SEN Information report for The Gateway Federation

All Devon maintained schools have a similar approach to meeting the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). They are supported by the local authority to ensure all pupils are included & make the best possible progress.

The local authority produces a 'Local Offer' which is found at http://www.devonsendpathfinder.info/local-offer or via http://new.devon.gov.uk/send. The Local Offer details support services that are available in our area.

What we do across The Gateway Federation to meet the needs of SEND children.

Staff track progress of every child, across the curriculum as well as socially & emotionally, using a variety of assessments, & teacher observations, which are recorded at least half termly. Staff will consult with parents and listen to what the children themselves feel about how well they are progressing.

Progress meetings are held termly by teaching staff and members of the senior leadership team to discuss each child & identify any child not making the expected progress where appropriate targets are created. Senior members of staff specifically look at the progress of vulnerable groups and help to develop appropriate levels of support alongside the class teacher to meet individual needs and assist progress.

Where expected progress is not being made interventions are planned to meet these needs. It may be provided either 1:1 or in a small group and recorded on a 'My Plan' which will detail the targets to be achieved and will be be reviewed at least twice a year with parents, class teacher and/or SENCo. A graduated approach of Assess-Plan-Do-Review enables us to ensure the correct differentiation & support is provided for each child. The involvement of parents is deemed vital at every stage if the child is to reach their potential.

With the agreement of parents/carers the SENCO also liaises with health professionals such as the school nurse, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech & language therapists & paediatricians. Where concern is on going parents may be asked to give permission for the Educational Psychologist to see their child to make a formal assessment of the difficulties & to provide advice on further support as appropriate. Acoss the Gateway Federation we work effectively with many agencies outside of school to ensure we have advice from people who have more specific areas of specialism.

We expect quality first teaching from all our staff within the classroom on a day to day basis. This includes scaffolded levels of work to support groups or individuals with SEND so that they have access to a curriculum that is appropriate for them as individuals.

If your child has joined the Gateway Federation part way through their education we will request records detailing any SEND concern or support that was offered at their previous school so that we are meeting the specific needs of your child immediately.

If, as a parent, you are concerned about your child please speak to the class teacher in the first instance. The class teacher will then work alongside the SENCo to ensure an appropriate plan of action is put into place to address your concerns. You can also contact DIASS (Devon Info Advice & Support for SEND) - formally known as Parent Partnership if you require additional support.

SEND children in our school regardless of their difficulty are encouraged to take part in activities outside of the classroom. They take part in all PE lessons, school trips including residential trips, forest schools activities & extra curricular activities. If there is a way for your child to join in we will do our very best to include them whilst taking in to account any concerns you may have.

We recognise that some SEND needs are temporary & some are permanent, some need medication & others personal care. We work with parents & health workers (school nurses for example) to draw up Care Plans where necessary to meet these needs. If medication is needed on a temporary basis normal school policy is followed which ensures safe administration.

Where there are Social & Emotional needs we address these through individual &/or class Thrive assessments. Support is offered by our Thrive trained practitioners where appropriate.

Disabled Access – Bratton Fleming is a site on several levels but we do have access to almost all areas via ramps and stair lifts. We have disabled toilet facilities in the main school building and in the new mobile.

Holywell is on an old site. There are steps into the main offices and two classrooms but access can be provided around the back of the building. We have a disabled toilet next to the staff room.

Across the Gateway Federation we appreciate that parents know their children best & must be involved in their education. To this end we have several opportunities throughout the school year where parents are invited in to see their child's work and talk to the class teacher – one formal parents evening during October, followed by another in March. Parents are also invited to make additional appointments where necessary, including after the annual reports have been sent out to parents. Each term different events will take place within each school where parents are invited to celebrate their child's work.

When your child transfers to secondary school education we hold transfer meetings with staff from the receiving school & arrange additional visits if necessary, with a TA known to your

child, to prepare them appropriately for the change. This also ensures staff at the new school are fully aware of the special needs your child has. You will be made aware of these additional visits & have the opportunity to visit too. If your child has a statement or ECHP the secondary school of your choice will be invited to attend the review meeting in year 5 to start preparations early.

Our school SEND policy details the roles of the class teacher, Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo), the SEND governor and head teacher in identifying the special needs of children in our school. We follow the guidance in the SEND Code of Practice issued by the government – completing DAF paperwork, requesting additional funding & ECHPs as necessary. Annual reviews of statements/ECHPs are held with professionals involved & parents. Please see the SEND policy on this website for further details.

Mrs Day at Bratton Fleming and Mrs Hammond at Holywell are our school SENCOs.

Mrs Joanna Galbraith is the Governor in charge of SEND across the Gateway Federation.