

SEND Information Report 2016/2017

Introduction

Summerhill School aims to be a fully inclusive school that provides a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum of the highest quality for all students. We do this by taking into account our students' varied life experiences and needs to ensure that all students flourish both academically and socially.

Purpose

This document is intended to outline the ways in which we ensure we support our students who are identified as having a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND) in order that they realise their full potential, make outstanding academic and personal progress and grow to be equipped for their future lives. All Dudley Maintained Schools have a similar approach to meeting the needs of students with SEND. We are supported by the Local Authority to ensure that all students with SEND are catered for in a mainstream setting wherever possible and where families want this to happen. However, it is important to remember that provision may change and develop over time. The information required to be included in this SEND report is stated in The Special Educational Needs and Disability regulations 2014 Schedule: 1; Information to be included in the SEN Report.

What kinds of SEND Does Summerhill Make Provision For?

Summerhill caters for a wide range of SEND. SEND provision can be considered as falling into four broad areas:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social Emotional and Mental Health
- Sensory and Physical

Some students have difficulties that fit clearly into one of these areas; some have needs that span two or more areas; for others the precise nature of their need may not be clear at the outset.

How does Summerhill identify and assess SEND?

At Summerhill we endeavour to ensure that each student with SEND is identified as quickly as possible. It is therefore important to carry out a detailed individual assessment of each child/young person and their situation at the earliest opportunity to make an accurate assessment of their needs.

When your child arrives at Summerhill we use information from:

- Primary school staff
- End of key stage 2 results
- Baseline tests such as Cognitive Ability Tests
- Parental application form information
- Subject and pastoral teachers
- Specialist colleagues or external agencies

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As your child gets older we will use information or referrals from:

- Termly assessments and interim data
- Subject teachers, tutors and heads of year
- Parental concerns
- External agencies

If your child needs further assessment we are able to use a range of assessments depending on the area of need that will lead to a standardised score. All tests and reports will be forwarded to parents. We follow a graduated approach to identifying and assessing needs, using the 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' model. All students with SEND are on the SEND register which is accessible to all staff. Staff use this information to inform their lesson planning, teaching and student learning activities. Targeted interventions are planned and delivered where appropriate.

How will I know that my child is making progress?

At Summerhill we have rigorous assessment procedures to ensure that we are keeping track of students' progress throughout their time with us. All students, including those with SEND, are assessed on a regular basis in accordance with our assessment policy. Teachers formally assess and review progress and attainment 4 times a year. This is communicated to parents/carers 4 times a year.

In addition to this, parents' evenings are held once a year when there is an opportunity to discuss progress, attainment and next steps.

Parents of students who are identified as having SEND will be invited into school regularly to talk about their child's targets and review the progress they are making towards them. These meetings will be based around scheduled meetings planned in school such as Parents' Evenings. At least once a year, parents of students with a statement for SEN or an EHCP, will be invited into school to attend their child's annual review.

How will Summerhill support your child?

All teachers will be told about your child's individual needs and will adapt their lessons to meet these. Teachers have experience or are trained in doing this. This means your child can access the lessons fully. Within school there are a variety of staff roles to help us fully support your child. Most of our students follow a traditional curriculum, however a small number of learners have a more personalised curriculum to match their individual needs, interests and abilities. Where it is felt it is the right thing to do a student may be offered additional help and support, in which case you would be informed.

There are a range of interventions and additional subject support which are available. Should your child need this it would be discussed with you.

If we think it is needed when your child is approaching the start of Key Stage 4, we will assess and apply for exam access arrangements according to the Joint Council for Qualifications exam regulations.

What extra-curricular activities can a student with SEND access at Summerhill?

At Summerhill we work hard to ensure that students with SEND engage in the activities of the school alongside students who do not have SEND. We will try to make sure that students with

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additional needs are able to take part fully in school visits and events. We pride ourselves on being a fully inclusive school.

In addition to the school curriculum, many subject areas run educational visits to enrich the experiences our students have. The school also runs an exciting extra-curricular programme during lunchtimes and after school where all students have the opportunity to broaden their experiences outside the curriculum. No student will be excluded from extra-curricular activities on the basis of SEND.

How accessible is Summerhill?

Summerhill is an accessible school where students in wheelchairs have full access to all parts of the school – indoors and outdoors. Please refer to the school's accessibility plan for further information.

Does Summerhill have a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator? If so who are they and how can I get in touch with them?

The Special Education Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) at Summerhill is Mrs Sarah Jane Sprouting. She works with students, teachers, parents and external agencies to ensure that students' needs are being met.

Mrs Sprouting works in school every day and can be contacted on 01384 816165 or ssprouting@summerhill.dudley.sch.uk. She will be happy to make an appointment with you to discuss any concerns or questions you may have about SEN in our school.

What training do the staff at Summerhill have in relation to students with SEND?

Mrs Sprouting will ensure that all necessary staff are aware of students' specific special educational needs. As a member of the Senior Leadership Team she is closely involved in the planning of staff training throughout the year. This thorough training programme ensures teachers have a good understanding of strategies to support and identify vulnerable students and their knowledge of SEN is up-to-date. This training is run by school staff with specialist experience as well as by external agencies. Our support staff, including Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) and Teaching Assistants (TAs), work with teaching staff to ensure that students with SEND can access the curriculum. Training held last year included manual handling, support in exams, attachment disorder and effective TA support.

How does Summerhill get more specialist help for students if they need it?

In our school when a student continues to make less than expected progress, despite support and interventions that are matched to their area of need, we will consider involving specialists or external agencies. Whenever we think specialists should be involved we seek parents' permission first. Following a meeting or assessment with a specialist we will share what was discussed and/or agreed with the parents and teachers of the student.

