



Dear Parents,

### SEN Communication Letter

I recently sent out a SEN Parent Questionnaire, many thanks to the parents that spent the time to answer the questions for me. I hope that this letter will clarify some of the questions and provide you with a better understanding of our SEN provision at St Mary's.

#### **SEN at St Mary's**

A percentage of our children at St. Mary's are supported through SEN (Special Educational Needs) support and are on the SEN register. Some of our pupils have high level needs, and have an Educational Health Care Plan. We are proud of our inclusive provision for our SEN pupils and have successful practice in supporting our pupils to meet their educational, social and emotional needs. This is due to the work we do within school, with external agencies and most importantly our pupils and families.

#### **School Staff and Training**

Mrs. Feighan is one of the Year 1 class teachers and the school SENCo.

All staff in school undertake a range of SEN training within school and with external providers. Mrs. Feighan has the National SENDCo qualification and attends all local SEN network meetings to ensure we are up to date with the latest developments.

#### **Who to talk to about your child**

We always recommend that you speak to your child's class teacher first. If needed they will signpost you to the SENCo.

#### **Individual Learning Plans**

All of our SEN pupils have a Learning Plan. This is an important communication document that tells you how school are supporting your child. You may have noticed we have recently improved our Learning Plans due to using a new resource we have purchased, this links to the schools electronic monitoring system. Learning Plans are written and reviewed three times each school year with the class teacher and with the advice and support of the SENCo if needed. A Learning Plan is used to inform the teacher and others working with the child of specific targets for the child and how these will be reached. This allows staff to plan for progression, monitor the effectiveness of their teaching for your child and collaborate with parents and other members of staff to help your child become more involved in their own learning and work towards specific targets. Learning Plans are shared with parents by your child's class teacher on Parents' Evenings.

## What stage of the SEND Code of Practice is your child on?

If your child has been identified as having an SEN need (Special Educational Needs) they will be put on the school's SEN register. If your child has an EHCP (Education, Health Care Plan) they will be supported via their EHCP. All other children are supported at SEN support.

## Who may become involved with my child from outside the school?

Experts from outside agencies may be asked to assess your child's needs if they continue to have difficulties or if further assessment is required. The SENCo may ask for your permission to seek additional advice from outside specialists such as health professionals, specialist teachers or educational psychologists who would:

- Carry out further assessment of your child's needs
- Provide advice to schools on how to best support your child
- Suggest resources that would help your child make progress

Parents are, wherever possible, offered the opportunity to meet with these professionals during SEN reviews to discuss the results of their assessment.

We are also fortunate to have the expertise of an NHS Commissioned Speech Therapist, Nicola Helme, who works in school on a Friday. She is able to provide advice and training for our staff and works directly with some of our children.

I hope this has given you a better understanding of our current SEN provision. To find out more detail, please see the SEN Policy and SEN Information Report, which can be found on the school website or ask one of the school receptionists to download a copy for you.

Finally, a huge thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure that the communication, information-sharing and support between home and school provides all SEN children with the advice, guidance, support and care they need and deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Feighan (SENCO)



**DIOCESE OF SALFORD AND  
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**