

Pennington Junior School- The Local Offer

How does the school know if children need extra help?

- By talking to you and listening to your concerns
- By talking to your child's previous school
- Through teaching staff observing your child in class
- Through informal or formal assessment and discussion with your child
- By talking to outside agencies for advice and support

What should I do if I think my child has special educational needs?

We believe in building positive and trusting relationships with our parents and always encourage discussion with either, the class teacher or SENCo. If, as a parent you have any concerns about your child's learning needs, then please come and see us.

How will school support my child?

The school has a Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) who is responsible for co-ordinating the support for your child. In all cases, you as the parent, the class teacher and the teaching assistant will work together closely with the SENCo to provide the necessary support.

Depending on the needs of your child, the following people may also be involved:

- Teaching assistant to carry out learning interventions in or outside the classroom
- Nurture Group staff
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)
- Outside Agencies (e.g. educational psychologist, speech and language therapy service, Occupational therapy service, CAMHS)

The above staff may provide support on a 1-1 basis or through small group work and this may be in or out the class. All support is regularly monitored and evaluated for its effectiveness. Your child's progress will be reported back to you and can be discussed in detail with the class teacher or SENCo at any point.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

Your child will always have access to the full curriculum and therefore all work will be modified as appropriate so it has the correct level of challenge. Differentiating learning in this way, is also supported by additional adult support where needed. This may mean in a small group or sometimes on a 1-1 basis.

How will I know how well my child is doing, and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

- You are always welcome any time to meet with a member of staff who is supporting your child and discuss their progress.
- We can offer advice and practical ways that you can help your child at home.
- If your child has an IEP (Individual Education Plan), 'parent support' will be suggested on the plan. As a parent, you are always invited into school to discuss your child's IEP.
- Regular communication between school and home is encouraged, either through the class teacher, Learning Support Assistant, SENCo or specialist staff in school.
- Opportunities for parent training workshops will be communicated.

What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

Your child's class teacher will have overall responsibility for your child's well-being and therefore is your first point of contact. At PJS; *"Pupils are extremely well cared for. The values of mutual respect and consideration are ingrained in a learning environment."* Ofsted July 2013.

We also have a caring and understanding team of staff who work together to provide a happy environment for all children.

The following are roles in the school that can also support the well-being of your child:

- Qualified first aiders
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) - who supports the emotional needs of children on a 1-1 or small group basis.
- Family Link Worker - who can work with the parent and the child together to offer emotional and practical help and advice to families that are having long or short-term difficulties.
- Nurture Group (Explorers) - a short term, focussed intervention strategy, which addresses barriers to learning arising from social/emotional and or behavioural difficulties, in an inclusive, supportive manner.
- Parent Support Advisor - supporting both child and family. Their role includes providing information to parents about the school and local services which may be of help, including those provided by education, social care, youth justice, childcare providers and the voluntary sector.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

- ELSA
- Family Link Worker
- Parent Support Advisor

The following services are accessed externally by the school:

- Educational psychologist
- School Nurse
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Occupational Therapy Service
- CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- Service for children whose first language is not English
- Service for children with sensory needs
- Outreach support for children with ASD
- Behaviour Support
- New Forest Young Carers Association
- NSPCC
- Children's Services

What training do the staff have or are having?

- A qualified and accredited SENCo
- All of our LSAs have training in delivering a variety of reading and spelling programmes
- Dyslexia awareness (We are a dyslexia friendly school)
- Understanding attachment -Nurture Group trained
- ELSA
- Numbers Count

How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

We are committed to supporting children to take part in all activities outside the classroom, including trips wherever possible. We would always discuss any concerns with you prior to an activity and provide the necessary support.

How accessible is the school environment?

- The ground floor is fully wheel chair accessible.
- There is a disabled toilet large enough to accommodate changing.

How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, or transfer to a new school?

We have very effective transition arrangements with our feeder infant school and secondary schools:

- All records and information about your child is discussed and passed on between schools.
- Transition work happens throughout the year prior to the change in school.
- Extra visits are arranged for children as appropriate.
- Meeting with parents if requested
- Continuing care from outside services

How are the school's resources allocated and matched to the children's special educational needs?

All children's needs are met to the best of the school's ability. Resources are allocated on a needs basis, taking into consideration the school's budget.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?

- The class teacher, Learning support assistant and SENCo will discuss the child's needs and therefore the appropriate support.
- On-going communication with the child and parent.
- Including outside agencies where appropriate

Who can I contact for further information?

All staff can be contacted via the office on: 01590 672104

or by email: adminoffice@pennington-jun.hants.sch.uk

Your child's class teacher is the first point of contact or if they are unavailable then please contact the SENCo or Headteacher.