

Dear Parent /Carer,

This leaflet is to inform you about how we help child with Special Educational Needs at St Vincent's Catholic Primary School.

The school acknowledges children as having special educational needs if they are clearly shown to have difficulty in learning which is:

- significantly greater than the majority of children their age.
- caused by a disability which hinders them from making use of educational facilities provided for children of their age.

Anything which gets in the way of your child's learning can cause any number of Special Educational Needs. Apart from problems with the learning process itself and behaviour in school, there are also many social, environmental, medical, physical and emotional factors, and any combination of these, which may have to be taken into account. Such problems may be short or long term, but during such time, extra care may be needed with your child's education and extra support offered.

At St Vincent's we want to ensure that every child within our care has a fair access to all learning opportunities. We encourage children to learn through a variety of approaches, using appropriately differentiated tasks. These give confidence to and challenge children to make sure that the full range of experience offered within the National Curriculum are available to each child to achieve their full educational and personal potential alongside their peers.

Parents and teachers are working together in the best interests of the children and we value this good relationship.

It is important that concerns about children are exchanged between parents and teachers to form a supportive partnership for the benefit of the child.

As Special Needs cross all curriculum areas and can involve the social and moral well-being of individual children and the school as a whole, we have developed a support system within the school to discern these needs.

Our education provisions for children with identified SEN match the four broad areas of need as defined in the SEN Code of Practice 2014;

- **Communication and interaction**
- **Cognition and Learning**
- **Social, emotional and mental health**
- **Sensory and/or physical needs**

At St Vincent's we have a 3 tiered approach to supporting a child's learning:

Universal – this is the quality first teaching your child will receive from her/his class teacher and may include some very minor adaptations to match learning needs.

Targeted - it may be appropriate to consider making additional short term special educational provision to remove or reduce any obstacles to your child's learning. This takes the form of a graduated four part approach of a) **assessing** your child's needs, b) **planning** the most effective and appropriate intervention, c) **providing** this intervention and d) **reviewing** the impact on your child's progress towards individual learning outcomes. Specific targeted one to one or small group interventions may be run outside the classroom. These will be limited to a number a weeks to minimise disruption to the regular curriculum. You will be kept informed of your child's progress towards learning outcomes.

Specialist – it may be necessary to seek specialist advice and regular long term support from a specialist professional outside the school in order to plan for the best possible learning outcomes for your child. This may include educational psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, sensory advisory teachers and the child development service. The school may need to prioritise referrals to these services. However, for a very small number of pupils access to these specialists may be through a Statement of SEN or an EHC Plan.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress or behaviour do please come and discuss your worries with the class teacher or the school SENCO, Mrs Duffy. Please also see additional information on the school website, including FAQs.

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Together, through Christ, we grow and learn



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities