



SEND Policy

(including children with health needs who cannot attend school)

Policy title:	SEND Policy
Function:	For information and guidance about provision for students with special educational needs or disabilities at The Blue Coat School. This document forms part of the portfolio of policies designed to inform students and parents.
Status:	
Statutory guidance:	SEND Code of Practice (January 2015) Supporting pupils in school with Medical Conditions (August 2017) Equality Act (2010) Children's and Families Act (2014) Ensuring a good education for those who cannot attend school because of health needs (May 2013) Education Act 1996
Audience:	Students, Parents, Staff, Leaders, Trustees, Local Authority, General public
Ownership:	Trustee Board/ Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher
Last reviewed:	September 2024
Reviewed by:	Full Trustee Board
Next review:	July 2025

Contents

The Blue Coat aims and objectives	3
Policy aims and objectives	4
Roles and responsibilities	4
Procedures and practices	4
General Principles	4
Provision across the School	5
Identification of need	6
The support cycle	7
Children with health needs who cannot attend school	8
Monitoring, review and evaluation	9
Annex	10
Annex A: Useful Contacts	10
Annex B: SEND Care Plan Template	11
Annex C: SEND Information Report Framework	14
Annex D: Student Support Plan Template	15

The Blue Coat Aims and objectives

At the Blue Coat School our vision is simple. All that we do is focused on developing exceptionally well-rounded individuals with the skills to thrive and positively contribute in a rapidly changing society.

This is underpinned by our unrelenting focus on:

Inspiring excellence

Excellence is not something that is simply achieved. It something that we always strive for so that we can continually create opportunity and enhance the life chances of talented young people from broad and diverse backgrounds. The best is not, however, always the easiest. Our staff and learners will be resilient, and able to overcome barriers and challenges to ensure that potential is unlocked.

Shaping character

Our learners leave us not just knowing how to do things, but how to do things in the right way for the right reasons. That is why humility and integrity are the key pillars of our community, and the basis for how we treat one another. They ensure we have a culture where individuals are treated with care and compassionate respectfulness.

Forging futures

Every member of our community will leave us embracing their strengths and with ambition and aspiration as to how they can contribute positively to the modern world they are entering. Our students will become the leaders of tomorrow.

By extension, our values, approach and ethos are embodied in, and implemented through, our policies and procedures. They are the framework to support all that we do and achieve.

Aims and objectives

- 1 This policy sets out The Blue Coat School's processes and practices to ensure that all students with special educational needs, including disabilities or medical conditions (SEND), are provided with equal access to the curriculum in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and the SEND Code of Practice (April 2020).
- 2 This policy ensures that students and parents are provided with information about:
 - general provision for SEND students
 - how SEND needs are assessed, identified and supported to ensure students thrive, develop and achieve
 - how SEND provision is monitored and evaluated to inform continuous improvement.

Roles and responsibilities

- 3 The Trustee Board will ensure that this policy meets current statutory requirements and is reviewed accordingly.
- 4 The Headteacher will ensure that the procedures, practices and arrangements set out in this policy are adhered to.
- 5 Both Deputy Headteachers will support the Headteacher in ensuring that the procedures, practices and arrangements set out in this policy are undertaken effectively.
- 6 The Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO) will manage the day-to-day implementation of the SEND policy and co-ordinate specific provision required to support individual students with SEND, including those with or without EHC plans.
- 7 Heads of Department will ensure that teachers in their department are aware of and use information about SEND students' needs.
- 8 All teachers will ensure that they make reasonable adjustments to the delivery and resourcing of the curriculum in support of SEND students.

Procedures and practices

General Principles

- 9 The Blue Coat School is committed to the equality of opportunity for all students including those with SEND. Support for SEND students is provided through high quality classroom and whole school provision, with additional support from the Student Support department if required.

- 10 The Blue Coat School is committed to supporting the achievement of students who may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010. Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with disabilities as identified in the School's Accessibility policy.
- 11 The Blue Coat School recognises its duty to make arrangement and support students with medical conditions under the Children and Families Act 2014. Support for students with medical conditions will be overseen by the SENDCO and identified on a Student Care Plan (Annex B) and or a Student Profile Plan (Annex D)
- 12 All students with SEND or medical conditions will be provided with the support they need to make a smooth transition to, from and within each key stage at The Blue Coat School.
- 13 The School will continuously promote positive aspiration and outcomes for all students including those with SEND or medical conditions.
- 14 The Blue Coat School will work with the Local Authority to support students who cannot attend school because of health needs.
- 15 The Blue Coat School will work with the local hospital school to provide part time education on a short or long term basis.

