

Policy for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs

River Primary School



Be your best you

SEND Governor:

Katy Grilli

SENCO:

Tanya Moody

Contact No. 01304 822516

SEN Team:

Tanya Moody

Leanne Chase

sen@river.kent.sch.uk

Approved by Governing Body

November 2025

Last reviewed on: November 2025

Next review due by: November 2026

Contents

1. Aims	
2. Legislation and guidance	
3. Definitions	
4. Inclusion and equal opportunities	
5. Role and Responsibilities	
6. SEND Information Report	
7. Admissions and Accessibility	
8. Our school's approach to SEND	
9. Monitoring and evaluating provision	
10. Complaints about SEND Provision	
11. Links to other policies and documents	
12. Glossary	

1. Aims

River Primary School's Policy for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs aims to:

- Ensure our school fully implements national legislation and Kent Local Authority's guidance and expectations.

Sets out how our school will:

- Support pupils with SEND ensuring our best endeavours to provide the appropriate provision to enable positive outcomes.
- Provide an inclusive environment that enables pupils to access all aspects of school life alongside their peers.
- Provide pupils with the skills and attributes that enable them to become confident individuals who can successfully live fulfilling lives.
- Support pupils with SEND to realise their aspirations and achieve their best.
- Communicate with pupils with SEND and their parents or carers ensuring co-production and seek pupil and parent or carer voices to fully involve them in decision making and discussions to support their child's provision.
- Communicate and explain the roles and responsibilities of key school and external professionals who are supporting the provision for pupils with SEND.
- Ensure the SEND Policy is understood and implemented consistently by all staff and is monitored by Governors.

At River Primary School all pupils irrespective of need access a broad and balanced curriculum which is delivered through high quality inclusive teaching to enable every pupil to make progress and reach their full potential socially, emotionally and academically. When required to do so, the school will make reasonable adjustments to support pupils with SEND. The school set high expectations and aspirations for each individual pupil, working together with them, and their parents/carers to ensure that pupils with SEND become confident and independent children and young people who are able to successfully transition to the next phase of their education or adult life.

2. Legislation and Guidance

This policy is written in line with:

The regulation associated with:

- Children and Families Act 2014 – Part 3: [Children And Families Act 2014 Part 3](#)
- Special Educational needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2015:
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014: [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#)
- Equality Act 2010: [Equality Act 2010](#)
- School Admission Code 2021 [School Admission Code 2021](#)
- The School Information Regulations: Updated 24/10/24
- Maintained Schools: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online>
- Governance in Maintained Schools Handbook 2024: [Governance in Maintained Schools](#)

Kent Local Authority:

The Local Authority's local offer

The Local Authority's Offer can be found in the SEND Information Report

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs>

Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education (CATIE)

[A Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education \(kelsi.org.uk\)](https://www.kelsi.org.uk)

What does inclusion mean in Kent?

'As the champion of families, children, and young people our collective priorities are to be certain that all children and young people are engaged with and included in the provision of high-quality inclusive education. Ensuring that, whatever their circumstance or ability, our children have a sense of belonging, feel respected, are valued for who they

are and develop the knowledge and skills required for adult life. In doing so, we strive to achieve a continuous improvement in standards, a significant narrowing of achievement gaps for vulnerable groups of learners and a wholly inclusive education system which ensures:

- **Equitable access for all.** Sufficient, appropriate, quality education provision is available for all children and young people in Kent.
- **No child is left behind.** All children and young people are supported to be engaged fully in their education.
- **Effective collaboration.** There is collaboration and multi-agency working providing a self-informing, sustainable system which supports the education of all.' (KCC: CATIE p 2-3)

Education Strategy – to be confirmed by KCC

Special Educational Needs Mainstream Core Standards (ordinarily available provision) : [Special Educational Needs Mainstream Core Standards](#)

The Mainstream Core Standards:

- Sets out the provision that the Local Area has agreed should be ordinarily available for Children and Young People with SEND
- Provides guidance and advice to support schools to meet the needs of and include Children Young People with SEND
- Provides clear guidance to schools on the statutory duties regarding the inclusion of Children and Young People with SEND
- Provides information to all stakeholders on the work of schools in relation to the inclusion of Children and Young People with SEND.

