

SEND Information Report
Toftwood Infant School
2015-2016

Part of the Norfolk Local Offer for Learners with SEND

This SEN report is a working document and is reviewed annually. If you have any ideas about how to improve it please contact us.

This SEND Report, our SEND Policy and the SEND section of our school website will provide you with a glimpse of what we offer for children with SEND and their families at our school. To get an even clearer picture, please contact the school to arrange a visit.

If you have any concerns or worries about your child and their learning or you think you might like to share your story or advice as part of our school information report please contact us by telephone or email.

Telephone: 01362 692612

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo): Amanda Bell,

senco@toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk

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Introduction

Welcome to our SEN information report. This is part of the Norfolk Local Offer for learners with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities (D) also known as SEND.

The Local Offer is where parents can find out what is available in Norfolk to support their child and children across Norfolk.
www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/SEND-local-offer

Schools have a legal duty to publish an SEND Policy and a Report, which contains other information on their website about how they support pupils with SEND. The information published must be updated annually.

Who to contact

At Toftwood Infant School we are committed to working together with all members of our school community to ensure we provide appropriate support for all children. Our school offer is produced with our children in mind, and in partnership with parents/carers, governors and our staff team.

We would welcome your feedback and future involvement in the annual review of our offer. Please contact us if you would like to contribute to shaping this.

The best people to contact regarding SEND provision in school are:

- Mrs Pedlow, Headteacher
head@toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk or 01362 692612
- Mrs Bell, SENCo
senco@toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk or 01362 692612
- Inclusion and SEND link governor, Alison Thompson
Please contact via the school office on 01362 692612

Our approach to teaching children with SEND

At Toftwood Infant School our aim is to do our best in all we do and 'reach for the stars'.

We value:

Opportunities for success so that all children can reach their full potential.

What we provide and our values

- We provide each child with a broad and balanced curriculum.
- We will ensure we support wellbeing.
- We will celebrate the success of all children in equal measure.
- We will provide an environment where everyone is equally valued and feels a sense of belonging.
- We will encourage children to develop personal independence and to respect the views of others.
- We will work hard to develop and enhance home/school relationships in order to form a positive partnership between school and home.
- We will ensure we fulfil our commitments on our Home-School Agreement.
- We will develop and strengthen our community links and involve the local community in school life whenever possible.
- We will aim for the highest possible standards of work and behaviour from all in our school, and ensure that all children achieve to the best of their ability.
- We will be consistent in our values and expectations.
- Our reward scheme will celebrate the successes of all of our children.
- We will plan and use the school's resources realistically and efficiently to ensure value for money.

Our aim is to create an inclusive culture in our school. This includes being responsive to the diversity of backgrounds, interest, experience, knowledge and skills that our children have at all times.

We value high quality teaching for all children and actively monitor teaching and learning throughout the school. For more information on our approach please see our **Assessment, Feedback and Marking policy**.

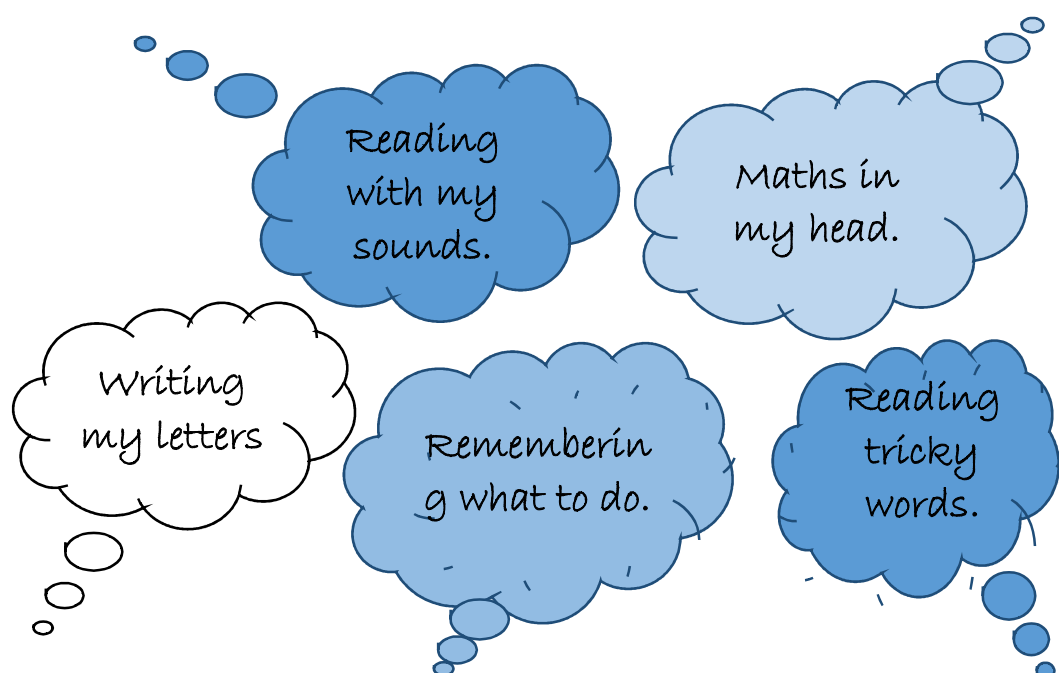
<http://www.toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk/our-school/policies/>