Provision across the School

- 16 The School recognises that all students, including those with SEND or medical conditions, are entitled to an education that:
 - meets their needs
 - promotes high standards to enable them to fulfil their potential
 - enables them to make a successful transition into adulthood.
- 17 The School will ensure there is a designated teacher responsible for the coordination of provision for students' special educational needs, disabilities and medical conditions (SENDCO).
- 18 The SENDCO will:
 - lead and manage supportive provision for all students with special educational needs, disabilities and medical conditions
 - undergo regular professional development in SEND
 - provide professional guidance to colleagues
 - work closely with staff, parents and other agencies to support students effectively.
- 19 The School will provide regular training for all teaching staff to raise awareness of SEND matters and how to make practical adjustments to ensure high quality experiences for all students with SEND.
- 20 Information about the needs of students with SEND or medical conditions will be shared with staff as appropriate and in line with GDPR protocols, so that they are able to understand and support students' needs effectively.

- 21 Specific support will be given to students on entry to, during and on exit from different educational phases. This will include careers guidance and information provided by external support.
- 22 Students with SEND will be provided with specific and individual support for their social and emotional development through close liaison between pastoral teams and the Student Support department.
- 23 All students with SEND or medical conditions will be proactively encouraged to engage in the activities of the School alongside their peers.
- 24 The School will publish an annual SEND information report (Annex C) on the school's website to inform parents about the steps it takes to identify and support all students with SEND or medical conditions as set out in DfE: SEND code of practice (April 2020).

Identification of need

- 25 When identifying the needs of students with SEND or medical needs, the School will take account of information about students:
 - prior to admission to The Blue Coat School
 - from their current teachers
 - from their parents
 - from the Student Support department
 - from other professionals.
- 26 Where SEND or medical needs are identified before admission, the SENDCO will liaise with the student, parents, and the student's previous school to work on a transition plan. The plan will involve listening to the student, their parents and professionals to assess need and address any matters identified.
- 27 Where SEND or medical needs are identified by the students' current teachers they will liaise with both teaching colleagues and SENDCO to discuss the areas identified in order to decide on whether there is the need for further action. This will include discussion with parents and the student which may lead to referrals to specialist support for further assessments.
- 28 Where SEND or medical needs are identified by the student's parent a meeting will be arranged to discuss the appropriate actions to be taken. This will include gathering information from the student's current teachers and the student themselves. It may also include referrals to specialist support for further assessments.
- 29 Where SEND or medical needs are identified by the Student Support department, parents and students will be invited to a meeting to discuss the areas of identified need. It may be agreed that further action is needed. This may include referrals to specialist support for guidance or further assessments.
- 30 Where SEND or medical needs are identified by other professionals, the School will work with both the professionals, parents and the student to agree and implement a plan of support. This could be either be a Student Support Plan (Annex D) or an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP).

- 31 Under all circumstances, the School will assess four broad areas of need, recognising that students may have needs across more than one area:
- Communication and interaction
 - Cognition and learning
 - Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
 - Sensory and/or physical needs.
- 32 Where necessary the School will seek advice from outside agencies to assess the needs of the student and what support a student may require.
- 33 The SENDCO will make decisions and recommendations about whether to make special educational provision. In making decisions, the SENDCO will consider all of the information available about the student's progress.
- 34 Regardless of how SEND or medical needs are identified, each student's needs will be rigorously assessed to inform the type and extent of support needed so that the appropriate adaptations can be made and implemented. These adaptations will be formalised through:
- a Student Support Plan for students whose needs can be adequately supported by the School
 - an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) for students whose needs require co-ordinated support across multiple organisations.
 - a care plan
- 35 Parents will always be informed when the School is assessing the need for or providing special educational provision for a student.

The support cycle

- 36 Students who have SEND or medical needs will be supported through Support Plan or EHCP as required.
- This may involve but is not restricted to the following types of support:
- adaptations to access parts of the school building
 - provision of additional resources to access the curriculum
 - adaption of teaching resources
 - appropriately assessed access arrangements for examinations
 - extra pastoral support
 - timetabled one to one support meetings with Student Support staff
- 37 As set out in DfE: SEND Code of Practice (January 2015), the School will follow a four-part process to ensure the revision and refining of support. This includes:
- **Assess**
Staff will carry out a thorough assessment of the student's needs.
 - **Plan**
In communication with parents a plan of support will be designed, and the plan will be shared with all relevant teaching and non-teaching staff.

- **Do**
SENDCO and teaching staff will be responsible for the implementation of the plan accessing further professional support where appropriate.
- **Review**
The effectiveness of the support will be reviewed in line with an agreed date. This review will include the student, parents and staff.

- 38 Students who receive support for SEND or medical needs will be closely monitored throughout the school year. This includes the extent to which they are:
- attaining, making progress and achieving
 - punctual and attending school
 - developing good behaviours and attitudes
 - developing personally and socially
 - safe, well and looked after
- 39 Parents will be kept updated about the progress of students during the school year.
- 40 The School will formally review the support it gives to all students with SEND or medical conditions every 12 months as a minimum. Where such reviews indicate any changes to the type and extent of support offered, parents will be kept updated and involved in the formulation of a new plan.
- 41 At any point, the School may seek specialist guidance if it is deemed to be in the interests of the student.

