



Grasslot Infant School

Local Offer of services available to support children with SEND and their families.

The local offer sets out to transform the landscape of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision to ensure that all children with SEND can enjoy a high quality educational experience and work towards positive life outcomes and opportunities. At its heart is the importance of 'Choice and Control' for parents and carers over the services they choose for their child with SEND (The Local Offer, 2014).

<p>How does the school know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think a child may have special educational needs?</p>	<p>At Grasslot, we are proud to have strong relationships with parents, ensuring that any concerns that are held about their child's education are dealt with. All class teachers are encouraged to raise concerns and have discussions with parents and other professionals. All staff are aware of expected development at different ages and have expertise in identifying additional / special educational needs (SEN).</p> <p>If you have a concern about your child's development please raise this with the class teacher in the first instance. A meeting can then be arranged with the special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) or the Head teacher.</p>
<p>How will school staff support my child?</p>	<p>Class teachers are responsible for the inclusive education of all children in their class. They plan the education programme for children who have or may have SEN with support from the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCo). Pupil progress meetings are held at least each term to discuss individual children's progress.</p> <p>We provide a range of additional support for pupils who have been identified as having a specific need. For example, this support could be in class; in a small group outside the class or one-to-one. If a pupil has needs relating to more specific areas of their education, such as: spelling, numeracy and literacy skills etc then the pupil will be placed in a small focused group working on a specific intervention. Parents will be informed of any additional intervention which are necessary to meet your child's needs.</p> <p>Occasionally, a pupil may need more expert support from an outside agency such as: Speech and Language or Educational Psychologist. A referral will be made with parental consent and forwarded to the most appropriate agency. Following assessments, a programme of support is usually provided to the school and parents/ carers.</p> <p>The school has a nominated governor for Special Educational Needs who reports to the Full Governing Body.</p>
<p>How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?</p>	<p>Quality first teaching, and teaching adapted for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEND. Additional intervention and support or specialist equipment may be appropriate in some cases. This will enable your child to access the full curriculum more easily.</p>

<p>How will I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning?</p>	<p>At Grasslot we encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's learning. In addition to the school's normal reporting arrangements, we also have an open door policy to enable more informal and frequent conversations with you and your child. Please phone school if you wish to make an appointment.</p> <p>The progress of each child is carefully monitored and tracked on a regular basis. This along with other information gathered informs staff on the next steps for your child. We take action when pupils are not making the expected progress. Parents will be informed if their child is going to access an intervention programme.</p> <p>Progress and targets are discussed as part of the school's normal reporting arrangements. In some cases, your child may require an individual education plan or behaviour management plan which will be drawn up in consultation with you and your child and reviewed regularly. For some children with profound and lifelong needs an Education Health and Care Assessment may be requested with advice and support from external agencies. Pupils with an EHCP will also have a review meeting at least annually to discuss arrangements and progress.</p> <p>We can offer advice and practical ways you can help your child at home. Where appropriate we signpost parents to relevant agencies within the communities who can offer further support to you and your child.</p>
<p>What support will there be for the child's overall wellbeing?</p>	<p>At Grasslot School we are committed to helping all children stay safe and healthy, to help them grow into mature and caring young people who make a positive contribution to Grasslot School and the wider community. Through Kidsafe and PSHE sessions, pupils are taught about relationships and keeping safe.</p> <p>A wide range of small group interventions are used to support the wellbeing of children with SEND and to promote positive behaviour. For example, circle time. We also have a Learning Mentor who can provide additional ELSA support for pupils with identified behavioural, emotional and social needs.</p> <p>The school follows statutory guidance in the administration of medicines and provision of personal care. Any child who has additional medical needs will have an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP).</p>
<p>What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?</p>	<p>There is a wealth of experience and expertise in the school staff including those trained in Reading Intervention, Fast Track Tutoring, National accreditation for Learning mentors, Nurture group accreditation, Team Teach, Kidsafe, ELSA, Children's Mental Health, Trauma & Attachment and Paediatric First Aid. There is access to counselling and family support services for any child within the school. Referrals can also be made to other agencies including Family Action, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Educational Psychologists and Specialist Advisory Teachers.</p> <p>Lisa Chilton (SENDCo) has recently completed the National Award for SEND Coordination qualification. We also have members of staff trained in PECS, Early Talkboost, Talkboost, Dyslexia basic awareness, Postgraduate certificate in Autism, Mental Health First Aid, Trauma and Attachment and ELSA.</p> <p>Staff share expertise through collaborative training opportunities as well as accessing local and national training. Individual staff development needs are identified and met as part of the formal appraisal process.</p> <p>The whole school staff have recently completed Children's Mental Health training and Making Sense of Autism Level1 and 2.</p>

<p>How accessible is the school environment?</p>	<p>Grasslot Infant School is fully accessible for wheelchair users. The school is all on a single level, has a disabled toilet and changing facilities should they be needed. Please also see the school's Equality & Accessibility plan. We are happy to discuss individual access requirements.</p>
<p>How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, transfer to a new school or progress to the next stage of education or life?</p>	<p>We have a weekly 'Tiny Sparks' session for parents and toddlers to encourage familiarity between the parent/ child and the staff and setting. We offer 'Little Sunbeams' preschool which children can attend from their second birthday. This aids the child's progression into nursery.</p> <p>We have strong links with other infant, junior, primary and secondary schools in Maryport, so that transitions within and between schools are carefully managed to support children's wellbeing.</p> <p>A range of transition strategies are put in place to support children at the end of key phases -- e.g. transition plans and visits, extra visits, holiday activities, open mornings and parent sessions. Where possible new schools are invited to attend transition meetings to share information about your child and to ensure a positive transition. In all cases there will be liaison and communication between the schools.</p>
<p>How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children with special educational needs?</p>	<p>The SEND budget is allocated each financial year. The money is used to provide additional support and resources dependent on an individual's needs. Support for pupils with the highest level of need will be outlined in education, health and care (EHCP) plans.</p> <p>Resources may include In-class Teaching Assistant support, Equipment e.g. iPads, Provision of specified supported programmes such as Talkboost or Fast Track Tutoring and teaching resources targeted on meeting identified needs such as sensory resources.</p>
<p>How will the school decide how much money is spent on my child?</p>	<p>The decisions about the type and amount of support a child needs is based on discussions between all parties concerned in the child's development inclusive of: the child, the parents, school; and any outside agencies that may be involved.</p>
<p>How are parents involved? What if I have any questions?</p>	<p>At Grasslot we have very good links with parents and everyone concerned with the child's welfare. Constant dialogue ensures that parents are kept fully informed of all aspects of the child's education. Please contact the child's teacher, the Head teacher or Special Needs Coordinator (SENDCo) at the school if you have any questions.</p>