

## **Special Educational Needs – Frequently Asked Questions**

July 2015

If you can't find the answer to your question please contact the school directly! Key contacts for Special Educational Needs are at the end of this document.

### **What is a SENCo?**

SENCo stands for Special Educational Needs Coordinator, a teacher with responsibility for this area.

### **How does the school know if pupils need extra help?**

The class teachers are constantly evaluating your child's progress with formal and informal assessments. If a child is consistently taking time to learn a new skill or needs support to focus or to access the curriculum the teacher will identify this need and discuss their concerns with you and seek advice from appropriate members of staff.

### **What should I do if I think my child has SEN (Special Educational Needs or Disabilities)?**

Always speak to the class teacher and if appropriate he/she will arrange a meeting between you, the class teacher and the SENCo to discuss your concerns more fully.

### **How will I know how my child is doing?**

Usually updates on your child's progress are provided through parents' evenings (three times a year) and the annual written report, however if the class teacher has a concern they will discuss it with you. If your child already has been identified as having SEN then you will be invited to termly reviews (dates are in the school calendar).

### **How will you help me to support my child's learning?**

At the termly reviews the class teacher will discuss how to support your child within the classroom and at home, the school SENCo can be invited by the class teacher or parent if requested. If necessary we will signpost or refer to outside agencies to support both you and your child.

### **What training have staff had in supporting children with SEN?**

Staff are trained to provide the most usual support for children. If extra training is required to support particular needs the school will arrange this within the usual budgetary constraints.

### **How will my child be included in activities outside of the classroom?**

All children are entitled to participate in the wide range of activities offered at school. If a pupil with SEN has difficulty in accessing an activity due to his/her needs or disabilities, the school will arrange appropriate support or adaptations in order to facilitate learning.

### **How accessible is the school environment?**

The vast majority of the school site has been adapted to include disability access.

### **What specialist services or expertise are available at or accessed by the school?**

Please see the [OCC website](#) for countywide resources however frequently used agencies within Edward Feild include an Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language therapists, Early Intervention Services, Autism Advisory Services, Health Visitors, PCAMHS and Social Care.

### **How are decisions made about how much support my child will receive? How will I be involved in discussions about and planning for my child's education?**

If your child is identified as having SEN by the class teacher and SENCo there will be termly meetings that review progress against their SEN learning goals. The views of the child, their parents and the teaching staff are collated and from these discussions an action plan will be created which will outline appropriate support.

### **How will the school support my child when starting school and moving on?**

When approaching a new transition phase e.g. pre-school to primary school or primary school to secondary school, transition preparation and arrangements will be discussed in meetings between the class teacher, parent, SENCo, child and where appropriate, the staff from the new phase. Outside agencies, if required, will be consulted e.g. EYSENIT (Early Years Special Educational Needs Induction Teachers), Educational Psychologist.

### **Who can parents contact for further information?**

Please telephone 01865 372268 or see the website for contacts for your child's class teacher You can also contact the SENCo [senco@efs.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:senco@efs.oxon.sch.uk) or the Headteacher Mr Jackson [head@efs.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:head@efs.oxon.sch.uk)