

**April 2025
(Review April 2026)**

1. How does the school assess the progress of pupils and what would they do if my child was falling behind?

Pupil progress is regularly assessed by the teachers, and support staff, through observation, marking, discussions and formal assessments. At the end of every half term, Pupil Progress meetings are held with the class teacher and members of the Senior Leadership team, where every child's progress and attainment is reviewed. Pupils who are identified as not making sufficient progress are discussed with a view to looking at their barriers to learning and how they can be supported further. This may involve an intervention programme tailored to meet their specific needs.

2. How accessible is the school environment?

The school is easily accessible for all children with a disability. Ramps have been installed to provide access to all areas. Two designated, purposely designed, toilet facilities are available for children with a disability. The car park has designated parking for disabled badge holders.

3. Where can I find information about the school's approach to pupils with SEN?

The school's approach to pupils with SEND is documented in the school's SEND policy. A link is provided below:

<http://www.stjohnsceacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/April-22-SEND-Policy.pdf>

4. Who is the person responsible for children with SEN?

Every teacher has the responsibility for children with SEN in their class. The SEN Co-ordinator (Mr D Goldsbrough) is the person responsible in ensuring this support meets the needs of the children and provides support and advice to teachers and parents where required.

5. How do I contact the person responsible for SEN or arrange to meet them?

The SEN Co-ordinator, Mr D Goldsbrough, can be contacted by telephone 01325 380725 or by email to admin@stjohnsce.darlington.sch.uk. Alternatively, visit the school office and leave a message with the Admin Officer.

6. What training or specialist expertise does the staff have around SEN?

Staff have experience and training to provide support for pupils with SEN. Where a training need is identified and the expertise is not present, the school is committed to ensuring that

training gap is addressed wherever possible. We have a number of staff who have undertaken training in the following areas:

- Delivering additional English work.
- Delivering additional maths work.
- Providing additional pastoral Support.
- Working with children to support mental wellbeing.
- Working with children with low mood.
- Working with children with an attachment disorder.
- Working with children with Speech, Language and Communication needs.
- Working with children with Autistic Spectrum Condition.
- Working with children with a visual impairment.
- Working with children with a hearing impairment.
- Working with children with a specific learning disorder (Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia).

7. What support can the school provide for children with SEND?

The school can provide a variety of support for children with SEND. This may include 1 to 1 intervention and small group work. The school also buys into specialist external agencies to enhance provision.

8. What further external support can the school access and when would this happen?

If following a review of your child's progress, the SENDCO felt that your child may benefit from additional support, we have access to the following specialist services and external agencies:

- SEN Officer, Darlington Borough Council:
Nicky Brown (SEN Dept., Town Hall, Darlington)
- Educational Psychologist:
Dr Sarah Tighe (Principal Educational Psychologist - Darlington Educational Psychology Service)
- Public Health Nursing:
Emotional Resilience and Wellbeing, Medical Needs, Safeguarding
(Tel. 03000030013)
- CAMHS:
Mulberry Centre, Darlington
- Early Years Inclusion Officer:
Angela Bradley
- Speech and Language Therapy Dept:

North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust provides Speech and Language Therapy Services

- Occupational Therapy Services:
Children's Centre, Chester-le-Street
- ASD/Social and Communication Outreach Service:
Solmaz Daneshmand (based at Hurworth School)
- LINS Team/Advisory Services:
Clare Slater (Hearing Impairment)
Jenny Hill (Visual Impairment)
- Virtual Head for Looked-After Children:
Calvin Kipling (Town Hall, Darlington)

9. Who can I contact to provide additional advice and support for my family?

Additional advice may be obtained from the Local Authority's Parent Support Advisor, Darlington Needs Led Neurodevelopmental Pathway Family Support Workers, Daisychain and Darlington Association on Disability (DaD) who can all be contacted using the links below:

SEND information, advice and support service :

<https://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/darlington-special-educational-needs-service/information-advice-and-support-service/>

(Tel: 01325 405878 or email: iass@darlington.gov.uk)

Darlington Needs Led Neurodevelopmental Pathway Family Support

<https://teesvalleyccg.nhs.uk/our-work/darlington-needs-led-neurodevelopmental-pathway/>

Daisychain

<https://www.daisychainproject.co.uk/family-support-service/>

(Tel: 01642 531248 or email: info@daisychainproject.co.uk)

Darlington Association on Disability (DaD)

<http://www.darlingtondisability.org/>

10. How are parents/carers and children with SEN supported to share their views and concerns and work alongside the school?

The school has a variety of ways to allow parents/carers to share their views and concerns. The SENDCo and class teachers are always available at the end of each school day or parents/carers may send a message on class dojo or ring the office to make a mutually convenient appointment. Our Home School Support Worker, Mrs Baker, is available to speak to parents/carers too. In addition, the school holds parental consultations twice per year where the Headteacher is always available for parents to contact.

11. If I am not happy with the provision at the school, how can I share my concerns or make a complaint?

If you are unhappy with the SEND provision at the school, please contact the class teacher, SENDCO or the Headteacher to share your concerns. If you feel that you are not satisfied with the outcome and wish to make a complaint, please refer to the [Complaints Policy](#).

12. Where can I find information about the Local Authority's Local Offer for children with SEN and their families?

Information about the Local Authority's local offer can be found on the Darlington Local Authority website. A link is provided below:

<https://livingwell.darlington.gov.uk/Categories/528>