

CONNOR DOWNS ACADEMY SEN INFORMATION REPORT 2017-2018



Open space, open hearts, open minds

Our academy is an inclusive learning environment where we welcome diversity and aim to make everyone feel valued.

We act proactively to eliminate discrimination, to promote equality and to remove barriers to participation and learning for all individuals and groups.

Special Educational Needs/Disabilities Coordinator: Hilary Palmer

Contact details: telephone: Connor Downs Academy 01736 753135

email: secretary@connordowns.org.uk

For SEN Policy: please see school website

For Access Plan: please see school website

The levels of support and provision offered by our school

1. Listening to and responding to children and young people

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP.	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 We work closely with parents and carers to discuss their and their child's concerns with staff at the earliest opportunity. There are opportunities twice a year for parents and their child to talk to their child's class teacher at one—to-one meetings during a parent consultation evenings. Children are encouraged to communicate through pupil voice Other systems we use to enable us to listen to and respond to children: school council 	 pupil voice pupil conferencing 	 For pupils who receive individual support this can include: Discussion with teaching staff to listen to the child's views on school and learning Targets are agreed termly to support and challenge pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. Pupils play a key role in setting their learning targets through individual discussions with their class teacher. Pupils are also involved in reviewing their progress towards these targets. This information is recorded on their Individual Learning plan (ILP) in a child-friendly format. New plans are

school prefects	agreed each term and shared with parents.
• questionnaires	For children with a Statement of Educational Need (or an Education Health and Care plan), we use a Pupil Centred Annual Review meeting to ensure we hear and consider and record the views of pupils.
	To ensure that pupils are fully involved, we encourage pupils to attend meetings where their needs are discussed, including Team Around the Child (TAC) meetings and Early Support meetings.

2. Partnership with parents and carers

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 Our academy works in partnership with all parents and carers. We work closely with parents and carers to discuss their and their child's concerns with staff at the earliest opportunity. We encourage parents to make an appointment to meet up with the class teacher in the first instance if they have any queries or comments they would like to discuss about their child. At the start of autumn term each class teacher holds a 'meet and greet' information session for all parents. Termly information about learning topics, class trips is shared through information sheets and on the school website. 	 We encourage parents and carers to contact school about concerns by telephone, letter, home /school book and via email. We meet with parents to discuss concerns and to explore ways to move forward. Families are invited to attend information sessions and learning workshops run by school staff to help parents and carers to support their child at home via the academy noticeboard, newsletters, our website, Facebook and Twitter and through group texts. We also signpost parents to opportunities to take part in sessions run by Family Learning or Link Into Learning centres. 	 We support parents and carers to encourage them to be actively involved in Early Support or TAC meetings, Pupil Centred Reviews and in feedback meetings with specialist agencies, if wanted with parent support through SENDiASS. An annual questionnaire for parents of pupils with SEND or with disabilities is used to obtain parent feedback. Parents who add comments are contacted by the Inclusion Manager and a face to face meeting, phone call or email takes place to discuss their feedback. Feedback is shared with class teachers and other relevant staff to help us improve our provision further.

- Parents and carers are encouraged to attend termly parent consultation meetings.
- We send home a Parents'
 Questionnaire annually to all parents so they can comment on aspects of their child's education, including teaching and learning and behaviour expectations at school. The results of this questionnaire are shared with parents through the website and newsletters.
- We support parents in using the Ofsted online 'parent view' for example at parent consultation evenings and to give feedback to events in school through comments books.
- Parents are encouraged to communicate through the home/school communication book.
- KS Leaders hold Parent Forum meetings annually to enable parents to share their views. This feedback is shared with staff. Our response to these meetings is shared with parents through the website and through newsletters.
- We try to be respond to the needs of our parents and are happy for example to support parents in filling out forms and in accessing support from other

- Education City are available to support learning at home.
- We invite all parents and carers to informal coffee and cake sessions.
 Sessions during last year we have focused on sharing with parents and carers strategies to support children with autism, dyslexia or dyspraxia.
- eligible for pupil premium funding including the services premium, we send an individual report home to show the additional support their child has accessed and the impact of this on their learning in class. Parents are invited to share their views at an individual meeting with the Inclusion Manager and/or staff who deliver additional support. These meetings also give school an opportunity to signpost parents to other organisations and sources of support.
 - Parents have said they welcome these meetings as an opportunity for them to give their views and so they could find out more about how this additional funding was helping their child's progress and wellbeing.

