

Thurlbear Church Of England VA Primary School- SEND Information Report.

2023

Our school vision is to create an irresistible Church School; a beacon for learning experiences which lead to great life achievements.

Our job is to help your child achieve the very best they can whilst they are at Thurlbear Primary school. You know your child best and you may feel that they need some additional help or support for some or all of their time at school. This report is to inform you of the types of support available at Thurlbear Primary school. It will help you understand who can help and the support that can be accessed. This is linked to the Somerset Graduated Response Tool, which sets out the barriers to learning that children may have and the strategies and provision that should be in place to support them.

These are the four broad areas of SEND need:

- Communication and Interaction
- Physical and Sensory
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health.

How do we know if a child needs extra help?

All children at Thurlbear Primary School are monitored closely by their Class Teachers. This is done through regular monitoring, assessments and termly Pupil Progress Meetings to discuss individual needs and progress. We are using the Somerset Graduated Response Tool to support us in identifying children with needs. This is followed and reviewed at each Pupil Progress meeting and is initially completed by the Class Teacher. If a child continues not to make desired progress then they will be discussed with the Special Needs & Disabilities co-ordinator (SENDCO). Assessments may be carried out, or interventions tried and if necessary, referrals made to external agencies with Parent/ Carers permission. The results of these assessments will be shared with you and next steps planned and actioned. The cycle continues as we identify barriers to learning and plan next steps in education to meet those identified barriers to learning. If a child is identified as having Special Educational Needs or a disability then they will be

placed on the school's Special Educational Needs Register. You will be included in this process. You will then receive termly APDR (Assess, Plan, Do, Review) which will tell you the support your child will be receiving and when.

What can I do as a parent if I feel my child needs extra help?

In the first instance, you should speak to your child's Class Teacher. Teachers are occasionally available for a brief chat at the start or end of the day. Alternatively, you can make an appointment at the school office, or message the class teacher via Class Dojo. You also have the opportunity to talk about your child's progress at parents evenings held twice a year. If you are still concerned, you can make an appointment to meet the SENDCO Mrs Tracey Burke. Her working days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you still feel matters are not resolved you can speak to the Head teacher Mr Gillan. If you still feel after this, your concerns are not resolved, you can contact the SEND Governor Mrs Salter via the school office.

How will Thurlbear Primary School support my child?

Your child's education will be overseen by the Class Teacher. They will plan and prepare appropriate work, for each child with additional needs in the class and ensure that progress is made in every area of learning. The SENDCO co-ordinates all support and progress which is in addition to, or different from what the universal provision in the classroom. There may be additional interventions planned, a TA may provide additional support working with your child individually or as a group. If this is above normal support given within class then this will be shared with you at parents evening or at an additional meeting. All support that the school can provide can be found on our school provision map.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

The school's provision for SEND is defined as; that which is additional to or different from that which is available to all children. The school aims to include all children within the whole class learning through careful differentiation of whole class learning opportunities and varied, independent work that is matched to the abilities of each child.

Where children with SEND need a more individualised approach in specific areas of their learning, they may receive support from an additional adult or work within a small group. If they have specific, individual needs, they may be withdrawn for group or individual intervention.

Children who are on SEN Support and therefore on the SEND Register, will receive a pupil passport and APDR, which will detail individual targets and the provision in place in order for their needs to be met.

Who may work with my child?

Within our school, the Teaching Assistants have been trained to deliver many different types of interventions that can support children from help with their learning to helping them manage their emotions. When a child has a specific need we can access the County's services such as:

Learning Support Services	Visual Impairment team
Educational Psychologists	Speech and language Therapists
Physical Impairment and Medical Team	Occupational Therapists
Hearing Impairment team	Child Adolescent and Mental Health Service
Autism and communication Advisory teachers	PFSA

This list is not exhaustive. However, we cannot do this without your permission or input, so you will always be asked before these services are contacted.

What training is provided for Teaching Assistants who work with children with SEN?

All adults who work with pupils on specific interventions will have receive training to deliver these sessions. These are overseen and monitored by the Class Teacher and SENDCO to check on the progress being made. We have a provision map, which highlights the provision we are able to deliver at Thurlbear Primary School. This is available on the SEND webpage.

What support is there at Thurlbear Primary School for my child's overall wellbeing?

In addition to support for academic progress we also pride ourselves on the support we provide for children's emotional wellbeing. Mrs Suddaby-Newman is a Mental Health First Aider, who delivers 'Listening Ear' support on a Wednesday. However, there is always an adult available for children to talk about any anxieties or concerns they may have.

We also have access to the PFSA (Parent and Family Support advisor) support Service. Either Mr Gillan or Mrs. Burke can complete a referral form for you to access this service. Our school link PFSA is Mary Wooding and she usually visits Thurlbear every two weeks, on a Thursday. All details remain confidential. Previously, they have helped families on a range of needs from managing children's behaviour at home, bereavement, coping with change after a divorce, anxieties and many more problems. Please come and talk to us if you feel this could help you and your family.

Within school all children have access to a trusted adult they can talk to. Children's views are expressed through pupil interviews, and pupil questionnaires. Thurlbear also uses 'listening ear' each morning. Children arrive at school and complete an independent activity for 10 min. This allows adults within the classroom to 'check in' on children who may arrive at school a little anxious, in order for them to continue their day positively.

How will the school support my child's transitions to a new setting?

Prior to starting in Reception, children identified as having Special Educational Needs will have a School Entry Planning meeting. This will be attended by Parents/Carers, pre-school staff, school staff and any external professionals involved in supporting your child. A plan is created to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. For children with medical needs this will include identifying staff training to ensure your child's needs are fully met. The Reception class teacher and at times the SENDCO will also visit the pre-school setting to meet the child in a familiar setting. All children will be invited to transition afternoons to ensure they are familiar with the staff and the school before starting.

When moving on to Secondary school, children in Year 6 with additional needs are discussed with the SENDCO at the Secondary School, once the places have been allocated. Additional visits can be organised by the Secondary School for children with additional needs. If your child has complex needs, a Send Review meeting will take place where a representative from the secondary school will be invited to attend.

How does the school provide for Looked After Children with SEN?

All the arrangements detailed in this document, apply to children in the care of the Local Authority with understanding that their needs and circumstances will change over time. Where there are care needs, in addition to Special Educational Needs, the School's Designated Teacher (Mrs. Crook) and Safeguarding Lead (Mr. Gillan) will liaise with external agencies and the SENDCO to ensure the appropriate services are involved and consulted.

As a parent how can I find further information or support?

Feel free to ask for any support from Thurlbear – where the Teacher, Head Teacher or SENDCO should be able to help. However, there is further information and impartial advice available for parents of children with SEND. Some of the services are:

Somerset SENDIAS (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support). This provides impartial support around all aspects of SEND, including EHC (Education Health Care) Plans.

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/send/somerset-sendias/>

Local Offer website:

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/the-local-offer/>

Somerset Parent Carer Forum – a group of parents with children of varying SEND who meet to share thoughts / ideas

<https://somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk/>

Other documents on the Thurlbear Website:

Accessibility Policy

Admissions Policy

Bullying Policy

Behaviour Policy

Complaints Policy

Thurlbear SEND Provision Map

Thurlbear SEND Policy

Date approved by the governing body: November 2023

Date of next review: November 2024