

SEND Information Report

Date reviewed: December 2024

Date of next review: December 2025



Polaris Multi Academy Trust	
School Name	Luddendenfoot Academy
Head of School	Carolyn Greenwood
SENCO	Lucy Trafford
SEN Governor	Jenny Ransom

The kinds of SEND that are provided for by the school:

- Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
- Moderate/severe/profound and multiple learning difficulties

Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs:

We will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Class 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

This may include progress in areas other than attainment, for example, social needs.

Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, and the views and the wishes of the pupil and their parents.

We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

Arrangements for consulting parents of children with SEN and involving them in their child's education:

We will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents when identifying whether they need special educational provision. These conversations will make sure that:

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty.
- We take into account the parents' concerns.
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child.
- Everyone is clear on what the next steps are.

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record and given to their parents.

We will formally notify parents when it is decided that a pupil will receive SEN support. This notification and agreement will in turn, where appropriate based on the age and understanding of the child involve meeting the child to explain the support they will receive.

Arrangements for consulting young people with SEN and involving them in their education.

We ensure that parent/carers and pupils are involved in discussions around their learning/progress and achievements. Individual Education Plan (IEP) targets are set through discussion, and everyone has their role to play in helping the young person achieve them.

Parent/carers and pupils are asked to give their views at each review, and these are evidenced on IEPs. 1 Page Profiles for pupils are updated and give an overview of each pupil on the SEN register so that all staff are aware of how best to support the child.

Arrangements for assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes.

We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.

The class or subject teacher will work with the SENCO to carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. This will draw on:

- The teacher's assessment and experience of the pupil.
- Their previous progress and attainment or behaviour.
- Other teachers' assessments, where relevant.
- The individual's development in comparison to their peers and national data.
- The views and experience of parents.
- The pupil's own views.
- Advice from external support services, if relevant.

The assessment will be reviewed regularly.

All teachers and support staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of their needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided, and any teaching strategies or approaches that are required. We will regularly review the effectiveness of the support and interventions, and their impact on the pupil's progress.

Arrangements for supporting pupils moving between phases of education and preparing for adulthood:

We will share information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is coming from and moving to. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this.

These sessions are supported by the home school staff meeting together with the parents at the new school or at their preschool if they attend one. This is the very much the base offer for a child and their family, a bespoke more detailed approach is undertaken based on the child's and family's needs.

Further transition arrangements include:

- Home or pre-school visits by Reception staff.
- Visits to pre-school placements by SENCo and other school staff.
- Extended visits to Reception class planned in Summer term before starting.
- Extended visits to secondary school with primary school staff.
- Year 5 transition meeting with SENCo from Secondary schools for children with EHCPs.

- Close liaison with all other settings involved in transition – efficient exchange of information.

The approach to teaching pupils with SEND:

Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the pupils in their class.

High-quality teaching is our first step in responding to pupils who have SEN. This will be adapted for individual pupils.

We will also provide the following interventions (this is not an exhaustive list, but instead demonstrates the broad range of interventions in place):

- Adaptive curriculum
- One to one support (academic)
- Small group support (academic)
- One to one support (emotional)
- Small group support (emotional)
- External expertise / agency involvement
- Family support

How adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of pupils with SEN.

We make the following adaptations to ensure all pupils' needs are met:

- Adapting our curriculum to ensure all pupils can access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, capture of understanding.
- Adapting our resources and staffing.
- Adapting our classroom environment to ensure that they are accessible and take into account the learning needs of all our pupils.
- Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font/dyslexia friendly font.
- Adapting our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.
- Sensory circuits morning group allowing pupils to feel ready to learn.
- Discreet in class support including fidget equipment, wobble cushions, chair leg bands, ear defenders.

Please see the School's Accessibility Plan for more details.

Additional support for learning that is available for pupils with SEN.

We have 8 Learning Support Assistants who are trained to deliver interventions through a structured intervention programme including:

- Nessy (Reading and Spelling and Fingers)
- Toe by Toe

- Power of 2
- Black Sheep narrative
- Lego Therapy
- Chatterbox
- Fine motor interventions
- Read Write Inc phonics catch up
- Pastoral support

Learning Support Assistants will support pupils on a 1:1 basis when children have an EHC plan or require specialist provision/the nature of the intervention requires it.

Learning Support Assistants will support pupils in small groups when several children require the same intervention and it can be effectively delivered as part of a small group or when the intervention requires group interaction.