- Targets are agreed termly to support and challenge pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Pupils play a key role in setting their learning targets through individual discussions with their class teacher.
- Pupils are also involved in reviewing their progress towards these targets.
- This information is recorded on their Individual Learning plan (ILP) in a child-friendly format. New plans are agreed each term.
- For children with a Statement of Educational Need or an Education Health and Care plan, we use a Pupil Centred style Annual Review meeting to ensure school can hear and consider the views of parents and pupils.
- Informal coffee and cake sessions to help parents and carers support children with special educational needs including Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), co-ordination difficulties or dyslexia.

organisations and outside agencies. • Our academy arranges a range of transition events for parents of children starting school in YR. We also pay particular attention to supporting pupils making the transition between YR and Y1. See Section 9 below for more detailed information about our transition. We hold coffee and cake sessions for parents during the year. All parents and carers are welcomed to these sessions. They usually consist of a short information session or occasionally a guest speaker followed by a chance to chat over coffee and cake in a relaxed setting. We encourage parents (and other family members) to work with their children to complete optional fun Homework grid activities.

3. The curriculum

Whole school approaches. The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 Our children follow a varied and balanced curriculum which provides exciting learning experiences. All children have full access to the curriculum and to educational visits that enrich their learning. We liaise with secondary schools who provide opportunities in focused curriculum areas for example: dance, journalism, river studies and advanced art. Secondary schools also offer workshops aimed at more able and talented pupils in all areas of the curriculum. 	 When we identify a child or group of children as needing additional support in an area of learning we provide additional support or challenge. The impact of this support or challenge is continually monitored and evaluated to enable us to make sure it is supporting children effectively. Extra support or challenge may be delivered within a small group teacher-led or teaching assistant-led intervention. We ensure these interventions are closely linked with the class curriculum so that all of the children's learning is linked together. In the last two years interventions have included: improving pupils' spoken language 	 We respond to the individual learning needs and physical needs of our children to ensure everyone can access all areas of the curriculum. For some children, this may involve some one- to- one support. This could include, for example, creating resources for an individual child, focussed work to introduce new topic vocabulary or targeted support to help a child become a more independent learner.

	skills through Talk Boost using phonics skills to improve reading and writing spelling, punctuation and grammar secondary school interventions provided by secondary school in closing the Y6 gap in literacy and maths additional maths support Fun fit to improve physical skills	
--	--	--

4. Teaching and learning

Whole school approaches Additional, targeted support and Specialist, individualised support The universal offer to all children and and provision provision YP All our pupils benefit from high quality We are constantly working to improve Our teachers and teaching assistants teaching throughout the school. our subject knowledge and expertise access training and support to help to help us to support pupils effectively. them work effectively to support and The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) challenge children. undertakes a regular programme of Training by school staff and through lesson observation and work scrutiny to specialist trainers in the last three years for We use research findings to help us to monitor, evaluate and improve our staff has included: improve our practice in understanding children's learning and development teaching and learning. Attachment Autism awareness training of an for example through the use of visible High quality training is a high priority at **Autism Champion** learnina. school for all of our staff. Dyspraxia Use of ICT to support pupils' learning We use a multi-sensory approach Behaviour for learning characteristics where possible which particularly Five of our teaching assistants are working towards university-level Raising boys' achievement benefits children who are dyslexic or qualifications in teaching and learning. Encouraging learning independence show dyslexic characteristics. The impact of the SEND reform Vision Support Team training Learning experiences are differentiated Makaton training to meet pupils learning needs. The use of effective questioning to assess and challenge pupils' learning Progress of pupils is monitored and Growth mindset recorded using: Maths Mastery Tapestry (Early Years) Thrive-including training three Classroom Monitor, an online tracking members of staff as Thrive **Practitioners** system

 class observations and records, book scrutiny learning walks assessment at the start of and during each school year feedback from parents and pupils. The progress of individual pupils and	
groups of pupils is discussed at termly pupil progress meetings with class teachers and Key Stage Leaders. This information is discussed and shared with the Inclusion Leader/SENCo.	
 Information that is gathered is used to identify gaps in learning, ensuring that all children make maximum progress based on their individual needs. 	
 In-school training sessions are offered to our regular volunteers. 	