The school/academy are all working towards the ultimate goal of growing independent young people as they prepare for adulthood. All provision and support at River Primary School works towards achieving the Kent Children and Young People Outcomes Framework



Our SEND policy should be read in conjunction with our school's policies published on our website: [River Primary School - Policies](#)

- SEND Information Report
- Safeguarding policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Attendance and punctuality policy

3. Definitions

Definition of SEN

'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 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 to mainstream post-16 institutions'

(DFE/DOH 2015: 15-16)

Definition of Disability:

'Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010- that is '..a physical or mental impairment which is a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.' This definition provides a low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'Long term' is defined as a 'year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. This definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is sufficient overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN. Where a disabled child or young person requires a special educational provision they will also be covered by the SEN definition' (DfE/DOH 2015: 16)

Special Educational Needs Register:

At River Primary School the SENCO will regularly review the SEN register as part of the Graduated Approach. The SENCO will work in co-production with parents/carers and if required and where possible, key external professionals, to ensure high quality SEN provision is in place, informing parents/carers of any changes that have been agreed. School staff will also be informed, and records updated accordingly on the appropriate school system. A diagnosis does not necessarily mean that a pupil will be placed on the SEN register if the universal and targeted provision the pupil is accessing is enabling them to make good progress.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) support (SEN with support)

'SEN support means support that is additional to, or different from, the support generally made for other children of the same age in a school. It is provided for pupils who are identified as having a learning difficulty or a disability that requires extra or different help to that normally provided as part of the school's usual curriculum offer. A pupil on SEN support will not have an education, health and care plan.'

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england>

Education, health and care (EHC) plans

A local authority may issue an EHC plan for a pupil who needs more support than is available through SEN support. This will follow a statutory assessment process whereby the local authority considers the pupil's special educational needs and any relevant health and social care needs; sets out long term outcomes; and specifies provision which will deliver additional support to meet those needs.

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england>

Our SEN team reviews the SEN register on a termly basis. However, children can be added or removed at any point in the school year, depending on presenting needs and levels of provision in place. As well as EHCP and SEN with support, we also have a monitoring category to enable the SEN team and class teacher to closely monitor individual pupils.

4. Inclusion and Equal Opportunity

River Primary School is committed to providing an appropriate and high quality education to all children. We believe that all children, including those identified as having special educational needs or a disability, have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is accessible to them, and to be fully included in all aspects of school life.

We believe that all children are equally valued in school. We will strive to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, and to develop an environment where all children can flourish.

River Primary School is committed to inclusion and we aim to promote a sense of community and belonging. Part of the school's strategic planning for improvement is to sustain cultures, policies and practices that include all learners. This does not mean that we will treat all learners in the same way, but that we will respond to and support learners in ways which take account of their learning needs and varied life experiences. We believe that educational inclusion is about equal opportunities for all learners, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity, attainment and background.

Please see our SEND Information Report for further information:

[River Primary School - Policies](#)

5. Roles and Responsibilities – in conjunction with SEN Information Report

River Primary School works strategically in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2015. The school will ensure that pupils, parents and carers have:

- Access to impartial information, advice and support throughout their time in the school to help them make informed decisions and choices about their future.
- Are effectively supported to understand their rights and decision-making processes and choices regarding their plans and support.
- An understanding of their individual plans, outcomes, provision and support and the reasons why some changes may not be possible

(Area SEND inspections: framework and handbook updated April 2024)

5.1 SENCO

All maintained schools and academies are required by law to have a named SENCO who is a qualified teacher and has been awarded the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination (prior to September 2024) or The National Professional Qualification for SEND (from September 2024).

The named SENCO is Tanya Moody. She is a qualified teacher, Assistant Headteacher and holds the qualifications of BA Hons and PGCE, and has been in post since 2007 so has 18 years' experience in this role. Ms Moody has been a SENCO continuously since before 1st September 2009 and is therefore not required to undertake the National Award for SEN Co-ordination or NPQ for SEND.

