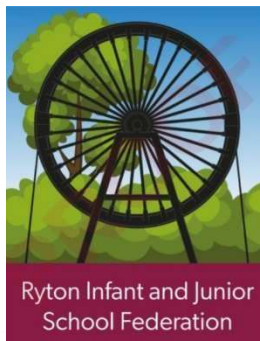


RYTON FEDERATION

SEND Policy Information Report



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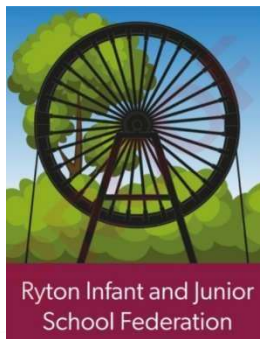
1. Aims

Our SEND policy and information report aims to:

- Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEND)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEND
- At Ryton Federation we aim to:
 - ensure that all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
 - provide a differentiated curriculum appropriate to the individual's needs and ability.
 - ensure the identification of all pupils requiring SEND provision as early as possible.
 - ensure that pupils with SEND take as full a part as possible in all school activities.
 - ensure that parents of pupils with SEND are kept fully informed of their child's progress and attainment.
 - ensure that pupils with SEND are involved, wherever practical, in decisions affecting their SEND provision.
 - recognise that many pupils will have additional needs at some time during their school life. Our overall aim is to ensure that all children are supported as necessary in order that they may work confidently towards reaching their full potential.

Close regard is paid to the three key principles of inclusive education:

- Setting suitable learning challenges.
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs.
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.



To achieve our main aims, it is necessary to:

- have a whole school approach to identification, assessment and provision for children with special educational needs
- view our special needs provision as an ongoing, developing process
- provide quality first teaching and appropriate in-class support which enables all children to have access to the whole curriculum, including the National Curriculum.
- develop an effective partnership between school, parents and outside agencies.
- encourage children and parents/carers to participate in decision-making about provision that will enable the individual to reach their full potential.
- ensure that the assessment and record-keeping system provides adequate means of recording attainment and achievement and gives sufficient information for carefully planned progression at every stage.
- involve the Governing Body and all staff, both teaching and non-teaching, in the regular review, development and evaluation of policy and guidelines.
- ensure all those involved with children with SEND work as a team with the school's main aim in mind.
- monitor those procedures which have been put into place to ensure children with SEND make significant progress as they move through the school.
- identifying children's support needs early is vital if they are to thrive, and enables parents and professionals to put the right approach in place quickly.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy and information report is based on the statutory [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the following legislation:

- [Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEND and disabilities
- [The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#), which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEND co-ordinators (SENDCOs) and the SEND information report.

3. Definitions

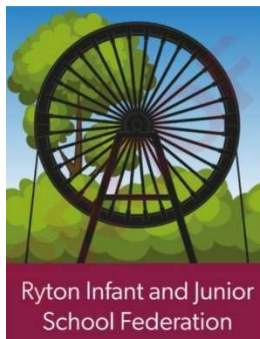
A pupil has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

They have a learning difficulty or disability if they have:

- a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools.

Special educational provision is educational or training provision that is additional to, or different from, that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

Last Reviewed: September 2026



4. Roles and responsibilities (face to face meetings may be used alongside email, phone calls and TEAMS meetings where appropriate)

4.1 The SENDCO

The Sendco will:

- work with the Head Teacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.
- have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual pupils with SEND, including those who have EHC plans.
- provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that pupils with SEND receive appropriate support and high-quality teaching.
- advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support.
- advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils' needs effectively.
- be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services.
- liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure pupils and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned.
- work with the Head Teacher and Governing Body to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.
- ensure the school keeps the records of all pupils with SEND up to date.

4.2 The SEND governor is Mrs Ashleigh McNeill

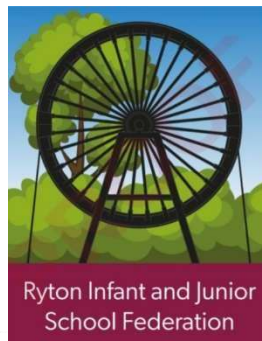
The SEND governor will:

- help to raise awareness of SEND issues at governing board meetings.
- monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND and disability provision within the school and update the governing board on this.
- work with the Head Teacher and SENDCO to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.

4.3 The Head Teacher

The Head Teacher will:

- work with the SENDCO and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school.
- have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND and/or a disability.



4.4 Class teachers

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- the progress and development of every pupil in their class.
- working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching.
- working with the SENDCO to review each pupil's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision in line with the Thresholds as set out by Gateshead Local Authority.
- ensuring they follow this SEND policy.
- being aware of the school's procedures for the identification and assessment of, and subsequent provision for, pupils with SEND.
- working with the SENDCO to collect all available information on the pupil.
- developing strong relationships with parents.
- encouraging pupils to participate in decision-making.