5. Self-help skills and independence

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 All children are encouraged to become independent and resourceful learners. Opportunities to develop independence and resilience in our children are identified in teachers' medium planning and progress towards development in these areas is discussed for individual pupils and groups of pupils at our half termly pupil progress meetings. Staff who know how to support children to develop their personal learning and thinking skills. Class assemblies. Residential visits and school camps We offer a wide range of after school clubs for all ages and interests including this year: performing art /textiles, nature detectives and a variety of sports clubs. 	 Fun Fit. Nurture group. Small group work that focuses on developing speaking and listening skills including Talk Boost, and Socially Speaking. 	 Individual support using a variety of strategies and resources is used to help individual pupils develop learning independence. Precision teaching. Use of visuals that support learning independence for example planning pads.

 Collaborative learning for example when our Y6 and YR pupils worked together on a project. 	
 Legacy project involving Y6 pupils and secondary schools 	
Cultivating Futures	
 Competitions 	

6. Health, well-being and emotional support

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 Risk assessments and safety policies are in place and are regularly updated to ensure all children are safe within the school and on visits. Whole school Thrive approach Our school is a Healthy Schools Plus school which is evidence of all of the work we do to promote a healthy lifestyle Clubs for children offered, some by volunteers or other organisations, including this year: sports for tots, football, netball, dance, cultivating futures, surf and Bike-ability. Pupils have access to a school nurse on a referral basis. School Council 	 Time to Talk Socially Speaking Playtime and lunchtime nurture group for invited children to help them have fun in a supported way. Coffee and cake sessions are offered to all parents to help us work together to support children's wellbeing and learning needs. Any child can talk to a teacher or teaching assistant in school about any worries. Some children may also benefit from having an identified adult/s in school to support their wellbeing. This could be the Thrive Practitioner, class teacher, Head teacher or Inclusion manager. 	 Team Around the Child (TAC) meetings, Early Support meetings and reviews are supported by a range of agencies. Assessments carried out for individual pupils by school and family to determine emotional and wellbeing needs. Information shared with support agencies including those listed below. Opportunities through school or family referrals to outside agencies to support individual pupils and their families including: Child and Adolescent Mental Health service Educational Psychologist Penhaligon's Friends School Nursing team
Information in newsletters and/or on school website for parents to help them understand needs of children at our	 Our Cultivating Futures outdoor area provides an environment for relieving stress and gives children the opportunity of learning in a different 	 For more information and contact details for these agencies, please see 11. below

school. This has included information on pupils with autism or Tourette syndrome	environment.	Pupils with specific medical conditions have an individual Healthcare Plan.
The social moral spiritual cultural (SMSC) aspects of learning are an integral part of our school life and a focus for our class assemblies.		 Individual targeted support using the Thrive approach
Whole school approach using the Thrive approach: a specific way of working with all children that helps develop their social and emotional well-being.		

7. Social Interaction opportunities

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 Whole school events involving children at school and their families, including Music Evening, annual Christmas, Easter and Summer Fairs, Sports Day, Christmas events, plays. Special social events for children e.g. a Pirate evening/night for children in KS1 Sleepovers in school to boost confidence and security Class educational visits Residential camps Using year 4 or year 5 playground leaders to support social interaction during lunchtime Liaison activities offered by local secondary schools After-school clubs Drama 	 Talk Boost Nurture group at playtime and lunchtime A home visit by class teaching staff is offered to parents and carers of children before they start school in Reception class. Learning together sessions for children and their parents and carers End of year celebration event for year 6 pupils at a local hotel Family learning activities and workshops 	Additional support/ adjustments to provision made for individual pupils to ensure that every pupil can access opportunities for social interaction.

8. The physical environment (accessibility, safety and positive learning environment).

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 All areas of the school including our outside area are accessible to all. Wheelchair access is available to all classes. Pupils say they feel safe in an environment where bullying is absolutely minimal and dealt with effectively. Pupils know what to do if they feel they are being bullied. There is a designated 'Designated Safeguarding Officer': Mrs Jan Eddy and a deputy: Mrs Hilary Palmer, and a named Designated teacher for Child in Care (Mrs Hilary Palmer) Teachers focus on rewarding good behaviour for example through the Good to be Green scheme to promote a positive learning environment. 	 Quiet areas are available. Designated distraction-free teaching area - the Green Room used for individual or small group work. 	 Designated distraction-free teaching area - the Green Room used for individual or small group work. Dedicated resources matched to pupils' needs are available to all staff. Where appropriate, training in their use is provided by the Inclusion Manager at staff meetings for teachers and teaching assistants or for individual staff. Concerns or comments from staff, parents or the children themselves are shared with lunchtime staff through a 'lunchtime communication book'.