The SENCO has an important role to play with the Headteacher and governing body with regards to the strategic oversight and implementation of River's SEN policy and development.

They will:

- Oversee the day-to-day responsibility and implementation of the SEND policy.
- Ensure all statutory requirements are adhered to throughout the year
- Co-ordinate provision for children with SEN using the graduated approach – Assess, Plan, Do, Review to review and monitor provision for all pupils with SEN.
- Communicate and provide all staff with the key SEN and medical information, advice, guidance, and strategies to support pupils with SEN ensuring high quality provision across the school/academy.
- Collaborate with teachers, support staff, parents and carers regarding all aspects of their child(ren)'s provision including interventions and outcomes.
- Offer professional guidance to staff to secure high quality inclusive provision in the classroom and throughout the school day.
- Collaborate with curriculum leaders to remove barriers to learning.
- Develop and lead whole school continued professional development to ensure high quality provision for all pupils with SEN.
- Liaise with the relevant Designated Teacher where a looked after child or young person has SEN
- Liaise with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies.
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 regarding reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- Be the key point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- Ensure the school keeps up-to-date records of all pupils with SEN.
- Ensure any pupils who has a part time timetable is agreed with parent/carers, is registered on the KCC KELSI website and a clear re-integration strategy is planned in conjunction with the parent/carer and pupil.

- Hold status in order to have capacity and authority to make change.
- Ensure genuine coproduction and collaboration with the wider community.
- Advising on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively
- To keep up to date with key national and local SEN development.
- Attend key meetings organised by the local authority such as The Countywide SENCO Forum to ensure they have up-to-date strategic and operational information.
- Is fully involved in all aspects of transition planning whether phased or in year regarding pupils with SEND, following expectations set out in the District Plans and Kent Transition Charter. Ensuring parents/carers are fully informed throughout the transition period.
- Work closely with other colleagues and SENCOs in their Community of Schools.

Developed from DfE/DOH SEND Code of Practice 2015:108-109

5.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Work closely with the SENCO and SEN governor to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision across the school
- Work with the SENCO and governors to ensure the school adheres to all legislative and statutory guidance keeping up to date with all key national and local policies and expected SEN practice.
- Ensure the SENCO has sufficient time and resources to effectively carry out their role.
- Work closely with the SENCO to carry out their duties employing the Graduated Approach, using their 'best endeavours' and when required making reasonable adjustments to ensure the school/academy is providing high quality SEN provision.
- Have overall responsibility for the provision for pupils with SEN, their progress, and outcomes.
- Have the responsibility for monitoring the school's notional SEN budget and any additional funding allocated by the LA to support individual pupils or SEN provision for groups of pupils.

5.3 SEND Governor

Our Governing Body have a legal responsibility to pupils with SEN as defined in the Children and Families Act 2014 and SEND Code of Practice 2015.

The SEN governor will:

- Help to raise awareness of SEN issues at governing board meetings.
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEN and disability provision within the school and update the governing body following monitoring visits.

- Work with the headteacher and SENCO to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school.

Maintained School

7.2.2 Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Governing bodies have legal duties in relation to pupils with SEND that are set out in the [Children and Families Act 2014](#) and the [SEND code of practice](#).

Governing bodies should have an individual responsible for specific oversight of the school's arrangements for children with SEND.

The [SEND code of practice](#) assists the governing body and the link or lead governor in supporting and promoting discussions with regards to outcomes for learners with SEND.

DfE: Maintained schools guidance guide: updated 2 October 2024 [Maintained Schools Handbook](#)

The named Governor is responsible for the strategic oversight of the arrangements and provision for pupils with SEN.

The SEND Governor will:

- Carry out monitoring visits on behalf of the Governing Body to ensure high quality and effective provision is in place and in line with the SEND Code of Practice statutory and Local Authority guidance and expectations.
- Report to and raise awareness of SEN issues raised during monitoring visits and meetings at Governing Body meetings.
- Work closely with the SENCO and Headteacher to ensure the strategic review and development of the SEND Policy, SEN Information Report and provision in the school.

Our SEN Governor is Dr Katy Grilli.