Our School Development and Improvement Plan (SDIP) is designed to ensure our school is always looking forwards, and planning to meet the needs of all learners. Information about our SDIP for 2016-17 can be found **here** and target one, two and three are designed to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children in school by ensuring we deliver the best curriculum, teaching and, when necessary, intervention.

We are committed to creating a learning environment which is flexible enough to meet the needs of all members of our school community. We monitor progress of all children, including groups of children, including those with SEND. Staff continually assess children in the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 to ensure that effective learning (progress) is taking place from a child's individual starting point.

Our whole school system for monitoring progress includes regular pupil progress discussions, analysis of attainment information, book scrutiny, and lesson observations - including observations of intervention in action.

Things our children say they sometimes find harder to learn in school



What does SEN mean?

At different times in their school career, a child or young person may have a special educational need. The Code of Practice defines SEN as:

“A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- (a) have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age or;**
- (b) have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.”**

If your child is identified as having SEN, we will provide provision that is 'additional to' or 'different from' the normal differentiated curriculum in line with their needs. This provision is intended to overcome the barrier to their learning/SEN and ensure they can make progress from their starting point.

Children can fall behind in school for a variety of reasons. They may have been absent from school, they may have attended lots of different schools and not had a consistent opportunity to learn. They may not speak English fluently or at all or they may have worries that distract them from learning. Only those with a learning difficulty that requires special educational provision will be identified as having SEN. However, we make sure that all of our children have the support and encouragement they need to progress.

Our commitment

At Toftwood Infant School we are committed to ensuring that all children have access to all learning opportunities, and for those who are at risk of not learning or making appropriate progress our school understands it has a responsibility to support children via a range of appropriate resources and interventions.

We have staff with specialist training in a variety of SEN, and staff training and professional development is an ongoing process at Toftwood Infant School. This is to ensure we have the expertise and experience to support all children in school. Our SEN profile will change regularly and over time. We break it down into the categories in the SEN code of practice.

