

Raising Concerns

Concerns about your child can be raised either by you or by the class teacher.

If you have a concern about your child the first person to discuss this with is the class teacher. They will note your concerns and will let you know what they can do to help - this may be

- Offer reassurance that what you are seeing is age appropriate e.g. a 4 year old who says lellow instead of yellow and that we will monitor the situation for a short while
- Tell you some adjustments that they can make in class e.g. offer a pencil grip, give some movement breaks
- Let you know that they will flag it with the SENCO

If the teacher has concerns they will discuss these with you at the earliest opportunity and will also let me know – this may be part of the termly meetings that we have about all children or as a separate conversation.

What Happens Next

As a result of a concern being raised I will see what the teacher has already tried. I then may

- Go and observe your child in class
- Complete some assessments e.g. around reading age, handwriting, behaviours
- Talk to you some more
- Share resources with the teacher to try
- Signpost you to people who are more appropriate to help e.g. optician, GP

If the teacher has tried a variety of strategies and medical issues have been ruled out we may then decide that your child will be added to the school SEN register.

The SEN Register

The SEN register is a list of children in the school who require support that is “additional to or different from their peers”. Children can be added for a variety of reasons

- Cognition and learning difficulties
- Communication and interaction difficulties
- Physical and sensory difficulties
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

They can sometimes have difficulties in more than one of these areas e.g. a child with a diagnosis of autism may have difficulties communication and interaction but also be very sensitive to noise, a child with a hearing loss (physical and sensory) may also have problems with their speech (communication and interaction)

If a child is working at the lower end of the academic ability within their class they do not automatically get added to the SEN register – we know that all children are different and the teachers will adjust the learning to accommodate this. They only need to be added when they need something additional or different to enable them to make the progress that they are capable of.

If a child is on the SEN register a personalised programme of targets will be written. This will outline what your child is working towards and how we will support them to achieve this. This will be reviewed at least 3 times a year and will always be shared with you.

When the child’s progress is reviewed we will also decide whether your child still needs to be on the SEN register – if not their name will be removed. You will get a letter saying that this has happened,

My Child Needs More Help

Sometimes after school has tried a variety of strategies and we are still concerned and need more help. We can get the assistance of a variety of people and professionals including

- Paediatricians
- Hearing and vision services
- Outreach services
- Educational Psychologists
- Specialist teachers

If after these people have been involved the amount of help your child needs is more than can be provided by school alone then the SENCO will talk to you about Education, Health, Care plans (EHCPs).

These plans are issued by the local authority. It is not a quick process and in general only 3-4% of children with special educational needs will require this level of support.

Who Can I Contact?

Class teacher – send a message to the school asking for an appointment or speak to them at the end of the day

SENCo (Mrs Turner) – email

oldtown.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk making subject **FAO**

SENCO (I do not work every day so it may take a few days for me to respond)

SENDIASS – they can help

- express your views for assessments or meetings
- find other support
- if there's a disagreement
- by listening to your concerns and talking to you about your choices and options

<https://sendiass4bcp.org/contact/> (01202 128181)



Special Educational Needs