

Dudley Local Offer

The Dudley Local Offer can be found at:

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/localoffer/>

Pens Meadow School: Special Educational Needs Information Report

This information is based on the requirements set out in schedule 1 of the SEN and Disabilities (SEND) Regulations 2014 and paragraphs 6.79 – 6.81 of the SEND Code of Practice

At Pens Meadow School we strive to support all children to enable them to achieve at school and beyond. We aim to support and empower young adults who will leave us able to succeed in the world outside school. In order to do this many steps are taken to support them through their learning journey. Quality, ambitious and challenging teaching is vital; however for many children there are occasions when further additional support may be needed to help them achieve their potential.

The Local Offer was first introduced in the Green Paper (March 2011) as a local offer of all services available to support disabled children and children with SEN and their families. This easy to understand information sets out what is normally available in schools to help children with lower-level SEN as well as the options available to support families who need additional help to care for their child.

The Local Offer for Dudley is available on Dudley MBC website, address above.

The Pens Meadow Offer provides parents/carers with information about what support they can expect to receive from school. This is detailed below. Additional information is available on the website.

How does Pens Meadow School know if children need extra help?

- All our pupils require additional support as they all have identified severe or profound learning difficulty, ASD, challenging behaviour and / or medical needs.
- The level of support pupils need is clearly detailed in their statement or EHCP. This is determined by the LA administered matrix.
- Extra support may be needed if concerns are raised by parents / carers, school staff, support agencies or the child. Usually a meeting will be arranged with all concerned to ensure help is provided as required.
- Pupils may need extra help if they are making less than expected progress.
- There may be a change in pupils' behaviour, health or rate of progress which indicates additional support is needed.

How do I know how Pens Meadow School supports my child?

- Each pupil's Education, Health and Care Programme is planned by parents/carers and the class team, teacher and teaching assistants with support from involved agencies including speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, school health and children's services. It is differentiated accordingly to suit the pupil's individual needs.
- All pupils have Individual Education Plans, set in agreement with parents on a termly basis. These

address barriers to learning. Identified pupils also have Behaviour Management Strategies, again agreed with parents.

- All staff are suitably qualified and experienced in meeting the range of needs our pupils' present with including severe and profound learning difficulties, communication difficulties, challenging behaviour, autistic spectrum disorder and medical needs. A very comprehensive training schedule ensures all staff are skilled in meeting pupil need.
- Pupils who are not meeting academic targets (set using progression guidance and ipsative targets) will have identified interventions set by the class teacher following half termly pupil progress meetings.
- Progress is monitored by the deputy headteacher.
- If a pupil has additional needs related to more specific areas of their education, such as speech and language or physiotherapy the pupil will have targets set by the relevant professionals, delivered by class teams and monitored by the professionals. The interventions will be regularly reviewed by all involved to ascertain the effectiveness of the provision and to inform future planning.
- If areas of concern are identified which require additional, specific support will be sought by the school.
- This may include educational psychology, occupational therapy, additional behaviour management support or specific medical training.

How do I know how my child is doing?

- Parents / carers can discuss their child's progress at Parents' Evenings, which are held in the Autumn and Spring Terms. An annual report is issued in the Summer Term.
- If parents / carers have any concerns they are welcome to make an appointment to speak in more detail to the class teacher.
- If school have concerns they may request a meeting with parents / carers. This may involve other education, health or social care professionals.
- The provision identified in the statement or EHCP is reviewed annually. Local Authority officers may attend these meetings. If parents / carers or school have significant concerns an early review may be requested.
- Pens Meadow have a comprehensive website which includes pupil information. We also have a facebook page.
- Pens Meadow School operates an open door policy.

What support is there for my child's overall well-being, emotional and social development?

- The school offers a wide variety of pastoral support for pupils who are encountering emotional difficulties. All pupils have a keyworker who is first point of contact
- We also employ a Strategic Lead for Integrated Family Support and Family Support Worker who are readily available for pupils and families who wish to discuss issues and concerns.
- We have a class based nurse, two teaching assistants with specific health responsibilities and a school children's nurse to support pupils with complex medical needs. All pupils have a health care plan which is compiled in consultation with parents / carers. All staff are trained in responding to asthma, epilepsy anaphylaxis and managing medication.

What is Pens Meadow's approach to teaching, learning and assessment?

- Teaching is offered in small groups, or individually, by a range of qualified, experienced staff. The environment is adapted to ensure curriculum access for all pupils. Teaching arrangements take into account individual needs. A variety of methods are utilised to ensure all pupil needs can be met.

- Assessments are undertaken regularly and effectively using a range of strategies, appropriate to individual pupils

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

- At times it may be necessary to consult with outside agencies to receive their more specialised expertise. The agencies used by the school include:
 - Autism Outreach Team
 - Child Protection Advisors
 - Educational Psychologist
 - CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service)
 - Social Care
 - Speech & Language
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Physiotherapy

How does the school prepare and support my child when joining Pens Meadow School or leaving school?

- Many strategies are in place to enable the pupil's transition to be as smooth as possible.
- These include:
 - Discussions between the previous or receiving schools prior to the pupil joining or leaving.
 - Induction into school may be over a period of weeks or months if this is appropriate.
 - We have a designated staff responsible for transition who works with nurseries and pre school providers as well as connexions and post school providers to ensure the best possible outcomes for pupils. Further support for careers guidance is available on our website
 - If a pupil's needs change and they would be better met in another provision this is managed carefully with full parent/carer involvement.

This report is reviewed annually at the first meeting of the school improvement committee in the Autumn Term

Last reviewed: October 2016

Next Review: October 2017