Identification and assessment of SEN at Toftwood Infant School

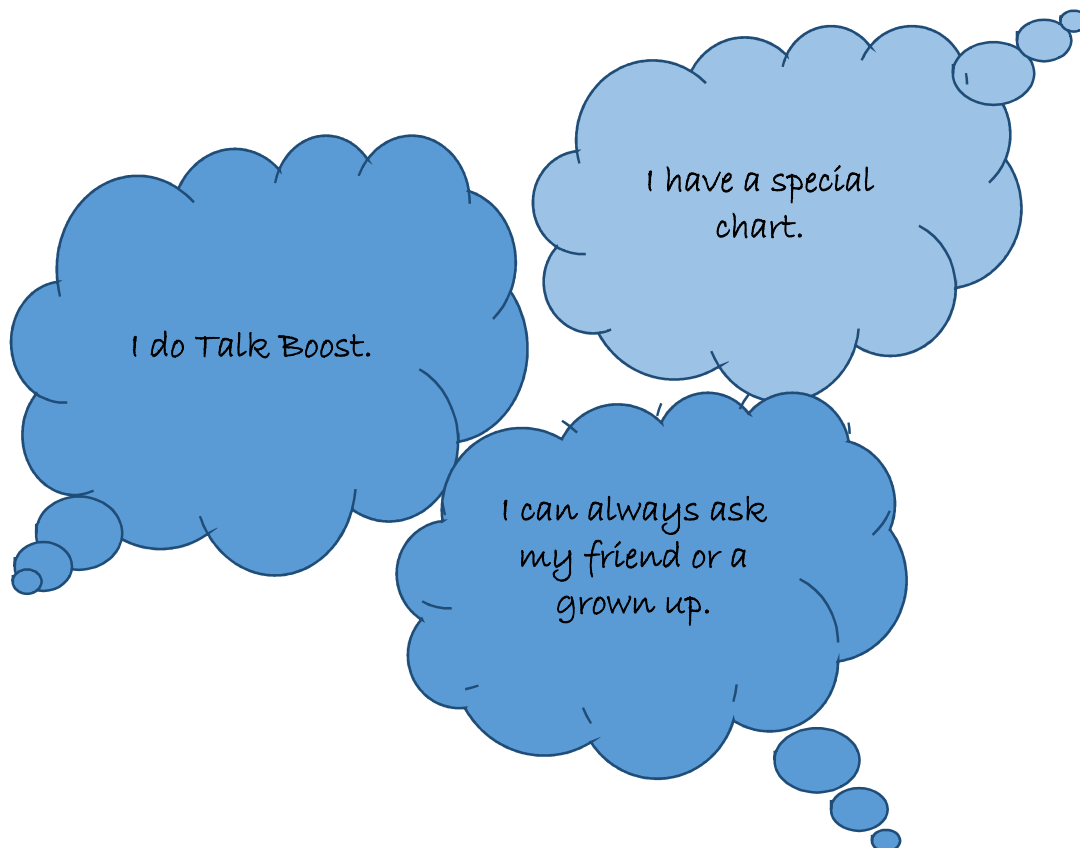
Class teachers, support staff, parents/carers and the children themselves will be the first to notice a difficulty with learning. This will trigger observations and assessments involving the child, their parents/carer and, of course, their teacher and the school SENCo.

Through early identification and swift and appropriate support, most children's SEN is temporary. However, some children's needs are more complex or long term. Identifying these children early helps provide the support and teaching and learning opportunities that will enable them to aim high like their classmates throughout their school careers.

The SENCo has a role to support staff in identifying children's barriers to learning in order to ensure support and appropriate strategies are in place to remove those barriers. At our school, we have a range of experienced staff who can observe and discuss difficulties in order to provide appropriate support, or to plan ways forward with assessments, such as speech and language assessments, reading related screenings or external observations by professionals such as Educational Psychologists or staff from other specialist settings in line with a child's needs.

We understand that being a parent of a child with SEN can raise questions for families, and we can offer support to parents through our Parent Support Advisor (PSA). If you would like to make contact with our PSA, please ask your class teacher, the SENCo or the Headteacher. More details and information to support parents can be found on the PSA page of our website, [here](#).

What we do to support children with SEN at Toftwood Infant School



Every teacher is expected to adapt their classroom, teaching and the resources they provide to help children with SEND make the best progress they can. The SENCo and senior leadership team support teachers to achieve this by providing advice and training as required. There is regular monitoring, an ongoing professional dialogue and observations that identify teachers who may need help supporting pupils with SEND in their class.

The Teachers Standards detail the expectations on all teachers, and we are proud of our teachers and their ongoing commitment to professional development. The Teacher Standards are available [here](#).

Our teachers use various strategies to help ensure children with SEND are included and able to access our full curriculum. This might include using:

- Additional visual timetables
- Personal rule reminders
- Writing frames
- Tablets, laptops or other alternative recording devices
- Positive behaviour rewards system
- Use of coloured overlays/colour tinted interactive screens
- Tailored computing equipment
- Writing support equipment, such as coloured papers, pencil grips, writing slopes, foot rests etc.

This list is by no means exhaustive and we work closely with other professionals to ensure we provide appropriate resources. Even children with the same identified SEN need can require different support and resources and we aim to provide this.

We employ two additional qualified teachers who both work to plan and deliver intervention to support children within school, some of whom have SEN. This intervention is highly targeted, and is planned specifically for specific children to support their progress alongside the curriculum. This may be short or long term and is reviewed half termly.

We also employ a Teaching Assistant to deliver speech and language intervention across the school. Mrs Crowley works on NHS Speech and Language targets and next steps, phonological (sound) work, and wider language skills, including expressive and receptive language work. Mrs Crowley also delivers Early Talk Boost to Nursery age children and Talk Boost to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Additionally, we have trained Teaching Assistants that deliver intervention to support specific children alongside the curriculum as required. For example some children have fine motor intervention during morning 'busy' time as the children arrive at school and Catch-Up sessions throughout the week.