Children with health needs who cannot attend school

- 42 School will liaise with the Local Authority and other professionals to ensure education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- 43 Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school and support their reintegration back into school. This may include:
- Sending work home for students to complete
 - Identifying a lead member of staff to oversee support and provision
 - Liaising with alternative education providers/hospitals
 - Work to support families and students during any absences
 - Provide a phased return to school
- 44 In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school will:
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents to ensure the best outcomes for the student
 - Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
 - Help make sure that the provision offered to the student is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully
 - Where possible, enable the student to stay in touch with school
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

Monitoring, review and evaluation

- 45 All monitoring and evaluation of this policy will be to ensure that all students with SEND or medical needs thrive, develop and learn as well as their peers.
- 46 The Trustee Board will ensure that the procedures and practices of this policy are monitored, reviewed and evaluated through regular:
- visits to School by the SEND link Trustee
 - updates to the full Trustee Board by the SEND link Trustee
 - consideration of general SEND provision and outcomes by the full Trustee Board.
- 47 Senior leaders will monitor
- School compliance with DfE: SEND Code of Practice (2015)
 - The practices and procedures of the Student Support department and SENCO
 - The progress and achievement of SEND students
 - The social and emotional welfare and development of SEND students
- 48 The SENDCO will monitor the:
- processes that identify SEND or medical needs
 - implementation of the four-part cycle of support for SEND or medical needs
 - the impact of SEND training and support for school staff
 - communication with parents and outside agencies
 - progress and achievement of SEND students.
- 49 Achievement and Progress Leaders will monitor a SEND student's:
- social and emotional welfare
 - achievement and progress
- 50 All teaching staff will monitor the attainment and progress of the SEND students they teach.

Annex A: Useful contacts

School Contacts:

Headteacher:	Mr K Sexton	head@bluecoatschool.org.uk
Interim Deputy Headteacher:	Miss L Nock	l.nock@bluecoatschool.org.uk
Assistant Head/SENDCo:	Mrs S Edwards	s.edwards@bluecoatschool.org.uk

SEND Trustee:	Mr S Fitzsimmons	chairoftrustees@bluecoatschool.org.uk
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Liverpool Council:

Local Offer: <https://fsd.liverpool.gov.uk/kb5/liverpool/fsd/localoffer.page>

SEND guidance for parents: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/send-local-offer/>

ANNEX B: SEND Care Plan Template

Care Plan for Students with Additional Needs

Name		
Form Group		
Form Teacher		
Condition/Reason for Care Plan		
Date of Care Plan		
Review Dates (termly)		

A. Contact Information

Main Family Contact		Alternative Contact	
Name(relationship)		Name (relationship)	
Address		Address	
Main contact numbers		Main contact numbers	
Email		Email	
School Contact		Key worker/Consultant	
Name	Mrs S Edwards	Name	
Position	SENCO	address	
Contact details	0151 733 1407	Contact details	

B. Describe Condition and give details of student's individual symptoms:

C. Describe what constitutes an emergency/highly problematic situation and what actions will be required:

D. Daily Care/Special Requirements in School:

E. Current Medication Taken/known side effects (if medication required in school **Annex H** of Safeguarding Policy must be completed before medication can be administered in school):

F. Support needed during whole school evacuation procedures (if necessary, refer to A. Melia for risk assessment)

G. Agreed actions discussed with student and to be followed by the student:

Copies of Care Plan (if needed) to:	Yes/No	Date Sent:
Parent/Child/Guardian		
School Nurse		
External Support Worker/Therapist		
G.P		
Other		

The current information report can be found on the school website and here

<https://www.bluecoatschoolliverpool.org.uk/site/data/files/about/policies/07E5B1A2079454B067C2515A7028EBCA.pdf>

Annex C: SEND information report framework

SEND and Student Support Plan template

NAME:					
SEN:			Category:		
Lead:			Form/Tutor:		
What is important to me:			Barriers to learning:		
ASSESS					
Area(s) of need			Desired long-term outcomes		
Cognition & Learning					
Communication & Interaction					
Social, Emotional & Mental Health					
Sensor & Physical Disability					
PLAN					
Short term (termly) targets			Who is responsible?	By when?	Met
DO					
High quality teaching in every lesson					
Intervention – above HQT					
Intervention	Frequency	Group size	Target	Outcome	Impact
SEND Termly Review					
Date added to SEN Register					
Year	Term	Meeting Date	Details		
9					

Year	Term	Meeting Date	Details
10			
11			