5. SEND information report

5.1 The kinds of SEND that are provided for

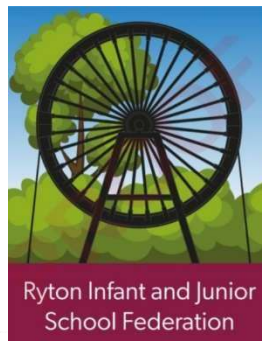
Our school currently provides additional and/or different provision for a range of needs, including:

- communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder or 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.

5.2 Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs

At Ryton Federation we have adopted a whole school approach to SEND policy and practice alongside the Gateshead Thresholds. Pupils identified as having SEND are, as far as is practicable, fully included in mainstream classes and within additional provision within school. The school makes every effort to ensure pupils with SEND have full access to the National Curriculum and that they are actively involved in all aspects of school life.

The SEND Code of Practice makes it clear that all teachers are teachers of pupils with special education needs. At Ryton Federation we recognise that all teachers are responsible for identifying pupils with SEND and, in collaboration with the SENDCO, for ensuring that those pupils requiring different or additional support are identified at an early stage.



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 and be part of the Gateshead Thresholds.

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

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired Threshold 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.

Children will be placed within 3 bands depending on the support that they require:

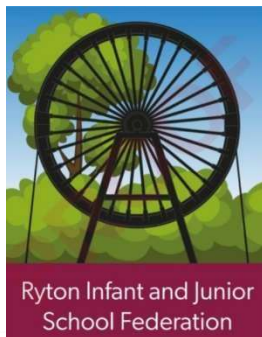
- wave 1 – Quality First teaching
- wave 2 – specific, focused intervention
- wave 3 – referral to outside agencies for further advice, assessment and support.

5.3 Consulting and involving pupils and parents

Ryton Federation firmly believes in developing a strong partnership with parents/carers and that this will help children and young people with SEND to achieve their potential. The school recognises that parents have a unique overview of a child's needs and how best to support them and that this gives them a key role in the home/school partnership. The school will make available, to all parents of pupils with SEND, details of the Parent Partnership Service available through the LA.

We will have an early discussion with parents (and pupil if appropriate) 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 as part of Gateshead Thresholds.
- 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 SEND support.

5.4 Assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes

At Ryton Federation 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 SENDCO 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, attainment and behaviour.
- other teachers' assessments, where relevant and part of the Gateshead Thresholds.
- 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. This will be recorded on each child's individual learning plans and updated at each review.

5.5 Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood

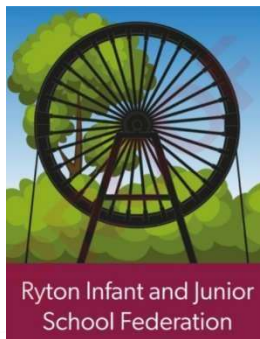
At Ryton Federation, we will share information with the school, or other setting the pupil is moving to. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this.

We will arrange a meeting with the school's SENDCO, as appropriate, to share information that will support the pupil's transition. Where appropriate, additional visits will be arranged to support transition. Additional resources and visits will be provided to support children (photographs of new classroom layouts etc).

5.6 Our approach to teaching pupils with SEND

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

Quality First teaching is our first step in responding to pupils who have SEND. This will be differentiated for individual pupils.



We will also provide the following interventions:

- Lexia Core 5
- Numicon-Big ideas
- Mymaths
- Maths plus1
- Sounds Write, Hornet and Toe-by-Toe
- Precision Teaching
- Nurture Groups/ therapy based activities and attention autism inspired activities
- Blacksheep Press materials and Zones of Regulation
- Sensory Circuits and emotional regulation

5.7 Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

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

- Differentiating our curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- Adapting our resources and staffing
- Using recommended aids such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, now and next boards, task management boards etc.
- Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre- teaching of key vocabulary, chunking learning and reading instructions aloud, etc.
- Additional provision is available to ensure a modified and appropriate environment is available to the children who need it most. Teaching styles, resources and outcomes are carefully managed to meet the needs of individual children.

5.8 Additional support for learning

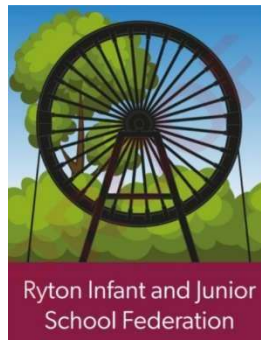
We will work with the following agencies to provide support for pupils with SEND:

- HINT/LINT including SEMH through HINT
- Speech and Language team, dietician, specialist nurses
- Occupational Therapy, physiotherapy, paediatric consultants
- CYPS, EWT, NE Counselling and Children's North East
- RISE and TIME Team
- CAMHs
- Educational Psychologist
- Health Visitors and 0-19 School Nursing Service
- Early Years Area SENDCO and the 0-5 Service
- Child Development Team, 0-4 Panel and Portage

5.9 Expertise and training of staff

Our SENDCO is allocated 1 and a half days per week to manage SEND provision.