To support social and emotional health we provide a daily Lunchtime Lounge throughout lunch time. This provides children with a contained

and therapeutic environment, where their personal interests are catered for. The senses are calmed by gentle music and subtle, scents, and activities include mindfulness colouring and building, role-play, seasonal activities etc.

As a school we recognise that parents and carers play a vital role in supporting children with SEN at home. When appropriate, our teachers sent home additional resources and activities for families to utilise at home to aid supporting their child's progress. Some children with SEN also have individual targets that they are working towards. These are supported by a list of activities that are shared with parents at regular provision review meetings.

The type of support we provide is dependent on the individual's needs, and the support that we offer is described on a chart called a provision map within school. It does not detail the individual children's names, but describes the interventions and actions that we use at Toftwood Infant School to support learners with SEND. We modify the provision map regularly, and it changes every year, as our learners and their needs change.

Our provision map and monitoring information is shared with governors who check we are doing what we say and that it makes a difference to the progress of children with SEND.

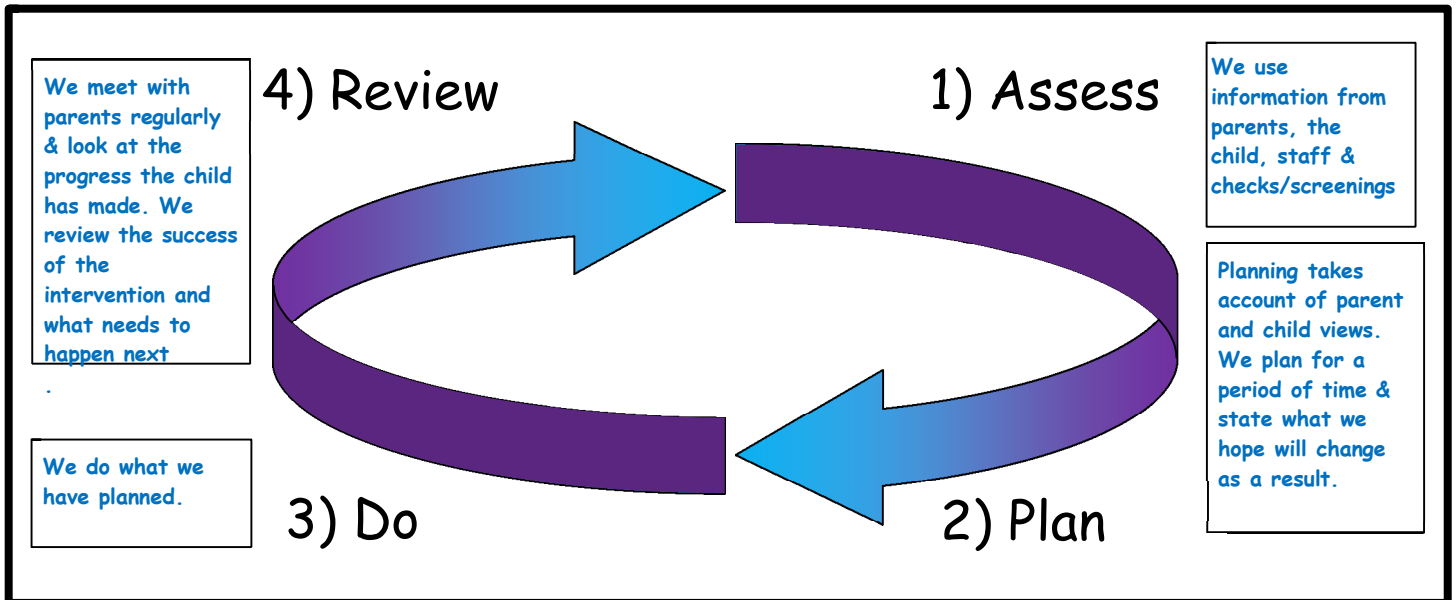
Funding for SEN

Toftwood Infant School receives funding directly from the Local Authority to support the needs of learners with SEN. The amount can be seen in the Norfolk SEN memorandum.

The Dereham Cluster of schools also receives money from the Local Authority which provides 'top up' funding for learners who need support that is more than that available to/within individual schools.

