

What are our school's policies for the identification and assessment of pupils with special educational needs?

At St Helen's we feel early identification of children who require additional support is very important. From time to time some children require additional support to help meet their needs or improve their ability to access the curriculum in a way which suits their learning style. The decision to do this is made by the school and is based on a variety of factors including academic progress, and/or assessments carried out by teaching staff or other professionals. Children are put onto the SEN register if they are two or more sub levels below the progress expected for their year group at any point in the year. Parents/Carers will be informed when this happens. Parents will be informed of their child's progress at least three times.

Some children will require support for a longer period of time to ensure they can access the curriculum effectively and be included fully in classroom learning and school events. Support will be planned by school staff and where appropriate by external professionals. Parents/Carers will be kept informed about this support. This will be monitored by the SENCO who will regularly review the success of interventions. If the intervention has been successful, the child will have closed the gap from expected progress or will be close to catching up to their peers. If the intervention has not been successful, this will be stopped and a new intervention or support programme sought. It may also be appropriate at this point to seek advice from outside agencies. Our Local Offer describes the range of provision and support available to support identified children as and when appropriate.

The school uses its best endeavours to ensure that the provision for **all** its pupils is of the highest possible standard, whilst acknowledging that we are continually striving to improve our practice. We are committed to closing the attainment gap between children with SEN and their non-SEN peers. We are working to achieve this in a variety of different ways.