

SEND Information Report 2024 - 2025



Bluecoat Beechdale Academy

Date of report: September 2025

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Approved by:

Principal: Rachael Frearson

SEND AAB: Janet Doar

SENCo: Amanda Tuckett

Bluecoat Beechdale Academy

SEND Information Report 2024 - 2025

Welcome to Bluecoat Beechdale Academy's SEND Information Report for learners with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). This report aims to:

- Set out how our school will support and make provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for pupils with SEN

All governing and advisory bodies of academy schools have a legal duty under the revised Code of Practice (2014) to publish information on their website about the implementation of their policy for Pupils with SEND.

Archway Learning Trust SEND Policy can be found on our website.

What kinds of Special Educational Needs does the academy make provision for?

Bluecoat Beechdale Academy is proud of its diversity. It places great emphasis on its unique and varied community of learners. Everyone, regardless of faith, ability, ethnicity or background is valued and nurtured.

We cater for Pupils in the four broad areas of need:

- Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy

Bluecoat Beechdale Academy is part of the Archway Learning Trust, which has a comprehensive SEND Policy. This policy is regularly reviewed and incorporates advice and procedures recommended by Nottingham City Local Authority (LA). We are proud of the relationships that we have with our Local Authority and work closely with them to ensure positive outcomes for pupils with a special educational need and/or disability.

Identifying pupils with SEND and assessing their needs

We will assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry, which will build on previous settings and Key Stages, where appropriate. Class teachers will make regular assessments of progress for all pupils and identify those whose progress:

- Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- Fails to match or better the pupil's previous rate of progress
- Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
- Widens the attainment gap

Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a pupil is recorded as having SEN.

We may also identify a possible SEND need through aspects other than attainment, for example, social needs, through specific assessments for identifying need, observations of pupil, feedback from staff.

When deciding whether special educational provision is required, we will start with the desired outcomes, including the expected progress and attainment, pupil voice and the views and the wishes of their parents. We will use this to determine the support that is needed and whether we can provide it by adapting our core offer, or whether something different or additional is needed.

Consulting and involving pupils and parents

We will have an early discussion with the pupil and their parents when identifying whether they need special educational provision. These conversations will make sure that:

- Everyone develops a good understanding of the pupil's areas of strength and difficulty
- We take into account the parents' concerns
- Everyone understands the agreed outcomes sought for the child
- Everyone is clear on what the next steps are

Notes of these early discussions will be added to the pupil's record and given to their parents.

We will formally notify parents when it is decided that a pupil will receive SEN support.

SEND/ IER Register

We currently have 294 pupils recorded on our IER.

Of those;

- 275 are registered as School Support (K coding)*
- 19 have an EHCP in place *

Pupils on roll at Bluecoat Beechdale Academy with Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities (SEND) are recorded on the school's Inclusive Education Register (IER)/ SEND Register. The register identifies individual pupils and highlights their specific needs.

The register is the responsibility of the SENCo. The SENCo has the responsibility of updating and sharing information from the register with parents and those professionals working within the academy.

Parents are informed in writing if their child is placed on the IER/ SEND Register, and can expect feedback from class staff and more formal discussions through parent's evenings and/or reviews.

All Educational, Health and Care (EHC) Plans are reviewed annually. This gives the opportunity to consider whether the EHC Plan is still appropriate and to review the progress the pupil has made over the previous period. Other relevant professionals will be invited to these meetings to provide an external view on a pupil's progress and to provide advice and guidance if necessary.

*Correct at time of report publication

Our approach to teaching pupils with SEN

In the spirit of the SEND Code of Practice and latest research, we support the idea that high quality teaching, differentiated for individual pupils, is the first step in responding to pupils who have or may have SEND. Teachers are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all the pupils in their class.

Teachers differentiate their planning to enable all pupils to access the curriculum at a suitable level. Teaching assistants offer support to specific individuals and small groups

We make the following adaptations to ensure all pupils' needs are met:

- Differentiating our curriculum to ensure all pupils are able to access it, for example, by grouping, 1:1 work, teaching style, content of the lesson, etc.
- Adapting our resources and staffing
- Using recommended aids, such as laptops, coloured overlays, visual timetables, larger font, etc.
- Differentiating our teaching, for example, giving longer processing times, pre-teaching of key vocabulary, reading instructions aloud, etc.

Occasionally it is appropriate to offer separate group or one to one interventions away from the classroom.