How does the school know if support works?

Checking children's progress is an integral part of our school. We follow the 'assess, plan, do, review' model to ensure we continually check that provision is working.



It is important to us that parents/carers and children are involved in each step of our SEN review process, and that they know what we will be doing in school and what they can do at home to help support their child too. We make sure we record where the child is now in the area being targeted by different or additional provision and compare this with the ability in that area after the period of intervention to see if there has been a positive impact. We want to look at the child's progress on their learning journey to see if the support has worked, build on the progress or change the support if it is not working.

Children, parents/carers and their teaching and support staff will be directly involved in the assess, plan, do and review process. This is achieved through ongoing discussions through meetings and other communication offered by the school. This means everyone involved has the opportunity to discuss plans and next steps. If a child has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC plan/EHCP) the same regular review conversations take place, but the EHCP will also be formally reviewed annually, by all parents/carers and professionals working with/to support the child.

The SENCo and SLT check that the interventions at Toftwood Infant School have a positive impact on a child's learning and progress by comparing children's starting and end points. All data is analysed by the senior leadership team and information about effects of the intervention are also shared with governors without identifying children by name.

The Local Authority also analyse SEN attainment information when schools submit statutory test scores and assessment judgements. At our school we submit assessment judgements to the Local Authority at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception year) and teacher assessment judgements at the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2). We also submit the Phonics Screening results in Year 1 for all children, and Year 2 for children that re take the test if they did not pass it in Year 1.

Other opportunities for learning in school

All children should have the same, equal opportunity to take part in extra-curricular activities. At Toftwood Infant School we offer a range of additional clubs and activities, and we are committed to making reasonable adjustments to ensure everyone can join in. Please contact the SENCo to discuss specific requirements.

Please email: senco@toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk or call 01362 692612.

All staff at Toftwood Infant School receive regular input and training on the SEN Code of Practice 2015 and Equality Act 2010. This legislation places specific duties on schools, including the duty not to discriminate, harass or victimise a child or adult linked to a protected characteristic defined in the Equality Act and to make any 'reasonable adjustments.'

The Equality Act 2010's definition of disability is:

"A person has a disability for the purposes of this Act if (s)he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his ability to carry out normal day-to day activities."

Section 1(1) Disability Discrimination Act 1995

This definition of disability in the Equality Act includes children with long term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN. Children and young people may therefore be covered by both SEN and disability legislation.

For more information about the Equality Act, the protected characteristics or duties on public bodies, please click [here](#)

Preparing for important transitions

Moving on is a part of life for all learners. This can be transition to a new class in school, having a new teacher, or moving on to another school. Toftwood Infant School works in partnership with children, families and other providers to ensure these transitions are successful.

Moving classes will be discussed with you and your child as part of our transition plans. Transition to other schools/junior school will be discussed in the spring and summer terms of their Year 2, and often before, to ensure time for planning and preparation that supports successful transitions.

At Toftwood Infant School we welcome children that will come to our school at pre school activity mornings and visits during the academic year leading up to their arrival in school. We also work closely with other local schools to plan transition activities in addition to the planned summer term transition days in July when appropriate. These visits are not exclusively for children with SEND, as they are planned carefully to meet the needs of all children that would benefit from additional visits that are tailored to support identified needs and not just SEN.

Bullying and SEN/SEND

Children with special educational needs have been identified as being vulnerable to bullying. Toftwood Infant School takes all incidents of

bullying very seriously and its approaches are explained in the Behaviour and Prevention of Bullying Policy [here](#). Please contact a member of staff as soon as possible if you have any concerns about your child with respect to this.

Useful contacts for further information and advice about anti-bullying:

www.childline.org.uk/Bullying

www.kidscape.org.uk

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Have your say

Our school is here for our children and their families. This SEN report sets out our offer to children with SEN and it will be reviewed annually. We welcome everyone helping to shape and develop provision for all of our learners and we welcome your involvement in the next year review.

Useful links

Here are some web links that you may find useful:

Norfolk Local Offer	https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/send-local-offer
Norfolk SEND Partnership	http://www.norfolksendpartnershiass.org.uk/
SEND home page .gov (including link to SEND Code of Practice)	https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/special-educational-needs-disabilities

Please also visit the regularly updated list of helpful local groups and resources that are on the Parents section of our website [here](#).