



Bees (The Hive)

Stoke Park Resource Provision for Children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)

Working Together Policy – 2023

Context

Stoke Park Resource Provision has been supporting children with a wide range of SLCN needs across Hampshire since 2001. We are located in the Eastleigh area of the County, at Stoke Park Infants, and serve both the Infant and Junior schools.

How are children placed with us?

All of the children will have an Education and Healthcare Plan (EHCP) identifying a speech and language difficulty (SLCN) as their primary area of need. All referrals come to us through Hampshire County Council and it is through them that our placements are made (placements are not made directly through the school).

Our Aims

- To support children in developing confidence and independence as they grow towards adult life
- To reduce, overcome or bridge the barriers related to SLCN needs

Our Approach

- A philosophy of Inclusion in its fullest sense – children are included within their mainstream classes for the majority of the time. We may withdraw them for a minimal amount of 1:1 or small group work in order to help them develop the 'tools' which will enable them to feel socially and academically part of their peer group (not just 'in the same room')
- Partnership working with staff, parents and external professionals to identify and meet the needs of each child in the most effective way, which includes approaching every child as an individual with a unique profile of strengths and weaknesses
- Providing appropriate scaffolds to enable children to develop their independent learning skills. We work on the principles defined by the Deployment and Impact of Support Staff (DISS) project. Learned skills need to be generalised into everyday life. Children need to develop learning behaviours and we need to guard against learned dependence

Staffing

We have a full-time Resourced Provision Manager, who is a qualified and experienced specialist in Special Educational Needs; a part-time linked NHS Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) and a team of highly skilled and dedicated Learning Support Assistants (LSAs).

Our promise to you:

- The needs and best interest of your child will always be our first priority
- Partnership working is the most effective way to help your child achieve their potential. We have an open door policy and will always be happy to arrange face-to-face meetings or contact by phone or email to discuss any issues, concerns, questions or information that you wish to share. Never be afraid to ask a question more than once!
- We will share our understanding of your child's needs in an open and honest way
- We will respect your knowledge and understanding of your child. We will always listen to your views and we will support your wishes and aspirations for your child in whatever way we are able, within our professional responsibilities

Parent/Carers

We rely on your continuous support in working together with us in meeting the needs of your child and moving their learning forward.

- We hope you will be able to attend your child's Annual Review to celebrate and review progress. Annual Reviews are a legal requirement of your child's EHCP and must be held at least annually (although may be held at any time within the year at the request of parents or professionals). The continuing funding for the child's EHCP and Resource Provision Placement is dependent upon the outcome of the review. We hold our Annual Review meetings as Person-centred Planning (PCP) sessions. This is an informal and friendly, but structured and useful way to gather information. We expect children to attend their Annual Review meetings
- We will provide your child with a home/school book if you are not bringing and collecting them from school yourself. This is used to relay messages and details of your child's day, enabling you to be a part of their time at school. This is a two-way system and parents are encouraged to note events from home enabling us to initiate conversations with your child. We ask that you check this book daily and initial any school comments to let us know that the message has been received
- We encourage you to support your child by bringing them to, and joining them in, school events and activities whenever possible. For those children where transport is provided this may mean you travelling to the school yourself on these occasions. We actively encourage children to join after school clubs and activities and to go to friends' homes for tea/to play and have friends home in return to develop their social skills and promote inclusion at all levels
- If your child is off school for any reason you need to follow the same procedure as for any other pupil by phoning either the Infant or junior school. Taxi escorts are always helpful in letting us know when a child is not in, but it is not their responsibility to inform the school. We need to record reasons for all absence and this needs to come first hand from a person with parental responsibility
- It is your responsibility to inform (if relevant) transport services of absence or change of arrangements by a time to be agreed with them. This includes letting the taxi know if the child has been collected during the school day for any reason
- Children with speech or language impairments learn best through structure, routine, consistency and repetition. As part of this, we advise you to adhere to the County's policy which states that children should not take holidays during term time
- We hope you will approach us honestly and politely with any query, concern or information which may be relevant to your child's development. We hope you will respect our professional perspective on your child's attainment and development and trust that we will respect yours. Children are not always the same at school as they are at home!