5.4 Teachers

All teachers are teachers of pupils with special educational needs. Our SENCO provides a vital strategic role and provides significant advice and support to teachers, but the responsibility for the learning and progress of all children lies with the teacher.

'High quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the starting point in responding to pupils who have or may have SEN. Additional intervention and SEN support cannot compensate for a lack of good quality teaching.'

'Schools should regularly and carefully review the quality of teaching for all pupils, including those at risk of underachievement. This includes reviewing and, where necessary, improving, teachers' understanding of strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils, and their knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered.' (DfE/DoH *SEND Code of Practice 2015: 25*)

Every teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every pupil in their class
- Instilling high aspirations for every pupil.
- Delivering a broad balanced curriculum embedding high-quality inclusive teaching strategies and resources
- Working closely with teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan, monitor, track and assess the impact of support and interventions, and how they can be transitioned and embedded in the classroom.
- Working with the SENCO to review each pupil's progress and development, and decide on any changes to provision.
- Ensuring they follow this SEN policy.

At River Primary school we also have a School Resource Provision (SRP) for 10 pupils who have an Education Health and Care Plan [EHCP] with a speech and/or developmental language disorder identified as their primary need. Places are commissioned by the local authority. The Lead Teacher responsible for the pupils in our SRP is Ms Helen Ward.

We will adapt our approaches to how we teach to suit the way the pupil works best. There is no 'one size fits all' approach to adapting the curriculum, we work on a case-by-case basis to make sure the adaptations we make are meaningful to your child and are guided by the Mainstream Core Standards in the first instance. These adaptations may include:

- ✓ Adapting our approaches, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.
- ✓ Adapting our resources e.g. workspaces, seating or other physical resources
- ✓ Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- ✓ Scaffolding lesson materials
- ✓ Strategies such as sensory or movement breaks

5.5 Parents and carers

Parents and carers should inform the school if they have any concerns about their child's progress socially, physically, emotionally, or academically or if there are any changes to provision that have been advised by key external professionals working with their child following an appointment.

Parents/ carers are actively involved in all aspects of the decision-making process through meetings or agreed forms of communication and are afforded every opportunity to contribute discussions regarding their child's SEN provision. We will provide reports on children's progress twice a year, in addition to parent/ teacher consultation meetings. A member of staff who knows the child well will offer parents/ carers the opportunity to meet three times a year to:

- Set clear outcomes for your child's progress
- Review progress towards those outcomes
- Discuss the support we will put in place to help your child make that progress
- Identify what we will do, what we will ask you to do, and what we will ask your child to do

A member of the SEN team may also attend these meetings to provide extra support.

We have an open-door policy and encourage parents/carers to contact us if any concerns arise.

5.6 The pupil

Seeking the voice of the pupil is an important aspect of ensuring the SEN provision is highly effective for every pupil with SEN. Pupils are given every opportunity to express their view and provide information to support review meetings as part of our Graduated Approach in year meetings and for pupils with an EHCP the statutory Annual Review. However, the voice of the pupil can be sought at any time throughout the school year.

Pupils at River Primary School are able to express their views through: Pupil questionnaires, completion of Appendix 1, verbally or visually, School council, directly with class-based staff, members of the SEN team or Senior Leadership Team.

6. SEN Information Report

Our SEN policy works in conjunction with our SEN Information report which sets out how this policy is implemented in the school. The SEN Information Report is updated annually or if necessary, when changes to the information may be required during the academic year.

A copy can be found on our website: [River Primary School - Policies](#)

7. Admissions and Accessibility

River Primary School is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions and admissions processes.