We will also provide the following interventions:

- Social stories
- ELSA
- Morning briefing
- Social stories
- A range of literacy interventions
- Lego Therapy
- Art therapy
- Life Skills
- 5 point scale
- Homework clubs
- Girl's group
- Boy's group
- Numeracy catch up
- Subject specific catch up – KS4
- Friendship interventions
- Exam support club

Additional support for learning

We have 18 teaching assistants (TAs) who are trained to deliver interventions as above. Teaching assistants will support pupils on a 1:1 basis when this is identified within their EHC Plan and we feel that providing a 1:1 will be beneficial to the individual.

Teaching assistants will support pupils in small groups when there has been an identified need through either data analysis (including attendance data), pupil voice, behavioural patterns or external recommendation.

We work with the following agencies to provide support for pupils with SEND:

- SaLT (Speech and Language Therapy)
- Sensory team (Nottingham City LA)
- Educational Psychology Service (Nottingham City LA)
- Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Departments Nottingham University Hospitals Trust
- Community Paediatrics, Nottingham University Hospitals Trust
- CAHMS
- Early Help
- Social care

- The Autism team (Nottingham City LA)
- The Learning support team Nottingham City LA)
- The behavior support team (Nottingham City LA)
- NPST (Neurodevelopmental support team)

Assessing and reviewing pupils' progress towards outcomes

We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of **assess, plan, do, review**.

The class/ subject teacher and other professions across school will work with the SENCO to carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs. This will draw on:

- The teacher's assessment and experience of the pupil
- Their previous progress and attainment, or behaviour
- Other teachers' assessments, where relevant
- The individual's development in comparison to their peers and national data
- The views and experience of parents
- The pupil's own views
- Advice from external support services, if relevant

The assessment will be reviewed regularly.

All teachers and support staff who work with the pupil will be made aware of their needs, the outcomes sought, the support provided, and any teaching strategies or approaches that are required. We will regularly review the effectiveness of the support and interventions, and their impact on the pupil's progress. All pupils on the SEND register will have an IEP in place and a Pupil Passport.

Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood

We recognise that transitions can be a challenging time for children with SEND and we take steps to ensure that any transition is as smooth as possible. All children with SEN are highlighted during transition periods. Arrangements will depend on the type and complexity of their needs

We will share information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is moving to ensure a smooth transition. We will offer transition days and supportive resources when a pupil is moving between phases of their education. In preparation for adulthood we will offer transition days and supportive resources when a pupil is moving between phases of their education. In preparation for adulthood we offer the following:

- Support with Life skills
- Careers Days and Post 16 visits
- Invite colleagues from post-16 settings to give bespoke talks to learning support students
- Make referrals where necessary to LA specialist teams e.g. the autism team
- Offer students careers advice in liaison with the Futures for you
- Support students and families in locating the most appropriate courses and settings to meet their needs and interests

Expertise and training of staff

The SENCO is a qualified, experienced member of staff and is supported by a range of other professionals across the academy as well as SEND specialists within the Trust. We are also committed to professional development of the team and offer the opportunity to other members with QTS to complete the NASENCo award. This supports our succession planning for leadership capacity.

We have a team of 18 teaching assistants who are trained to provide high levels of specialist support, guidance and deliver interventions as required.

We have internal and external specialist staff who work with specific pupils to deliver specialist interventions for hearing impaired students and students with additional physical needs.

An on-going programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training is in place to ensure that all teachers and support staff have appropriate skills and knowledge to support provision for Pupils with SEND. Our SENCO actively engages in a range of opportunities to share best practice and keep abreast of current local and national initiatives and policy to support pupils with SEND. Teaching staff seek support and guidance from the SENCO as required

Our teaching staff have all received training in:

- The areas of SEND need and how to ensure early identification
- The SEND Code of Practice and what this means for classroom practice
- SEND Assess, Plan, Do Review Cycle
- Differentiation and Quality First teaching strategies
- Supporting students with an ASD diagnosis
- Supporting students with an ADHD diagnosis
- Dyslexia and specific learning difficulties
- Supporting SEMH needs

Evaluating the effectiveness of SEND provision

We are fortunate to belong to a trust that has 'Inclusion' at the heart of its ethos. To ensure that we are continuously developing our practice we evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with SEND by:

- Reviewing pupils' individual progress towards their goals each term
- Reviewing the impact of interventions after 6 weeks and making adaptations if and when required
- Using provision maps to measure progress
- Holding annual reviews for pupils with EHC plans and listening to external recommendations
- Using pupil questionnaires to understand what is working well and areas for development
- Monitoring of the SEND Provision by the SENCO, SLT, Head teacher, Trust staff. This includes carrying out learning walks on a regular basis, book trawls as well as an annual deep dive SEND review led by our Trust SEND Lead.

How will pupils with SEND be included in activities outside the classroom, including school trips?