If we feel a student needs more specialist help we can work with the following people to get this:

Agency	Who they work with
Learning Support Service	The Learning support Service work with schools and other educational settings to help pupils with cognition and learning difficulties achieve to the best of their abilities.
Educational Psychology Service	Educational Psychology provides professional psychological services for children, young people and families in a wide range of educational and community settings. They use the expertise

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	of psychological theory and research to develop an understanding of even the most complex situations, addressing a wide range of child and adolescent development issues, including special educational needs.
Autism Outreach Service	The Autism outreach service are an educational service working in schools and settings to support children and young people on the Autistic Spectrum (AS) and its associated difficulties, including the reduction of stress and anxiety amongst children and families with an AS diagnosis.
Specialist teaching service: HI, VI and PI Teams	This is a team of specialist staff working with children and young people with hearing, visual or physical impairment at all stages of their educational development; in homes, early years settings, mainstream schools, special schools and colleges. Their purpose is to minimise the impact of a sensory impairment on a pupil's learning and development and to raise attainment.
Speech and Language Therapy Service	The Children's speech and language therapy department provides a borough wide service to children and young people with communication difficulties. They are there to assess the communication skills of the child to identify areas in which they need help and then work and support parents, teachers and young person where there is a need to communicate more effectively by helping them to adapt the way in which they give information.
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) aim to support, help and intervene with children and young people who are experiencing emotional and mental health problems. Services are provided by a range of staff including Social Workers, Psychiatrists, Mental Health Nurses, Primary Care Mental Health Workers, Psychologists and other therapists.
Children's Services	Concerns about students' wellbeing and safety.
Special Educational Needs Service	SEN Services is responsible or the administration of the procedures related to the assessment and statementing of children by Dudley MBC

How are parents of children with SEND involved in the education of their child? How are students with SEND involved in their own education?

Summerhill will provide an update on their child's progress four times a year. Where a student is receiving SEN support there will be regular contact with parents to talk about their child's needs and the activities and support they will receive to help them make progress. These discussions will help us identify the responsibility the parent, students and the school have towards the best outcomes for the student. We hope that these discussions will strengthen the impact of the support we give in school by increasing parental engagement. If we think a student with SEND needs extra support from outside specialists, parents will always be asked for their permission.

Students will always be included in discussions about their needs, targets and progress. Students with SEND will always have a safe and inclusive area to go to within Summerhill if they are not happy or have particular worries or concerns. Students with SEND will regularly

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attend intervention and social sessions in Learning Support and will know the Learning Support Team very well.

If a parent of a child with SEND has a complaint about the school, how does the Head teacher/Governing body deal with the complaint?

At Summerhill we will always work closely with you to try and solve any worries or complaints you may have about your child. In the first instance contact the Head of Year who may refer your concerns to a more senior member of staff if needed. If you are not entirely happy you should contact the Head teacher who will work with you to resolve the issue. The school has a formal complaints policy which can be found on the website.

How does the governing body involve other people in meeting the needs of students with SEND including support for their families?

The governing body has a duty to ensure that the school adheres to the SEND Code of Practice under the Children and Families Act 2014. This means that the school governors hold the Head teacher and SENCO to account.

The governing body appoints a governor who is specifically responsible for SEND, who ensures that the school and the SENCO carry out their duties.

One of the key responsibilities of the governing body is to make sure that the school's policy for students with SEND is published on the school website. This information must be reviewed annually by the governing body. The governing body also has a responsibility to ensure that appropriate safeguarding procedures are in place for all students, including those with SEND. The governing body, through the SENCO, ensures that other appropriate agencies are involved in meeting the needs of students with SEND. The SENCO reports regularly to the governing body regarding the number of students and their additional needs.

Who are the support services that can help parents with students who have SEND?

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Children's Services	Concerns about students' wellbeing and safety.
Special Educational Needs Service	SEN Services is responsible or the administration of the procedures related to the assessment and statementing of children by Dudley MBC
Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service	SENDIASS offer advice and support to parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs. They are statutory services which mean there has to be one in every local authority. They are free, impartial and confidential services.

How else can you be involved?

We need you to support us by encouraging your child to fully engage with their learning and any interventions offered by:

- Helping them to be organised for their day (including bringing the right equipment and books)
- Full attendance and good punctuality
- Completion of homework
- Checking and signing your child's planner
- Attending parents meetings
- Attending any meetings specifically arranged for your child

How can your child contribute?

Students are encouraged to:

- Take part in pupil voice activities
- Attend review meetings
- Contribute to target setting and reviewing
- Contribute to their Student Passport

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How does Summerhill support students with SEND through transition?

Summerhill works with schools, colleges and other settings to support students through transition from one educational setting to another.

If your child is moving from Primary to Secondary School we will work with the SENCO and class teacher at their primary school to ensure that we understand your child's needs and can plan for them when he/she moves to us. Sometimes we will attend annual review meetings at

primary schools and specialist service meetings to help us gather all the relevant information.

We will also arrange extra visits to Summerhill to help with your child's transition.

As your child approaches the end of their time at Summerhill, we will work with them to ensure that they have high aspirations about employment and further education. Discussions about students' futures will focus on what they want to achieve and the best way we can support them. Helping them consider the right post-16 option is part of this planning. In Year 10 our Connexions Careers Advisor will support students to explore courses and places of study. In Year 11 the school will work closely with Connexions to ensure students have firm plans for their post 16 options. Any information about previous SEND provision will be shared by the SENCO with the further education or training provider.

How can I find the Dudley MBC Local Offer?

For more information on Dudley MBCs Local Offer and other support you can receive go to <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/localoffer/>