Our Admissions policy and our Equality and accessibility policy can be found on our website: [River Primary School - Policies](#)

Specialist Resource Provision (SRP)

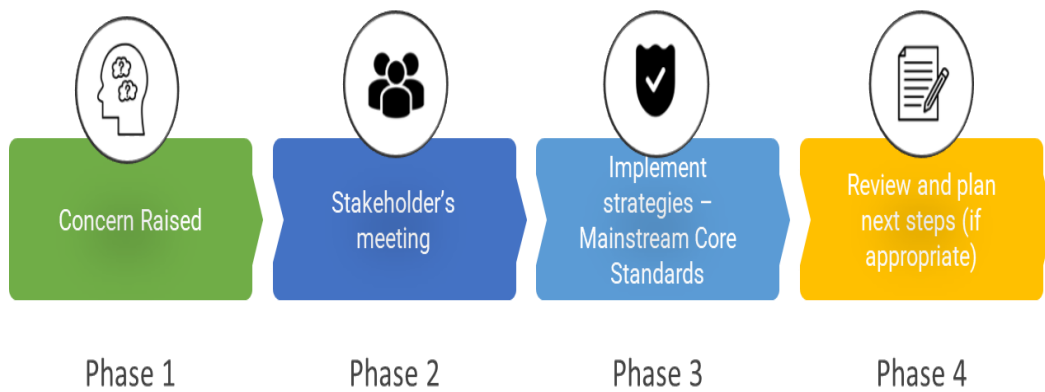
River Primary School has a specialist resource provision (SRP). The Local Authority will manage admission to the SRP which is through an agreed consultation process. The SRP is funded by the local authority for up to 10 commissioned places. The SRP is monitored through the SLA/ Contract with the Local Authority carrying out provided for pupils supported by the SRP. The school SRP provision is monitored as set out in Schedule 8 of the Service Level Agreement/Contract between the KCC SEN Inclusion team, SENCO and SRP Lead teacher. The admission arrangements for a pupil without an EHCP do not discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.

8. Our school/academy approach to SEN provision

All teachers at River Primary School are responsible for identifying pupils with SEN and, in collaboration with the SENCO, will aim to ensure that those pupils requiring different or additional support are identified at an early stage.

At River Primary School we monitor the progress of all pupils at least three times a year to review their academic progress. Assessment is the process by which many pupils with SEN can be identified; whether or not a pupil is making adequate progress is seen as a significant factor in considering the need for SEN provision.

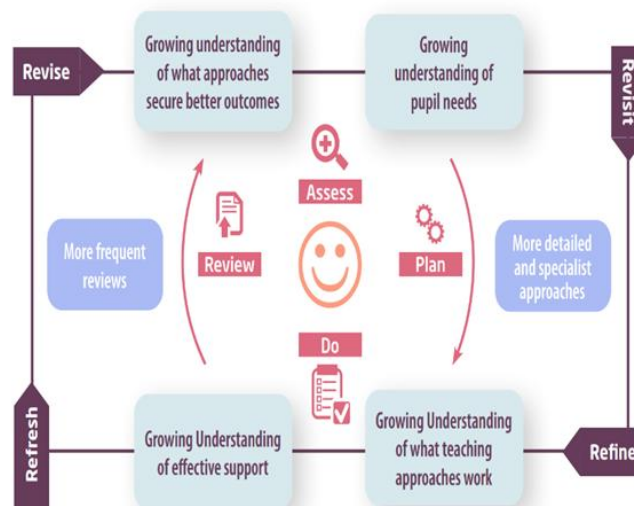
The same process is followed if a concern is raised by the school:



All our class teachers are responsible for the monitoring of all pupils who have been identified as having SEND. They also review those who are not making the expected level of progress in their schoolwork or socially. This might include Reading, Writing, Maths and other areas of the curriculum.

If the teacher notices that a pupil is having difficulties, they try to find out if the pupil has any gaps in their learning. If they can find a gap, the school will provide appropriate support. Pupils who don't have SEND usually make progress quickly once the gap in their learning has been filled.

If the pupil is still finding it difficult to make the expected progress, the teacher will talk to the SENCO, and will contact you to discuss the possibility that your child has SEND, and the school will follow the graduated approach. The graduated approach is a 4-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**:



The school will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline.
- Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress.
- Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers.
- Widens the attainment gap.

DfE/DOH SEND Code of Practice: 2015, 6.17

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social, emotional and mental health needs.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, the school will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment using the school's graduated approach, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents. The school will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether the school can provide it by adapting the universal offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

8.1 The kinds of special educational need for which provision is made

At River Primary School provision is made to support pupils with additional needs irrespective of whether a pupil has an education health and care plan in conjunction with The Continuum of Provision and Need and using the Graduated Approach.

At River Primary School we will ensure our 'best endeavours' to meet the needs of pupils with an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with the following kinds of special educational need: Cognition and Learning Difficulties, Communication and Interaction, Sensory and/or Physical Needs and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. Decisions on the admission of pupils with an EHCP are made by the Local Authority.

At River Primary school we also have a School Resource Provision (SRP) for 10 pupils who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with a speech and/or developmental language disorder identified as their primary need. The children spend part of the day in the SRP classroom, working with our SRP teacher, our teaching assistant, or with an NHS speech and language therapist. The children join their mainstream class to be with their friends at recreation times and for some wider curriculum lessons, so that they benefit from the learning and social opportunities that this brings. As spending time in the mainstream class is integral to the provision, there are no more than 2 SRP places allocated to each year group. Further information, including our entry guidelines, can be found on our website: <https://www.river.kent.sch.uk/speech-and-language-srp/>

8.2 The identification and assessment of pupils with special educational needs

In line with this SEND Code of Practice (DfE/DoH 2015) pupils at River Primary School are identified as either having no SEN, having SEN with support, or having an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP). We have an additional category of 'monitoring' for those children for whom concerns have been raised regarding possible SEND, and an additional layer of monitoring is in place, along with advice and support for staff from the SEN team.

At River Primary School, progress is closely monitored throughout the year to review their academic progress. However, pupils with SEN may have more frequent assessments.

Teachers carry out regular assessments to track progress and identify pupils who despite using high quality inclusive teaching strategies are:

- Working significantly slower than their peers who have the same starting point.
- Are unable to maintain or improve their progress rate
- Are unable to close the attainment gap in line with their peers or the gap is widening.

This may also include progress and development in areas other than academic attainment such as social, emotional, and physical.

To support pupils, the school use a range of academic assessments to review and monitor the broader developmental needs and progress of all pupils. We also undertake specific assessments with pupils to identify areas of difficulty such as speech and language, and social and emotional needs. These assessments will enable the early identification of any difficulties that a pupil may be experiencing. Information collected from the assessments will inform the appropriate intervention and provision to support progress and outcomes.

Teachers at River Primary School are responsible for classroom provision, delivering a well sequenced and resourced curriculum and using high quality inclusive teaching strategies which are scaffolded, with adaptations made to meet a pupil's needs.

When teachers identify an area where a pupil is making slow progress or where they have concerns, they will follow the school's early identification of need's protocols as set out in section 7. Teachers will inform parents/carers at an early stage to make them aware and discuss the further supporting strategies that the teacher will use to help the pupil.

However, if progress does not improve the teacher will inform the SEN team to have an initial discussion about whether this lack of progress may be due to a special educational need. In this instance, the SEN team will, in consultation with the pupil's parents/carers, discuss further support. The SEN team will discuss whether there are any additional resources and/or different approaches required to enable the pupil to make better progress. These will be shared with parents/carers, written into SEN provision maps or plans, which are regularly reviewed, refined, and revised. At this point the SENCO may have identified that the pupil has an additional need because the school is making provision for the pupil which is significantly additional to and different from what is normally available to peers. Teachers will be involved throughout the process and any training needs will be identified to ensure the provision is of a high quality.

It is important to note as stated in the SEND Code of Practice (DfE/DoH,2015 6.23) that slower than expected progress and lower attainment does not automatically mean a pupil would be recorded as having SEN. If the pupil is able to make good progress using this additional and different resource but would not be able to maintain this good progress without it, the school will continue to identify the pupils having special educational need. If the pupil is able to make good progress without the additional or different resources, they will not be identified as having special educational needs. When any change of identification of SEN is amended, parents/carers will be notified.

The school will ensure that all teachers and support staff who work with a pupil with SEN or have an additional need are made fully aware of the provision that each individual pupil requires through the systems of Edukey provision map, personalised plans and/or Class Charts.