• Good to be Green displays. • Children's achievements are valued at our weekly 'Shine' Assemblies where parents of pupils whose work is being celebrated are celebrated. • Our outdoor learning environment has been transformed to provide an innovative learning space incorporating an amphitheatre area, willow weaving areas, outdoor learning spaces, Science hub, and areas for growing fruit and vegetables and for keeping chickens. An Early Years outdoor area which includes sand and water zones, a mud kitchen, stage for performances. • School has a robust Single Equality Scheme.

9. Transition from year to year and setting to setting

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision
 We liaise with local early year providers to identify pupils with additional needs who will be joining our school in YR For pupils before starting school in YR: Option of a home visit to enable reception class teacher to meet children and their parents before they start school Opportunities for parents and children due to start in YR spend time in school, including information sessions for parents on how to help their child be ready for school and an opportunity for parents and their child enjoy a school lunch together. An enhanced transition for children making the move from Reception class to Year 1 		 Option of a home visit to enable reception class teacher and SENDCO to meet children and their parents before they start school We talk with, and where possible visit local early years providers to help us to be ready to support pupils with additional needs joining our school in YR. Creation of visual resources to support transition for children starting school, for families to use with their child in the summer holidays for example a 'My New School' or 'My New Class' booklets. YR teacher and other staff as appropriate attend training offered to support individual pupils

For all pupils before they move up to a new year group:

- Parents informed in advance by letter of which class their child will be in in the new school year.
- Teachers from previous class and new class meet to discuss all individual pupils.
- Moving Up Day for children to meet the teachers and teaching assistants who will be working with them during the next year.

For children moving to a different school before the end of Y6:

 Where possible talk with staff at new school to discuss pupil

For children due to start secondary school:

- Inclusion Manager talks to secondary school staff and where possible visits local secondary schools to discuss all children who will be transferring from our school at the end of Y6.
- Visits from secondary school staff and previous pupils to meet Y5 and Y6 children.
- Activities for our Y5 and Y6 children led by local secondary schools.

For some pupils before they move up to a new year group:

 Enhanced transition involving additional time in new class getting to know the teacher and teaching assistants for any children who would benefit from this.

For some children due to start secondary school:

- Enhanced transition for invited children including those with additional needs and those who may feel anxious about the transition to a local secondary school through an additional visit accompanied by a member of staff from their primary school to meet learning mentors and have a school tour.
- Invited children attend learning

For some pupils before they move up to a new year group:

 Creation and use of 'pupil passports' and similar resources to support pupils during the summer term and for their parents to use with their children in the holidays to support a smooth transition.

For children moving to a different school before the end of Y6:

 Where possible, discussion with staff at new school to discuss individual needs and where appropriate pass on resources for the pupil to use at their new school.

For some children due to start secondary school:

 Some individual children may need a more structured and supported transition between primary and

•	'Super Saturdays' events at a local
	secondary school for Y5 and Y6 children.

 Visits to secondary schools. Some secondary schools arrange transition events during the summer holidays. workshops at local secondary schools with children from other local primary feeder schools to help them prepare for secondary school secondary school.

- For these children, discussions involving the child, their parents and the primary and secondary school will help us know how to best support this transition.
- Parents may want to visit secondary schools that they feel may suit their child. The SENDCO is happy where possible to accompany parents on visits to secondary schools if parents would like this.

10. The SEND qualifications of, and SEND training been attended by our staff

To enable all children to have access to the curriculum, information and guidance, physical environment, school and wider community	To enable targeted support and provision	To enable specialist, individualised support and provision
 SENDCO Raising Achievement training Breaking through the Barriers to boys' achievement conference Engaging hard to reach parents 	 SENDCO termly SENCO Network meetings Clicker 7 training Clicker 6 webinar 	 SENDCO National Award for SEN Coordination Master's level 1 year course Three day Autism Champion training
 School Improvement conference Individual teachers and teaching assistant training: Growth mindset INSET INSET: raising achievement 	Teachers and teaching assistants: • Attachment awareness training • Positive behaviour management	 SENDCO, teachers and teaching assistants: 2 sessions of Makaton training Staff meeting with Vision Support Team
 Phonics (KS1 and KS2 staff) Maths Effective questioning and feedback 	 Fositive behaviour management training from member of staff from the Behaviour Support Service Autism awareness training Epilepsy awareness Clicker 6 webinar 	 Epilepsy awareness training Individual staff training: Paediatric Epilepsy Awareness
Five teaching assistants are currently	CIICKEI O WEDII IQI	· I dedidilic Epilepsy Awdreness