We work with the following agencies to provide support for pupils with SEN:

Calderdale SEND Team including the ASD Team and Early Years support team (PORTAGE)

SENDIASS <http://wwcalderdalesendiass.org.uk>

Unique Ways <http://www.uniqueways.org.uk>

Healthy Minds Time out [Time Out - Healthy Minds Calderdale](#)

Invictus Wellbeing-Brew Project [CALDERDALE BREW Project | Invictus Wellbeing](#)

The expertise and training of staff to support pupils with SEN, including how specialist expertise will be secured.

Our SENCo has worked as a SENCo for over six years and has the Postgraduate NaSenco Masters award in Special Educational Needs.

We have a team of 8 Learning Support Assistants, including 1 higher level Learning Support Assistant who are trained to deliver SEN provision.

We have a Mental Health Practitioner who supports children on a 1:1, group or whole class basis. Support includes work on anxiety,

In the last academic year, staff have been trained in 'Making sense of Autism' from the Autism Education Trust, Read Write Inc, Pathways to progress Literacy intervention, Rainbows bereavement counselling and ACES.

regular in-school CPD on supporting the needs of our pupils including best practice in inclusive practice.

We use specialist staff to support children with specific needs, for example the delivery of the speech and language programme, Chatterbox.

How equipment and facilities to support children and young people with SEN will be secured.

Each school in the Trust has a SEN budget. This budget is drawn from pupil funding and is supported through other grants. This budget is reviewed annually and adjusted based on the type and level of provision required to fulfill the SEND pupils' cohorts needs. This budget is spent on staffing and physical resources.

How the effectiveness of the provision made for pupils with SEN is evaluated.

We evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEN by:

- Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term.
- Reviewing the impact of interventions termly.
- Using pupil questionnaires / feedback from meetings.
- Monitoring by the SENCO.
- Using provision maps to measure progress.
- Holding annual reviews for pupils (and their families) with EHC plans.

How pupils with SEN are enabled to engage in activities available with those in the school who do not have SEN.

All our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our pupils, including our before-and after-school clubs.

All pupils are encouraged to go on our residential trip(s).

All pupils are encouraged to take part in all events related to the formal curriculum and through each school's extra-curricular offer.

No pupil is ever excluded from taking part in these activities because of their SEN or disability.

Support for improving emotional and social development.

Our provision for children with social and emotional difficulties includes:

- Close working with school's Mental Health Lead to identify where additional support is needed.
- Mental Health support worker provides weekly support in-house for children in addition to providing training for all staff.
- 1:1 and small group pastoral support.
- Access to specialist counselling-e.g. Noah's Ark or Play Therapy
- Social Use of Language, Social Circles small group sessions
- Support for the development of social skills throughout the school day and additional support including Lego Therapy where need is identified.
- Access to specialist support for children with Autism and their families.

How the school involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority (LA) support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting pupils' SEN and supporting their families.

All schools in the trust are open to and encourage working in partnership with other agencies. This partnership working is central to ensuring that we make the most efficient use of the services on offer and

devise plans that ensure that external services cohabit effectively with the support offered by the school. A list of services is below, this is not an exhaustive list, but instead demonstrates the range of agencies and external services schools work with:

- Speech and Language therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- CAMHS
- Play Therapist
- Educational Psychology
- School Nursing team
- Behaviour and Attendance Service
- Sensory Impairment Service
- ASD outreach
- Play Therapist
- Early Years Support team
- Family Support
- Parent Partnership Services
- Play therapy
- Early Help Pathway.
- Highbury Special School Specialist Cluster.

Arrangements for handling complaints from parents of children with SEN about the provision made at the school:

Complaints about SEND provision in our school should be made to the SENCO in the first instance. They will then be referred to the school's complaints policy.

The parents of pupils with disabilities have the right to make disability discrimination claims to the first-tier SEND tribunal if they believe that our school has discriminated against their children. They can make a claim about alleged discrimination regarding:

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

Contact details of support services for parents of pupils with SEN.

Calderdale SEND Team SENDsupport@calderdale.gov.uk

SENDIASS <http://wwcalderdalesendiass.org.uk>

Unique Ways <http://www.uniqueways.org.uk>

Named contacts within the school for when young people or parents have concerns

Lucy Trafford (SENCO) – lucy.trafford@luddfoot.polarismat.org.uk

Carolyn Greenwood (Head of School) – head@luddfoot.polarismat.org.uk

Nicki Paynter (Pastoral/Mental Health Lead) – nicki.paynter@luddfoot.polarismat.org.uk

Jenny Ransom (SEN Governor) – jenny.ransom@polarismat.org.uk

The school's contribution to the local offer and where the LA's local offer is published.

