

SEND Parent Information

What can you do if you have a concern about your child?

If you have any concerns, the first step is to speak to your child's class teacher. Your child's teacher will also speak to you if there are any concerns at school.

The class teacher's at St. Mary's are skilled in understanding how to adapt the learning environment to enable your child to access the curriculum. They may suggest some resources or different approaches which may help your child's learning.

The class teacher may also suggest a meeting with the school Senco, Mrs Roddy. This is a helpful opportunity to talk about your child's learning both at home and at school, and to possibly make some decisions together about the best way to help.

This could include trying additional resources or intervention programmes in school. It could also include involving outside professionals for extra advice. This is called a Graduated Approach to supporting your child.

A selection of outside professionals and agencies which St. Mary's work with include:

- The Autism Outreach Team
- CAMHS
- CYPS
- The Behaviour Support Service
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- The Language and Learning Partnership
- Educational Psychologist- Mr Maurice Walsh

Sometimes it is useful to access support yourself outside of school. Possible services which you can access as a parent include:

- Together for Children- including Breathing Space, Family Hubs and Start for Life offer

<https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/21226/SEND>

- Grace House

<https://gracehouse.co.uk/who-we-are/>

- The Toby Henderson Trust

<https://www.tttht.co.uk/>

- Max Card- Discount card for families of children with SEND

<https://mymaxcard.co.uk/>

- Sunderland SEND Information, Advice and Support Service SENDIAS

Sunderland Carers Centre 0191 537 5764

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The staff at St. Mary's are highly skilled in working with children with SEND and additional needs. Continuous Professional Development is very important, to ensure that the staff are up to date with current approaches and research. Some examples of recent training which staff at St. Mary's have completed includes:

- iCAMHS training
- Mental Health First Aid
- Emotional Resilience
- Sensory Presentations- Occupational Therapy led
- Read Write Inc training
- Positive Handling
- Supporting children with stammers- Speech and Language Therapy led
- Makaton training- Speech and Language Therapy led
- Precision Teaching- Educational Psychologist led
- Good Autism Practice Training- Autism Outreach Team led

At St. Mary's, outside professionals regularly work with children in the classrooms, and this also provides staff with opportunities to learn skills and strategies.

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Parental Voice

Supporting your child is very much a partnership between school and home. Parental voice, thoughts and ideas are therefore very important to us. If your child is on the school SEND register, you will be offered three termly review meetings. This will be an opportunity to talk about your child's support and the progress they are making. During these meetings, your views and aspirations for your child will be recorded as part of your child's One Page Profile. As part of the termly reviews, you will also be provided with a questionnaire where you can give more detailed feedback.

Child's Voice

Your child's voice is also very important to us. All children in the school are offered an opportunity each term to record their thoughts and opinions about their learning and school life. For children on the SEND register, their views contribute to their One Page Profile.

Your Child's One Page Profile details their SEND needs, support arrangements, professional involvement, parental and child views.

The Curriculum Access Policy

St. Mary's is an inclusive school. The intention for all children is that teachers and support staff meet the needs of all learners in the classroom. An understanding of the individual is needed for the teacher to be able to deploy effective teaching strategies and scaffold work appropriately. Through liaison with the Senco, the class teacher will make reasonable adjustments to make the curriculum accessible to children with SEND. In some activities, pupils with SEND will be able to take part in the same way as their peers. In others, some modifications or adjustments will need to be made to include everyone. Occasionally, pupils with SEND will work on different activities, or towards different objectives, from their peers. The reasonable adjustments available to children with SEND at St. Mary's are detailed in the Curriculum Access Policy (see SEND policies).

Preparations for Adulthood

At St. Mary's, children with SEND thrive through access to broader curriculum activities and experiences, including careers activities. Preparations for Adulthood is the support on offer to young people at St. Mary's with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) to prepare them as they transition into adulthood.