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Mission Statement

All children at Thaxted Primary school have an equal right to learn and are entitled to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum, which is relevant to their needs. We are committed to:

- Providing a caring environment, within which all pupils can learn and develop to their full potential.
- Giving all children access to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum.
- Valuing the contributions and achievements of all pupils.
- Involving all staff in responding to the needs of all children.

HOME

What kinds of SEN are provided for at Thaxted?

In our school, we use the 'Essex Provision Guidance Toolkit' to ensure that we are doing all we can to meet the needs of children with SEN, providing clarity and consistency when deciding the level and type of support a child needs. This guidance splits SEN into the following categories:

- Learning Difficulties and Disabilities
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties
- Autism and Social Communication Difficulties
- Speech, Language and Communication Needs
- Physical and Neurological Impairment
- Sensory: Hearing, Visual and Multi-sensory Impairment

We have and are successfully supported/ing pupils with SEND in all of these areas.

HOME

How will the school help my child manage the transition into the school, into a new class or to a different school?

To our setting:

- We work closely with nurseries; we attend meetings the year before a child would join our school and visit the child in their current setting.
- Children visit school in the summer term for: A school lunch, an outdoor teddy bears picnic in the forest and a stay and play in class.
- Home visits are carried out for all new reception children.
- Teachers make visits to preschools.

From our setting

- Secondary transition days – we often arrange extra days to support pupils with SEND.
- Regular sports activities happening at the secondary schools means pupils are familiar prior to going there.
- The upper schools visit us and we ensure that the new SENCo can attend the annual review prior to transition if the child has an EHCP.
- Year 5, visit a secondary school for the careers fair.
- Extra support preparing children for travel (e.g. bus travel).
- We ensure that all documents are passed onto next schools.

Within our setting

- Mixed class afternoons – house point rewards.
- Teacher handover inset day
- A morning or afternoon in our new classrooms with new teachers in the summer term.

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How do you identify pupils who may have SEND?

If members of staff or parents feel that a child may have additional needs, we will observe them closely, monitor their progress and meet with you to discuss any concerns. We will look together at their learning and achievement and discuss further support for your child, including possible interventions and future strategies.

If our shared concerns persist, we will work together to draw up a 'one plan' that will help us to monitor your child's progress against individual targets and involve you, and your child, in this process.

HOME

What is the approach for teaching pupils with SEND?

All pupils at Thaxted Primary school receive High Quality teaching across all subjects. Learning is differentiated to meet the needs of each individual pupil.

In addition, if a child has additional needs or is not making expected progress, we use the graduated approach (Assess, Plan, Do, Review) assessing, identifying and providing for pupils with SEN. We begin 'One plan meetings' with parents and pupils; the aim of these being to create a 'One Plan'.

The One Plan is a planning, teaching and reviewing tool, which enables us to focus on particular areas of development for pupils with SEN. They are seen as working documents and are reviewed termly, to ensure the effectiveness of the provision for each pupil.

The targets created during these sessions are small steps to overcome the identified barriers to learning and these incorporate areas that the school, parents and child will all work on together, to help the pupil achieve their end goals.

One-plan meetings are part of the 'Targeted support' stage of identification.

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How are pupils with SEND supported to participate in all activities?

At Thaxted Primary school children with SEN are enabled to engage in activities available to all children.

Some extra support can be provided in the form of

- Visual resources to ensure learning is multi-sensory.
- Resources to aid accessibility e.g. radio aids etc.
- Adult support.
- Reasonable adjustments to environment.
- Opportunities for taking a sensory break
- Planning meetings with parents, the child, class teacher and Inclusion manager to accommodate the child's needs.
- Risk assessments as necessary.

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How are pupils with SEND supported socially and emotionally?

Pupils with SEND are supported emotionally and socially through pastoral support such as mentoring, friendship groups and EFT. Pupil's views on their learning experience are always sought and listened to.

We have specific interventions to support children's social and emotional skills and wellbeing.

At playtimes and lunchtimes, we have play leaders to support children with socialising at these times.

The school has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, especially towards children with SEND. We will actively investigate all allegations and, if there is cause, work with both the bully and the victim to improve their social skills.

We have a highly skilled learning mentor who works with pupils who struggle socially and emotionally in friendship groups and 1:1 sessions.

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What additional support is available for pupils with SEND?

Pupils with SEND may receive support through:

- Targeted interventions working on specific weaknesses
- Small groups sessions
- Friendship groups
- Support in class in small groups and 1:1

We also seek external support from:

- Speech and language therapists
- Occupational health therapists
- Educational Psychologists
- Our Essex inclusion partner
- The school nurse

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What other specialist support is available?

As a school, we work with a variety of external services. These include:

- PROVIDE - Previously known 'the school nurse' - Elaine McGuinness
- Our Speech and Language therapists – Kate Westcott and Ruth Bowden
- Our Inclusion partner – Rebecca Locke
- Occupational therapists
- Play therapists, counsellors
- Educational Psychology Service – Andy Keay
- Family Solutions
- CAMHS play therapy
- EWMHS
- Home start

These are the services that we are currently working with; however, Essex County Council will provide additional support for many pupil's needs.

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How are parents involved?

Parents with children with SEND are consulted and involved with their child's education in a variety of ways:

- One plan meetings
- Parents evenings
- Home visits for new reception pupils
- Annual review meetings for severe/complex needs pupils with an EHCP
- Parents questionnaires
- Access to SENCO if there are any concerns about progress.
- Show and share – to see children's books
- Where necessary home school communication books.

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How are pupils involved?

It is highly important to us at Thaxted Primary school that children are fully involved with their children and young people are consulted and involved with their education in a variety of ways:

- One plan meetings
- Pupil surveys
- Individual targets
- Responding to marking and teacher feedback
- Working collaboratively with peers.

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What expertise do you have in SEND at Thaxted Primary school?

All staff are have good knowledge and skills when it comes to working with pupils with SEND. In addition, once children are identified as having an additional need, Thaxted Primary School has teachers and learning assistants who have specialisms and expertise in differing areas, providing support for a range of need, such as:

- Autistic Spectrum Disorders.
- Learning mentoring and pastoral care (parenting, anger management, counselling).
- Social skills programmes / support to enhance self-esteem (play leaders, SEAL. Time to talk, socially speaking, LEGO groups).
- Speech and Language: an ELKLAN trained Learning Assistant who works closely with a speech and Language therapist to deliver regular, on-going programmes for specific pupils; pre-learning groups (Talk boost KS1, Wellcomm, Word aware)
- Learning support (Rapid reading, On track writing and grammar, 1st class at number, Nessy spelling, Numicon breaking barriers, NLP spelling)

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Who else can support me?

In addition to what can be offered at Thaxted Primary School, the Essex Local Offer is an informative source of information and resources about a range of SEN related issues. It can be found at:

www.essexlocaloffer.org.uk

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How is SEND provision evaluated?

Quality of SEND provision is monitored by the SENCO in conjunction with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the SEN Governor through data analysis, learning walks and lesson observations.

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What do I do if I have a Complaint?

We hope that complaints about SEND provision will be rare, however, if there should be a concern, the process outlined in our Complaints Policy should be followed and can be found on our website: www.thaxtedprimary.co.uk

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SENCO contact details

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Or

Arrange a meeting via the school office.

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