participating in Foundation degree courses in teaching and learning/education	TA intervention trainingFun Fit/DCD training	Training provided by the Vision Support Team
One hour training sessions provided for volunteers: • Phonics	Training provided by the Vision Support Team	
Hearing readersmoving children's learning on	 Individual staff training: Early Bird plus one training THRIVE training – 10 days of training for two members of staff this year 	

11.Services and organisations that we work with:

Service/organisation	What they do in brief	Contact details
Early Support (ES)	 Early Support helps different agencies work effectively together to support individual children with disabilities and their families. ES helps schools to set up meetings in school where the agencies share information and create plans helping schools know how best to support the child in school. 	Ravena Jelbert Early Support Co-ordinator (West) Tel: 01736 336660 07968 992128 rjelbert@cornwall.gov.uk
Speech and Language therapists (SaLT)	This is a service that helps children in Cornwall aged 0-19 years who may have difficulty with: • expressing themselves • understanding what is said to them • talking clearly (saying speech sounds) • stammering • swallowing (eating and drinking).	Telephone: 01208 834488 Email: cpn-tr.enquirsIt@nhs.net
Family Support	Family Support can help families with a range of challenges including bedtime routines and understanding your child's behaviour and how to respond.	See Family information Service website for more information www.cornwallfisdirectory.org.uk
	They can also point families in the right direction for housing, benefit and debt advice and	

	information about work or training.	
Education Welfare Officer (EWO)	EWOs can help provide help and advice on school and attendance, bullying, child protection issues, elective home education and exclusion of pupils.	Tel: 0300 1234 101 Email: children@cornwall.gov.uk
Autism Spectrum Team (AST)	 This specialist team play an important role in in helping to meet the needs of people with autism and their families. When supporting pupils in school they may carry out assessments, recommend strategies to school staff and coordinate meetings between school and families. 	Tel: 0300 1234 101 Email: children@cornwall.gov.uk
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHs)	 CAMHs support children and families with a range of challenges including anxiety. 	Tel: 01872 221400 Email: cpn-tr.ChildrensCMC@nhs.net
Vision Support Team (VST)	The VST work with Children and young people (0-25 years) with a diagnosed visual impairment in their homes, early years' settings and schools to enable them to overcome barriers to their education caused by their vision loss and to help them achieve their potential.	Tel:0300 1234 101 Email: children@cornwall.gov.uk
Educational Psychologists(EP)	These professionals help parents and schools	Tel: 0300 1234 101

	understand more about how a child learns and how best to support children in school.	Email: <u>children@cornwall.gov.uk</u>
School Nursing Team	 School nurses offer health assessments to all children when they start primary and secondary school. This information is used by the NHS to help plan and improve services for children to help ensure children and young people stay fit and healthy. They can also provide advice to young people, their parents, carers and teachers. 	Tel:01872 221400 cpn-tr.ChildrensCMC@nhs.net
The Physical Disabilities Team	 This team provides support to students with physical disabilities who attend mainstream schools across Cornwall. The key target is to ensure maximum access to the school curriculum. This support may involve using ICT e.g. Clicker 6 to improve learning opportunities. 	Melinda Leishman Physical and Medical Needs Advisor Referrals arranged through schools.
Occupational Therapist (OT)	 Families and our school work with these health professionals to support children with physical needs in school. OTs can create therapy plans for individual children so that the school knows best how to support them. 	Children's Community Therapy Service Tel: 01872 254531
Penhaligon's Friends	A voluntary organisation that has worked with our	Tel: 01209 210624 or 01209 215889

	school to help children and families with issues around serious illness or bereavement in their family.	Email: enquiries@penhaligonsfriends.org.uk
Dreadnought	An organisation that can support pupils who experience confidence challenges and relationship difficulties. Dreadnought can also support children with bereavement issues.	Tel: 01209 218764 Email: team@thedreadnought.co.uk

Cornwall's Local Offer can be found on The Cornwall Family Information Services (FIS) website: http://cornwall.childrensservicedirectory.org.uk