



WADHAM SCHOOL

Special Educational Needs Policy

Approved by Governors

Student Support – Mission Statement

At Wadham School, our aim is to enable each student, whatever their challenges, to access an appropriate curriculum so that they can reach their full potential and enhance their self-esteem, wherever the starting point.

We aim to stimulate and maintain in our students' curiosity, interest and enjoyment in their own education and to personalise the provision for each student to meet their individual needs.

We will identify needs, assess and provide the most effective support for individual students, involving staff, parents and students in the assessment and understanding of the need. We will encourage students to discover their own learning style and therefore take some responsibility for their learning; teaching staff will be encouraged to use a variety of approaches to learning. Our special educational provision is made in accordance with the Childrens and Families Act 2014 and The Special Educational Needs Code of practice:

- A student with SEN should have their needs met
- Students with SEN will normally have their needs met at Wadham, but in some cases it may be necessary to use alternative settings/provision to meet the needs
- The views of the student will be sought and taken into account
- Parents have a vital role to play in supporting their child's education
- Students with SEN should be offered full access to a broad, balanced and relevant education, including an appropriate curriculum for the foundation learners

Objectives:

- To ensure that provision for students with SEN is a matter for the school as a whole and all staff are fully involved.
- To have early identification of students with SEN
- To ensure that all staff have detailed information regarding students with SEN
- To provide students with access to all areas of the National Curriculum
- To provide alternative paths to learning where appropriate
- To provide appropriate support and resources
- To enable students to reach their full potential
- To encourage parental involvement
- To enable individual students to participate fully in the decision-making processes involved

Admission arrangements for students with SEN

Wadham's SENDCo, Deputy SENDCo and Inclusion Manager are involved in annual reviews/SEN Support Reviews/EPACs and TAFs for students in Year 8, those who have an Educational Health Care Plan and those who have additional funding. In some cases, the SENDCo will attend reviews in Year 7 depending on the complexities of the student.

- Visits are made to middle schools prior to entry.
- Where possible Teaching Assistants visit those students with SEN in the middle schools, to meet with them and to observe within the classroom
- Any student who is feeling anxious about transfer can take part in additional visits during the summer term of Year 8.
- Additional meetings to discuss complex issues are arranged.
- All students including those with SEN take part in literacy testing and induction days.
- Parents are invited to discuss any difficulties their child may be experiencing.
- For students who transfer in year, the SENDCO will contact the previous school to ensure that SEN documentation is forwarded.
- Arrangements will be made for working in partnership with parents
- Parents are kept fully informed in decisions relating to their child's Special Educational Needs
- Parents are encouraged to attend review meetings and parents evenings. If they do not attend they are informed either by telephone or letter
- The SENDCO/Deputy SENDCo/Inclusion Manager are available at all parents evening and options evening

Links with common Outside Agencies:

- EP – Educational Psychologist
- LSS – Learning Support Service
- CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- ESO - Education Safeguarding Officer
- PIMS – Physical Impairment Service
- Hearing Support Advisor
- SENATAS – IT support
- Integrated Services – OT, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language
- PFSA - Parent and Family Support Adviser
- YOT - Youth Offending Team
- SSPS – South Somerset Partnership Schools
- ASD – Autistic Spectrum/Language & Communication Team
- Traveller Education
- FIS - Family Intervention Service
- School Nurse/Health Visitors

- YFF – Yeovil For Families
- Children’s Social Care
- REACH

To refer to the majority of the above outside agencies, an Early Help Assessment needs to be completed on the young person/family. A person with Parental Responsibility must give permission for this to go ahead, except in Safeguarding circumstances.

Responsibility of Governors:

The Governing Body will appoint a governor with responsibility for SEN, who will meet regularly with the SEN Coordinator to review and discuss SEN provision. Periodic reports will be made on the SEN provision in the school by the SENCO and the Governing Body as a whole.

Governor responsible for SEN: Mr A Hutchings

Complaints about the Special Education Provision in the school.

Complaints should be addressed in the first instance to the SEN Coordinator. If the problem is unresolved, parents will be referred to the Headteacher for further discussion and thereafter, and if necessary, to the Governor for SEN who will inform the Governing Body.