For full details of the entire support provided for parents please follow the link to Calderdale's Local offer:

<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/local-offer/send>

The arrangements for the admission of disabled pupils.

All pupils whose education, health and care (EHC) plans name the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated.

Each school's oversubscription criteria prioritises pupils with disabilities.

No child with SEND will be disadvantaged regarding their admission to any of the schools in the Trust because each school's oversubscription criteria states:

1. Pupils in public care (Children Looked After), or pupils who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a child arrangement or had a special guardianship order right after being looked after.
2. Pupils who were previously in state care outside of England and have ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
3. Children with education, health and care plans (EHCPs) naming the school.

The steps we have taken to prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favourably than other pupils:

The Equality Act 2010 says schools mustn't discriminate against a pupil because of their disability. This is unlawful under the Act. We will endeavour to remove the barriers our children with SEND face because of their disability, so they can access and participate in education in the same way, as far as this is possible, as someone who's not disabled. This responsibility applies to practices or rules our school has and to the need to provide an aid to a pupil who reasonably needs it. The Equality Act calls this the duty to make 'reasonable adjustments'.

The duty to make reasonable adjustments applies to all of the school's activities and the decisions that are made by teachers and staff including:

- Admissions.
- Exclusions.
- Access to school trips.
- Help and support in the classroom.
- The curriculum, learning activities and materials.

The facilities we provide to help disabled pupils to access the school:

- School building is fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act and Equality Act 2010.
- Lift to upper floor.

- Toilet for the disabled, with specialist adaptations to facilitate independent toileting.
- Showering facilities.
- Access to equipment which assists fine-motor development and writing skills: sloping boards; a variety of pencil grips; a variety of pens, a range of ICT equipment and multi-sensory writing apparatus; theraputty; dough disco.
- Sensory circuits morning group allowing pupils to feel ready to learn.
- Discreet in class support including fidget equipment, wobble cushions, chair leg bands, ear defenders.

Accessibility Plan.

The Accessibility Plan in each school in the Trust has three main strands:

- Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- Improving the physical environment to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of the education, benefits, facilities and services you provide.
- Improving the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

This is achieved through curriculum reviews as well as staff training and development. The school will also use the expertise, advice and guidance of external agencies and other schools. The student voice will have a key role in considering individual student needs as will consultation with parents and carers.

The Accessibility Plan will have high set high expectations for disabled students and set them appropriate and challenging targets. It is the expectation that disabled students will make significant progress, staff will be accomplished at providing for and supporting disabled students. Issues will need consideration.

For students these include:

- PE for students with physical disabilities.
- Sex education for those who are particularly vulnerable or have inherited conditions.
- Music for deaf or hearing-impaired students.
- Easy language or taped information for students with learning difficulties.
- Pictures and symbols for students with communication difficulties.
- Pre-printed homework for dyslexic students.
- Large print for the visually impaired and clear signs especially health and safety advice.
- Adjustable tables in classrooms for wheelchair users.
- Classroom organisation to allow for movement of wheelchair users.
- Lighting that supports lip reading.
- The positive promotion of disabled people through images, books, teaching materials and the wider curriculum to raise the self-esteem of disabled students.
- The elimination of bullying towards disabled students.

For disabled parents/carers and visitors to the school these include:

- Information in different formats (large print, appropriate language).
- Disabled friendly reception that caters for those with communication difficulties, wheelchair users.
- Safe floors.
- Clear signs.

Improving the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

This may include:

- Handouts, timetables, worksheets, notices, information about school events.
- Providing information in braille, large print, simplified language, on audio tape, on video tape, sign language, using a symbol system.
- Looking at how information in teacher marked and assessed work is given to students

Management, coordination and implementation

The Accessibility Plan in each school is reviewed after four years.

The school's SENCO monitors and reviews SEN and Learning Support issues as part of an on-going process to improve and update practice and procedure. This includes the collection, analysis and monitoring of data that shows how disabled students have performed against their own targets in terms of academic progress attendance and behaviour and participation in both the wider curriculum and school life.

Allocation of resources will be the responsibility of the Head of School.

Support from the relevant LA will continue to be sought with regards to access funding, specialist support (e.g., physiotherapists, occupational therapists, educational psychologists, school nurse) and funding for students who have complex needs

When reviewing the plan, the questions to consider include:

- Have disabled students and adults seen any difference?
- Are staff more confident with disability issues?
- Are more parents/carers satisfied with arrangements for disabled people?
- Are disabled students achieving more – academically, socially, personally?
- Is the school more accessible?