

School Information Report

Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club



These pages set out information about our provision for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN). They are updated annually.

At Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club we recognise that all children have a right to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. We aim to create a happy, educationally exciting and positive environment in which all pupils can develop to their full potential. We recognise that children are individuals, that each one has needs special to him or her.

We aim to:

- ensure that our curriculum is responsive to all children whatever their individual need
- promote positive attitudes and individual confidence, ensuring all children experience success
- identify, assess, record and regularly review pupils' special educational needs.
- encourage parents/guardians to be involved in planning and supporting at all stages of their child's development.
- make effective use of support services.

About our school

Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club provides for children and young people with a wide range of special educational needs including those with:

- Communication and interaction needs;
this includes children who have speech, language and communication difficulties; including autistic spectrum conditions.
- Cognition and Learning needs;
this includes children who have learning difficulties and specific learning difficulties like dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia.

- Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs
- Sensory and/or Physical needs;
this includes children who have visual or hearing needs, or a physical disability that affects their learning

Our special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) is the Headteacher Sarah Phillips. She can be contacted directly through the nursery or through our office email:

office.1017@lydalls-nurs.oxon.sch.uk

Our Assistant SENCO is Claire-Louise Hayward – She is a nursery nurse who supports the management of our SEN provision.

We have an allocated SEN Governor who can be contacted via the Clerk to the Governors on our office email:

office.1017@lydalls-nurs.oxon.sch.uk

How do we identify and give extra help to children and young people with SEN?

The school uses Oxfordshire County Council's guidance 'Identifying and supporting Special Educational Needs in Oxfordshire schools and settings'.

The guidance sets out:

- How we identify if a child or young person has a special educational need.
- How we assess children and plan for their special educational needs, and how we adapt our teaching.
- Ways in which we can adapt our school environment to meet each child's needs
- How we review progress and agree outcomes and involve you and your child in this.

Click here to read it:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/default/files/folders/documents/childreducatonandfamilies/educationandlearning/specialeducationalneeds/SEND/CompilationFoundationYearsandPrimary.pdf>

How do we work with parents and children/young people?

We recognise and value parents/guardians as children's first and most enduring educators.

We will always contact parents if we have a concern that their child may have a special educational need and encourage parents to speak to us about any concerns they have.

We work closely with children and young people with SEN and their parents to agree outcomes and how we will all work towards these, and then to review progress. We do this through parent teacher interviews, SEN review meetings – where outcomes are agreed, reviewed (at least 3 times a year) and/or Behaviour Support Plans are agreed and reviewed, as well as informal, ongoing discussions before or after nursery sessions.

There are also opportunities for parents to share their views and ideas on Tapestry, by writing feedback as part of the leavers report process and as part of our annual parent's questionnaire.

Adapting the curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all children and young people, including those with a disability or those with SEN. You can find out more about how we adapt our curriculum through the following policies, displayed in a folder in the reception area:

- Teaching and Learning Policy (Incorporating Assessment for Learning Policy)
- SEN Policy
- Single Equality Policy
- Accessibility Plan

Specific interventions or adaptations we use to support children include:

- SPIRALS– language development program.
- SEALs – supporting young children to develop the ‘Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning’.
- PECS –The ‘Picture Exchange Communication System’ supports children with autism or those who have limited language to communicate non-verbally.
- SCERTS (Social Communication, Emotional Regulation, Transactional Support) model. An approach to supporting children with communication and interaction difficulties, particularly autism.
- Photo and picture cards are found throughout the nursery and are used to support children’s understanding.
- Choice boards are used to help children express a preference and to broaden their play choices.
- Makaton Sign language.
- We have a sensory room, equipped with a range of therapeutic resources to support children with SEN.

What expertise can we offer?

Our Headteacher and SENCO Sarah Phillips is a qualified teacher who holds The National SENCO Award qualification.

Our Assistant SENCO Claire-Louise Hayward is a Nursery Nurse with extensive experience of supporting children with SEN.

Staff training is undertaken in various aspects of SEN according to the needs of the children, to ensure that the provision made and support given to children is appropriate and effective. The training needs of the staff are reviewed as part of the CDP process in school. Training may take the form of external courses on particular conditions such as autism, or is offered through in-house training run by the SENCO, Assistant SENCO or other specialists such as our Educational Psychologist.

Lydalls Nursery School is a fully inclusive school and has a long record of working with children with a range of SEN and Disabilities. Staff have particular expertise in working with children with SEN and supporting children who are experiencing a delay to their speech and language development. In addition we undertook Team Teach and Attachment training as a

whole staff team during INSET days in the 2015-16 academic year, which we refreshed during an INSET day in the 2018-19 academic year. In Autumn 2021 we will renew our training as a whole staff team. Since our initial training have since imbedded Positive Handling Plans and Behaviour Communication Passports and have enhanced our work with children who present with a range of challenging behaviours. In January 2017, all staff participated in SCERTS training, during an INSET day. In January 2020 during an INSET day, all staff participated in training on Emotion Coaching. We work closely with other schools and settings to develop expertise and share knowledge and skills.

We also have access to a range of specialist support services including:

- Health Services – including Health Visitors, Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists.
- Services to Support Learning – such as Oxfordshire’s School Inclusion Team, the Early Intervention Service, Early Years Special Educational Needs Inclusion Teachers (EYSENITs), the Special Educational Needs Support Service (SENSs) and the Educational Psychology (EP) Service.