Wherever possible we will endeavour to include all pupils in all activities regardless of whether they take place in or out of school. The benefit of the activity to the student, and adult-child ratios focusing on pupil safety will be considered at all times in any decision making processes regarding this.

There are pupil specific risk assessments carried out linked to individual pupils with SEND. In addition to this, in all we do, we consider the needs of our pupils with SEN alongside all pupils E.g. visits, trips, access to additional

activities/experiences. In this way we attempt to ensure that pupils with SEND are not treated less favourably than others.

All of our extra-curricular activities and school visits are available to all our pupils, including our before-and after-school clubs.

Accessibility of the school environment/ equipment and facilities to support pupils with SEND

At the Bluecoat Beechdale Academy there is levelled access to all areas of the school on the ground floor, with a lift alongside the stairs to access the first and second floors. There are several accessible toilets on all floors, and one on the ground. We currently have four disabled parking spaces on school grounds in front of the school's main entrance.

Our accessibility plan can be found on our website or by contacting the school office.

Support for improving emotional, mental and social development

The academy has a variety of ways of supporting your child's wellbeing and improving emotional, mental and social development. These include:

- A safe and calm learning environment with a range of in class strategies use to support with mental health
- Opportunities for pupil voice to be heard
- Teaching assistants may offer additional support to specific individuals or small groups
- Behaviour support strategies including in-class support or advice from SENCo and/or Learning Behaviour Mentor
- Lunch time support clubs
- In-school interventions which may include 1-1 or small group work
- Signposting to external agencies to support the wellbeing of the child, such as a referral to CAMHS, SALT or OT.
- Referral to in-house support from Mental Health Support Team (MHST)
- Referral to in-house ELSA programme to support emotional and social skills difficulties
- Pupils who have specific medical needs will have an Intimate Care Plan or Health Care Plan as appropriate

We recognise that parents and/or carers know their child the best and encourage you to contact the class teacher, SENCo or Head teacher if you have any concerns.

We have a zero tolerance approach to bullying.

Working with other agencies

We seek advice and work with a range of external agencies to ensure that we are providing our pupils with the best opportunities to succeed. The agencies we work with are specific to the pupil and their level of need.

- SaLT (Speech and Language Therapy)
- Sensory team (Nottingham City LA)
- Educational Psychology Service (Nottingham City LA)
- Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Departments Nottingham University Hospitals Trust

- Community Paediatrics, Nottingham University Hospitals Trust
- CAHMS
- Early Help
- Social care
- The Autism team (Nottingham City LA)
- The Learning support team Nottingham City LA)
- The behavior support team)Nottingham City LA)
- NPST (Neurodevelopmental support team)

Complaints about SEND provision

We will always be here to listen with an open door policy, however we are aware that in rare circumstances a complaint will be made. Any complaints received are dealt with in a confidential and sensitive manner and we will work with you to address your concerns and resolve where possible. We all want the best for the pupils at Archway Learning Trust.

Complaints about SEND provision in our school should be made to the:

SENCO; Mrs A Tuckett (ayates@bluecoatbeechdale.uk.com, 0115 9135211) and/or

Principal, Mrs R Frearson (rfearson@bluecoatbeechdale.uk.com, 0115 9135211) in the first instance.

Any complaint will follow the trusts complaints policy.

The Complaints Policy can be found on the school website or please contact the school office.

Who can I contact for further information or if I have concerns?

If you have any concerns around your child's progress, attainment or a possible SEND need then speak to your child's Head of Year leader in the first instance as they will know your child the best.

Should you need to contact the SENCo please use details below:

SENCo Name: Mrs A Tuckett

Contact Number: 0115 9135211

Email address: ayates@bluecoatbeechdale.uk.com

Where can I access further information?

Information on Nottingham City's LA's Local Offer can be found on the local authority's website:

<https://www.asklion.co.uk/kb5/nottingham/directory/localoffer.page?directorychannel=7>

The SEND Local Offer is a resource which is designed to support children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families. It describes the services and provision that are available both to those families in Derby that have an Education, Health and Care Plan and those who do not have a plan, but still experience some form of special educational need. The SEND Local Offer includes information about public services across education, health and social care, as well as those provided by the private, voluntary and community sector

Other useful links:

National Association of SEN: www.nasen.org.uk

Department for Education: www.dfe.gov.uk

Review of this report

Our SEND information report will be reviewed by Mrs A Tuckett (SENCo) and Mrs R Frearson (Principal) **every year**. It will also be updated to reflect any significant changes made during the year.

It will be approved by the governing board.

Links with other policies and documents

Our SEND Information Report sits alongside the following policies:

- SEND Policy
- Accessibility plan
- Behavioral Policy
- Equality information and objectives
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

All of the above policies can be found on our website or by contacting the main reception.