



Addendum to SEND and Medical Needs Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that all schools are prepared and have appropriate arrangements in place in relation to the management of any SEND or medical concerns both on and off site during this time. Therefore, we have produced this cover note/addendum to our existing school's SEND and Medical Conditions Policy Template to ensure all parents/carers, staff and Governors understand our protocols for managing SEND and Medical condition concerns during this time.

SEND Coordinator

While our school site remains open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, the Acting SEND coordinator (Sarah Armstrong) continues to be the Acting SENDCo in the absence of the school's named SENDCo Kirsty Worth, supported by Jane Merrin (Experienced SENDCO).

Should our school site be entirely closed then we will update our policy.

Aims

Under the current climate, we strive to meet the aims listed in our current SEND policy through remote learning, check in phone calls and where children meet the criteria to of 'vulnerable children and young people' as outlined in below government guidelines, in school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The vulnerable criteria set out by the Government entitles a pupil a place in the provision if they have an Education, Health and Care Plan. Pupils who are SEND support or are being monitored for SEND would not meet the criteria provided by the Government. However, our school will endeavour to support pupils with SEND in the best way possible and will consider whether they meet the vulnerable criteria and if there is sufficient capacity and staffing within the risk assessment for the pupil to attend school. This could be on a part time basis. This will be decided in partnership with the parents, school and any agencies working with the pupil.

For those accessing remote learning, we will aim to ensure that the teaching and learning is well matched to the pupils' needs. In some cases, this may include accessing work from another year group similar to their provision in school. Short 1:1 remote sessions with the class teacher or TA will also strive to work towards the pupils' IEP targets. However, as this is not always possible due to COVID protective measures and staffing, targets may need to be reviewed and amended in agreement with parents and pupils.

Arrangements for Contact with SEND children and families

The Acting SENDCo (Sarah Armstrong) will aim to contact the parents and carers of SEND children not accessing in site provision fortnightly. This is in addition to the remote learning contact with the class teacher.

[Availability and contact arrangements for families and professionals who wish to make contact with the Acting SENDCo](#)

During these unprecedented circumstances the Acting SENDCo (Sarah Armstrong) will be available to be contacted by children, families and other services and agencies. She can be contacted via the school telephone number in the first instance and whether they are on or off site they will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

Alternatively she may be contacted via the school email address: bbinfo@nllt.co.uk

Contact with the SENDCo should be within the hours of the school day 9am-3.30pm Monday to Friday in term time. The SENDCo will not pick up messages outside of these times and therefore this may impact on the date or time a response is received by a parent.

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