Information about these services, and others, as well as what they offer can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council SEN web pages:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/support-services-send>

We always discuss the involvement of specialist SEN services with parents first.

We also work with other services and organisations that are involved with a family, with the family’s permission.

How do we know if SEN provision is effective?

The progress of all children is tracked throughout the school through the use of Child Development Profiles. Group leaders update their key children’s profiles throughout the year and pass on data three times a year (with additional entry data for new children), to be entered into our data-base. This data is then analysed and monitored throughout the year. In addition, group leaders use their knowledge of their key children and their Child Development Profiles to share any concerns, new strategies or new information with staff during our weekly staff briefing.

Additionally, for children with SEN, we regularly review progress towards agreed outcomes; assessing the difference the support that has been in place has made and planning what we need to do next. We evaluate this progress against age related expectations.

When we run special intervention programmes for groups of children we assess how successful they have been and use that information to decide on how best to run them in the future.

The school's SEN Governor meets with the Headteacher and SENCO Sarah Phillips, to monitor the effectiveness of provision made for children with SEN.

How are children and young people with SEN helped to access activities outside of the classroom?

All children and young people are included in activities and trips following risk assessments where needed and in accordance with duties under the Equalities Act 2010. We talk to parents and children when planning trips so that everyone is clear about what will happen.

There is information about activities and events for disabled children and those with SEN in Oxfordshire in the Family Information Directory:

<http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities.page>

Oxfordshire's accessibility strategy can be read at:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/special-educational-needs/schoolsaccessibilitystrategy.pdf>

What do we do to support the wellbeing of children/young people with SEN?

We carefully observe and listen to children and always seek to understand their opinion or view. The way in which we discuss this with children may take different forms, depending on their age and stage of development. For example, where a child may not be able to verbally contribute to discussions, we can use written and photographic observations of their interests, preferences, likes, dislikes, learning and development. Some children may be able to communicate their thoughts or preferences through choosing, discussing and/or sorting pictures or photos.

We also recognise that children communicate with us through their behaviour and carefully consider, in partnership with parents, why a child may be behaving in a certain way.

We use Wellbeing and Involvement monitoring when undertaking observations, as part of our daily practise.

We expect all children and adults within the nursery to behave respectfully towards others and do not tolerate any unkind or hurtful behaviour. For more information please see our Behaviour Policy – this can be found in the policy folder in the entrance hall and on our website here: <https://www.lydallsnurseryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Behaviour-Policy-2018.pdf>

Joining the school and moving on

We undertake home visits prior to children starting nursery wherever possible. As part of this visit group leaders (your child's key person) are able to discuss children's individual needs, including any Special Educational Needs (SEN) or disabilities.

All children must visit the nursery at least once with their parent(s)/guardian(s) prior to starting the nursery. We have daily open visiting hours - 9.30-10.30am and 1.30-2.30pm and encourage families to visit with their children as often as they would like once they have been offered a place at the nursery.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic we have undertaken COVID secure welcome visits and stay and play sessions based in the nursery school. We anticipate that this will continue throughout the 2021-22 academic year, but will keep this under review. We are not currently able to offer open daily visiting sessions, however will arrange additional visits for children as appropriate to their needs.

When a child with SEN or a disability is moving on to their next setting we:

- Support parents in visiting schools and understanding what choices are available to them.
- Liaise with the receiving school's Headteacher, SENCO teacher and TA when appropriate.
- Arrange extra school visits prior to entry, supported by nursery staff if necessary.
- Offer the opportunity for receiving staff to visit the child in nursery.
- Provide assessment and records for the receiving school.
- Review the child's Statement, or Education, Health and Care Plan as appropriate – inviting the receiving school.

Who to contact

If a parent or guardian is concerned about SEN provision for their child, initial contact should be made with the group leader. A meeting can be arranged, which may include the Headteacher (who is also the SENCO) and Assistant SENCO, to discuss the concern. Parents can request an appointment with the Headteacher directly. The Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) is available to support parents in meetings concerning their child's progress and welfare.

If you are concerned about your child or the SEN provision being made for them, wish to discuss their learning and development, or simply want to ask a question, please initially speak to your child's group leader. Meetings can also be arranged with the Headteacher (who is also the SENCO) and/or the Assistant SENCO.

In the event of a formal complaint concerning SEN provision, parents/guardians are advised to contact the Headteacher and follow the schools complaints procedure in the first instance. Parents may also contact the Governing Body using this procedure.

There is lots of useful information on our school website – you can find us here:

<http://www.lydallsnurseryschool.co.uk/>

If you'd like impartial advice from Oxfordshire's SENDIASS (SEN and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service) you can find them here:

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/education-and-learning/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer/information-advice-and-support-parents-and-children-about-sen/sendias-oxfordshire?utm_source=FURL-1&utm_medium=sendias&utm_term=MR&utm_campaign=sendias

If you'd like to know more about opportunities for children and young people with SEN and their families, support groups or information about SEN these are listed in the Family Information Directory: <http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/fsd/disabilities.page>

Oxfordshire's Local Offer contains lots of information for parents. Click here to see it:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer>

Our school has contributed to the county's Local Offer through attendance at a training workshop and through trialling of new guidance and systems.

Summer Autumn 2021

Next review – Autumn 2022

Governor Signature _____ N/A informed of review _____ Date _____ 28/09/21 _____