8.3 Consulting with Parents

We will provide reports on your child's progress twice a year, in addition to parent/ teacher consultation meetings. A member of staff who knows your child well will offer you the opportunity to meet three times a year to:

- ✓ Set clear outcomes for your child's progress
- ✓ Review progress towards those outcomes
- ✓ Discuss the support we will put in place to help your child make that progress
- ✓ Identify what we will do, what we will ask you to do, and what we will ask your child to do

A member of the SEN team may also attend these meetings to provide extra support.

We know that you're the expert when it comes to your child's needs and aspirations. So, we want to make sure you have a full understanding of how we're trying to meet your child's needs, so that you can provide insight into what you think would work best for your child.

We also want to hear from you so that we can build a better picture of how the SEND support we are providing is impacting your child outside of school. If your child's needs or aspirations change at any time, please let us know right away so we can keep our provision as relevant as possible.

If you have concerns that arise between these meetings, please contact your child's class teacher who is available at the end of each school day or make an appointment through the school office on 01304 822516 or office@river.kent.sch.uk.

We seek parent voice at regular points in the year through face to face meetings, parent teacher consultations, parent surveys, feedback from family learning events and through our parent coffee workshops. We endeavour to seek the views of stakeholders e.g. parents and children, when identifying appropriate provision and the focus to be addressed. When children have EHCPs, parents and children have the opportunity to provide their voice through the annual review process.

9. Assessing, Monitoring, Reviewing and Evaluating Progress towards Outcomes

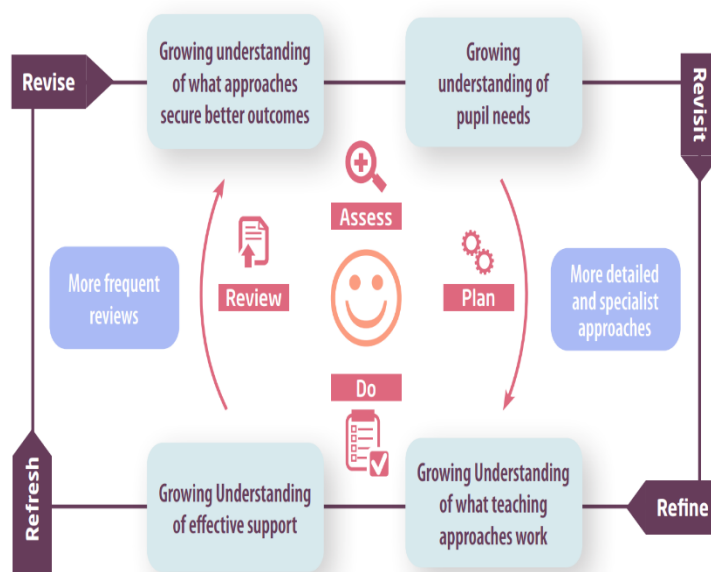
Our school will use appropriate screening and assessment tools, and ascertain pupil progress through:

- Evidence obtained by teacher observation/ assessment
- Performance judged against age expected National Curriculum objectives, Accelerated Reader Star Reading Tests and within KS2 NFER standardised assessments
- Universal assessments such as Year One phonics screening, Key Stage 1 / Key Stage 2 SATs/ EYFS baseline
- Standardised screening diagnostic tests and/or assessment tools such as Reading tests and Verbal/Non-verbal assessments, Speech and Language link assessments, and the Dyslexia Portfolio screener (KS2 only)
- Assessments for social and emotional needs e.g. SDQs, Boxall Profile.
- Progress against small step targets set on EduKey Provision Map or on personalised plans
- Reports or observations from other members of staff or external professionals
- Records from previous schools or preschool settings
- Information from parents

Pupil progress and attainment is discussed in pupil progress meetings, where concerns are raised by the class teacher with members of the Leadership Team. Where progress is not sufficient, this will not necessarily imply that the pupil has a special educational need, but we will consider additional support to enable the pupil to catch up and close the attainment gap between themselves and their peers. This additional support is available to any child.

We will follow the 'graduated approach' to meeting your child's SEND needs.

The graduated approach is a 4-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.