We have a team of teaching assistants, including higher level teaching assistants (HLTAs)



In the last academic year, staff have been trained in supporting children with their mental health needs; one TA has completed ELSA training; EYFS staff continue to work with Literacy LaunchPad; and all staff provide activities for sensory feedback/self-regulation. All staff have completed update training with regards to Relational Approaches and understanding behaviours as well as completed training around the Gateshead Thresholds and new ILPs. EYFS staff have started Makaton training.

All staff have recently accessed training focused on staff well-being delivered by outside specialists. More staff have been trained in the delivery of Sounds Write. Many staff have completed modules from the Local Authority Inclusion Project (PINS) and the Federation has participated in the Local Authority Nurturing Inclusion Project. The Early Years Lead and SENDCo have completed Launchpad for Literacy training. All staff have completed epilepsy training; where needed staff have completed gastronomy training and participated in first aid training, including CPR, to support the use of rescue medication if it is required.

Within the last year, there has been a focus on autism awareness: staff, parents and children have accessed workshops in school delivered by The Children's Society. Further update workshop relating to Zones of Regulation have also been delivered to KS2.

Staff have worked with outside agencies to develop strategies to support children they are working with i.e. HINT SEMH, HINT, LINT, Occupational Therapy, physiotherapy, EP, SALT, Portage and 0-5 Service.

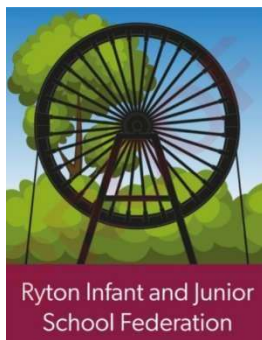
5.10 Securing equipment and facilities

At Ryton Federation, we have disabled parking spaces, disabled toilets, low curbs and ramps to allow children with physical difficulties to access all areas of the school. We have made adjustments for visually and hearing-impaired pupils. Handrails are installed on every set of steps outside the building and yellow lines have been painted to assist VI children with stairs and uneven surfaces. The fire assembly point for the nursery has been repositioned with guidance from Health and Safety and Fire Services.

5.11 Evaluating the effectiveness of SEND provision

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

- reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term
- monitoring Gateshead Thresholds
- reviewing the impact of interventions
- using pupil questionnaires
- monitoring by the SENDCO
- using provision maps to measure progress
- holding annual reviews for pupils with EHC plans



5.12 Enabling pupils with SEND to engage in activities available to those in the school who do not have SEND

All of 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 sports day/school plays, etc.

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

5.13 Support for improving emotional and social development

We provide support for pupils to improve their emotional and social development in the following ways:

- Pupils with SEMH may be involved in a nurture group or Sensory Circuits at the beginning of each day to look at the daily timetable and discuss any problems. Some children have the opportunity for reflection time at the end of the day.
- Pupils with SEMH may be given a 'key worker' that checks in with them throughout the day to ensure they are settled and focused in class.
- The Federation is working with the Rise Project and TIME Team to support individuals, small groups and to work with classes in a targeted approach to mental health and well-being as provision becomes available.

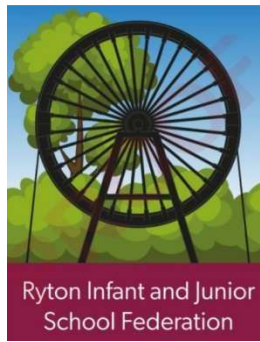
We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

5.14 Working with other agencies

The school recognises the important contribution that external support services make in assisting to identify, assess and provide support for pupils with SEND.

When it is considered necessary, colleagues from the following support services will be involved with pupils with SEND:

- HINT/LINT/0-5 Service and Area SENDCo
- Speech and Language Team
- Occupational Therapy, Portage and physiotherapy
- CYPS, CAMHS and Emotional Wellbeing
- Educational Psychologist
- Health Visitors and 0-19 Nursing Team



5.15 Complaints about SEND provision

Complaints about SEND provision in our school should be made to the SENDCO/ Head 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:

- suspensions and expulsions
- 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 SEND SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) 0115 959 7771; email: info@gatesheadsendiass.org.uk

5.16 Contact details for raising concerns

Mrs Deborah Ashcroft (Executive Head Teacher) Ryton Infant and Junior School Federation
Main Road,
Ryton NE403AF
0191 4133573

5.17 The local authority local offer

Our local authority's local offer is published here:
<https://gateshead-localoffer.org/information-advice-services-and-support/>

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy and information report will be reviewed by the Head Teacher and SENDCOs every year. It will also be updated if any changes to the information are made during the year. It will be approved by the Governing Body.

7. Links with other policies and documents

This policy links to our policies on:

- Accessibility plan
- Behaviour
- Equality information and objectives
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Gateshead SEND Thresholds <https://gateshead-localoffer.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/SEND-Thresholds-Final-version-March-2024.pdf>