Arrangements for Coordinating the SEN Department:

The name of the SEN Coordinator responsible for day-to-day operation of the policy is Mrs Sarah Coombe

The SEN Coordinator is responsible for: -

- The day-to-day operation of the schools SEN Policy
- Liaising with and advising teachers
- Coordinating provision for students with SEN
- Managing and deploying the work of the Teaching Assistants
- Maintaining individual records and profiles for all students with SEN
- Monitoring and reviewing pupil progress
- Reviewing statutory Annual Reviews
- Liaising with parents
- Liaising with outside agencies
- Liaising with middle schools
- Working closely with all members of the SLT

Identification, assessment and provision for all students with SEN.

In order to facilitate the early identification of students with SEN, there is close liaison with the middle school before transfer. Students identified as having difficulties are closely monitored and schools work together to ensure a smooth transition is in place. All records are transferred and pupil passports are created to meet the changing curriculum from middle school to upper school.

Within Wadham, regular meetings are held with SEN staff to discuss the needs of students and to identify any students who may have not been identified in middle schools or whose progress has changed and is now a cause for concern.

Basic School Entitlement;

Basic School Entitlement relates to all students who should have a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum.

However, some students will need action that is additional to basic entitlement. This may include literacy and numeracy interventions and/or Social and Emotional interventions, differentiated materials to meet their needs. They may work within the classroom or in small groups, or on occasions on an individual basis. These students may have a Learning Passport, which will be used to inform staff of the needs and strategies to help the student. Outside agencies/professionals may need to be involved and both parents and students will be informed if this support is necessary. Involvement of parents is also important and they will be invited in to discuss progress with the SENCO or key learning support staff and be encouraged to work closely with school.

Additional funding and the EHCP process:

Some students' needs will require additional funding. The funding may provide, for example, help within the classroom; it may provide a greater degree of personalisation; it may include subjects being taught on a 1-1 basis; extended work experience, or some education off site.

To secure extra funding, the SENCO or parent has to apply for an EHCP. This is a long process and a graduated response must be followed and evidence of need etc. gathered before an application can be made.

An Educational Health Care Plan is a statutory assessment for those students that the LEA has judged in need of careful monitoring and specific provision that should be put in place as set out in the EHCP

A parent or carer can request a statutory assessment.

Once the necessary paper work is completed, the panel at the LEA decides whether the needs of the student require this legal assessment. If it is deemed appropriate they will contact all outside agencies and school, who have to write a report which will be included in the EHCP.

Not all students with an Education Healthcare Plan have additional funding; they still have to go through the audit process.

Once an Education Healthcare Plan has been written this has to be reviewed each year and copies sent to the LEA as the Statement is a legal document.

Additional Provision:

- For some students, regular withdrawal from normal subjects, for either one or two lessons per week is undertaken in order for them to receive the specialist tuition for their individual needs, in addition to the ongoing support in the normal classroom.
- Some students from time to time will need the support of our Learning Support Unit – The Bridge. These students may have social and emotional needs; they may be returning to school after a long absence; they may have found mainstream teaching very difficult and prefer to work in a smaller environment.
- Some students may take part in activities away from school, such as REACH. This gives them the opportunity to explore different activities, to build their self-esteem and to work as part of a team.
- For some students the opportunity of extended work experience is appropriate and they can attend a work placement for 1 day per week, giving them the opportunity to understand the world and work and become more motivated and interested in their future.

Staffing for September 2021

Mrs Sarah Coombe – Deputy Headteacher, DSL, SENDCo
Mrs Emma Charles – Deputy SENDCo (Learning)
Ms Kate Stubbins – Inclusion Manager

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Sue Kinglake
Mrs Lesley Giles
Mrs Melanie Guppy
Miss Nicola Brown
Mrs Kathy Hayden
Mrs Jo Carvell
Mr William Date
Miss Amy Gray
Mrs Rebecca Curtis
Mrs Emma Bale

Student Support:

Mrs Jo Taylor
Mrs Dee Martin