Assess	If your child is not making the expected level of progress, we will make an assessment to find out what strengths and difficulties your child has. We will ask for you and your child’s input, as well as getting help from external professionals where necessary.
Plan	In discussion with you and your child, we will decide what outcomes we are hoping to achieve. We will make a plan of the support we will offer your child to help them meet those outcomes. We will make a record of this and share it with you and all relevant school staff.
Do	We will put our plan into practice. The class teacher, with the support of the SENCO, will be responsible for working with your child on a daily basis, and making sure the support we put in place is having the impact we intended.
Review	We will assess how well the support we put in place helped the pupil to meet the outcomes we set. We will use our improved understanding of your child’s needs to improve the support we offer; this may mean the Plan, Assess, Do, Review cycle continues.

At all times, teachers and support staff who work closely with the pupil will be aware of their needs, provision plan outcomes, key strategies, provision and approaches to support them throughout the school day. Any changes to provision will be communicated in a timely manner through the school’s SEN protocols and processes as set out in the SEN Information Report.

This policy and SEN Information Report will be reviewed by the SENCO every year. It will also be updated to reflect any changes to the information or statutory policy.

The policy will be approved by the governing body and available to read and refer to on the school’s website.

10. Complaints about SEND Provision

If you have a complaint about the provision made for your child, we encourage parents to discuss their concerns with the SENCO or Headteacher in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy: [Complaints Policy](#)

If you are not satisfied with the school's response, you can escalate the complaint. In some circumstances, this right also applies to the pupil themselves.

There are some circumstances, usually for children who have an EHC Plan where there is a statutory right for parents to appeal against a decision of the Local Authority. Complaints which fall within this category cannot be investigated by the school.

To see a full explanation of suitable avenues for complaint, see pages 244 to 273 of the [SEND Code of Practice](#).

If you feel that our school discriminated against your child because of their SEND, you have the right to make a discrimination claim to the first-tier SEND tribunal. To find out how to make such a claim, you should visit: <https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-school/disability-discrimination>

You can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

- Admission
- Exclusion
- Provision of education and associated services
- Making reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services

Before going to a SEND tribunal, you can go through processes called disagreement resolution or mediation, where you try to resolve your disagreement before it reaches the tribunal.

[Mediation support and appeals - Kent County Council](#)

10. Glossary and SEND Acronyms

- **Access arrangements** – special arrangements to allow pupils with SEND to access assessments or exams
- **Annual review** – an annual meeting to review the provision in a pupil's EHC plan
- **Area of need** – the 4 areas of need describe different types of needs a pupil with SEND can have. The 4 areas are communication and interaction; cognition and learning; physical and/or sensory; and social, emotional and mental health needs.
- **EHC needs assessment** – the needs assessment is the first step on the way to securing an EHC plan. The local authority will do an assessment to decide whether a child needs an EHC plan.
- **EHC plan** – an education, health and care plan is a legally-binding document that sets out a child's needs and the provision that will be put in place to meet their needs.
- **First-tier tribunal/SEND tribunal** – a court where you can appeal against the local authority's decisions about EHC needs assessments or plans and against discrimination by a school or local authority due to SEND

- **Graduated approach** – an approach to providing SEND support in which the school provides support in successive cycles of assessing the pupil’s needs, planning the provision, implementing the plan, and reviewing the impact of the action on the pupil
- **Intervention** – a short-term, targeted approach to teaching a pupil with a specific outcome in mind
- **Local offer** – information provided by the local authority which explains what services and support are on offer for pupils with SEND in the local area
- **Outcome** – target for improvement for pupils with SEND. These targets do not necessarily have to be related to academic attainment
- **Reasonable adjustments** – changes that the school must make to remove or reduce any disadvantages caused by a child’s disability
- **SENCO** – the special educational needs co-ordinator
- **SEN** – special educational needs
- **SEND** – special educational needs and disabilities
- **SEND Code of Practice** – the statutory guidance that schools must follow to support pupils with SEND
- **SEND information report** – a report that schools must publish on their website, that explains how the school supports pupils with SEND
- **SEND support** – special educational provision which meets the needs of pupils with SEND
- **Transition** – when a pupil moves between years, phases, schools or institutions or life stages