



SEND Policy

BFC School

Implementation date:		September 2021	
Last review date:		August 2023	
Next review date:		May 2025	
Date:	Version:	Reason for change:	Source:
28/05/2024	3	QA Review	Gemma Clayton

Definition of Special Educational Needs

1.1 The Department for Education (DfE) published a new Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice in July 2014. It came into force in September 2014, replacing the previous 2001 code. It was updated in January 2015 and revised again in April 2015. The new code reflects the changes introduced by the Children and Families Act 2014.

1.2 Special Educational Needs (SEN) definition from SEN Code of Practice p15:

- A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her
- A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:
 - Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
 - Has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions (SEN Code of Practice 2014, para xii).

Note: Pupils whose language or form of language at their home is different from the language in which they will be taught, are not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because of this. Other factors must be evident.

2. Aims

2.1 Our aim is to significantly improve the quality of learning and life experiences of pupils in our school, particularly those pupils who have a special educational need or disability. We are committed to offering an inclusive curriculum to ensure the best possible progress for all our pupils whatever their need or disability.

3. Objectives

3.1 All of our pupils have an entitlement to receive high quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised so that all pupils make good progress and realise their full potential.

3.2 BFC School will offer a rich and varied curriculum that will be accessible to all abilities and needs.

3.3 BFC School will work in partnership with parents, carers and children and young people in developing those abilities and meeting the needs.

3.4 To identify pupils with a special educational need or disability as early as possible and ensure their needs are met.

3.5 To make sure all teachers and other adults are able to meet the needs of all pupils by providing relevant and up-to-date training.

3.6 Reasonable adjustments will be made to support any pupil with a protected characteristic so as they are able to realise their full potential.

3.7 At BFC School we recognise that there is a wide spectrum of special educational needs that are frequently inter-related. The impact of these combinations on the child's ability to function, learn and succeed is taken into account.

3.8 These areas of need identified in the SEN Code of Practice (2014) are:

- communication and interaction
- cognitive and learning
- social, emotional and mental health
- sensory and/or physical

3.9 Whilst these areas of need and many other factors contribute to the range of difficulties experienced by some children, we believe that much can be done to overcome them by parents, teachers and pupils working together.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 Trustees will:

- Support and challenge provision and impact of provision for SEND pupils;
- Have regard for the Code of Practice in all decisions
- Agree the school's local offer for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (to be published on school website)
- Monitor performance of pupils with special educational needs or a disability
- Have in place arrangements for dealing with complaints from parents
- Ensure the Public Sector Equality Duty is complied with, in particular monitoring progress towards the equality objectives relating directly to pupils with a special educational need or disability.

4.2 Leadership will:

- Ensure a consistent whole school approach to SEND
- Appoint the person responsible for the pupils with special educational needs (SENDCo), who must be a teacher and, ensure the SENDCo has sufficient time to carry out the strategic role
- Ensure high quality teaching is differentiated and personalised to meet the needs of the majority of children and young people
- Ensure SEND pupils are able to access the same broad and balanced curriculum as all other pupils.
- Monitor the quality of teaching, impact of interventions and standards of pupils' achievements;
- Present an annual SEND report to Trustees.

4.3 The SENDCo will:

4.3.1 The SEND Coordinator (SENDCo), in collaboration with the Head Teacher and Trustees, play a key role in helping to determine the strategic development of the Learning Support policy and provision in the school to raise the achievement of pupils with SEND. The key responsibilities of the SENDCo may include:
Ensure parents, carers and young people are fully involved in the decision-making process about their child's education

- Coordinate provision for pupils with special educational needs and liaise with referring schools
- Review and monitor all pupils with SEND informing staff and parents of any actions resulting from the review cycle.
- Complete annual reviews for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans.
- Liaise with external agencies including the Local Authority, educational psychology services, CAMHs and Speech and Language.
- Communicate with teachers via the SEND register the needs of a pupil and how to support their progress
- Ensure SEND pupils participate in a full range of activities in school and in addition to the curriculum
- Agree the appropriate access arrangements for pupils with learning difficulties and SEND to allow them to access external examinations
- Contribute to the continued professional development of staff
- Oversee the day-to-day operation of SEND, the maintaining of records on all pupils with special educational needs
- Attend and participate in local and national SEND events to ensure consistent approach and up-to-date knowledge.
- Ensure that the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs are met when the school is unable to open e.g. National Lockdown

4.5 Learning Support Assistants/Teaching Assistants

- Provide specialist support for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans and working across the curriculum to support targeted individuals as directed by the SENDCo. Operate interventions outside of lessons to support pupils with literacy, numeracy, communication and interaction, social skills, emotional and physical challenges to ensure the development of the whole child.
- Work one to one with individual pupils as directed by the SENDCo.

5. SEND register

5.1 A register will be maintained in all schools of any pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

6. Graduated response

6.1 BFC School will adopt a graduated response to meeting special educational needs according to their individual Local Offer.

6.2 As part of the Graduated Response, pupils with an EHCP and pupils that require additional support will have regular reviews that may involve all interested parties. This will be followed up with the completion of a review document. This document will set specific measurable targets for pupils to achieve that will support their progress in all aspects of school life.

6.3 These targets will be shared with staff along with the strategies that need to be employed for pupils to be supported to move towards successfully completing their targets.

7. School Request for an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan

7.1 For a few pupils, the help given by schools through the Local Offer may not be sufficient to enable the pupil to make adequate progress. It will then be necessary for the school, in consultation with the parents and any external agencies already involved, to consider whether to ask the Local Authority to initiate an Education, Health and Care assessment.

7.2 Where a request for an assessment is made to the Local Authority, the pupil will have demonstrated significant cause for concern. The local authority **must** decide whether or not to proceed with an EHC needs assessment, and **must** inform the child's parent or the young person of their decision within a maximum of six weeks from receiving a request. (Code of Practice 9.17)

8. Disability and Inclusion

8.1 According to the Disability and Inclusion legislation, the Disability Discrimination Act, and Working Together to Safeguard Children, the school will do its best to meet requests for reasonable adjustments for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities given the age and construction of the school.

9. Adjustments in Exams for candidates with disabilities and learning difficulties

9.1 It is the responsibility of the SENDCo to ensure that pupils with disabilities and learning difficulties have appropriate access arrangements for exams.

9.2 This is determined using the JCQ document “Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments” www.jcq.org.uk at to decide whether a pupil is eligible for special arrangements or reasonable adjustments in any qualifications that the publication lists including GCSE, BTEC and GCE qualifications.

9.3 A pupil will be considered for access arrangements if they have a history of learning difficulties and if the arrangement has been their normal way of working in the school – please see BFC School Examinations Policy.

