based at Cobridge Health Centre- 01782 234481/82/83

SENDS Advisor- 01782 232538

Hearing/Vision Impaired Support Team- 01782 232538

Behaviour Support Service- 01782 232538

Educational Psychologist- 01782 232538

Other Services/Information

- SENDIASS is available to support families. Further information can be found at <https://www.sendiass-stoke.co.uk> / or by calling 01782 234701.
- If you are not happy about a decision or something that is happening in school, please ask to speak to your child's class teacher initially. If you require further assistance, please request to speak to the SENCO. If you are still not happy, you can speak to the Principal or a SEND Academy Committee member, who will do their best to help you with your concerns.
- You can find the Local Authority's 'Local Offer' at <http://localoffer.stoke.gov.uk/kb5/stoke/directory/home.page>