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*Signed Headteacher* ..... *Date of Signature:* .....

*Signed Chair of Governors* ..... *Date of Signature*.....

**We are walking in the Footsteps of Jesus with Love Trust and Forgiveness**

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## **Vision Statement**

Romsey Abbey C of E Primary School will be a distinctive community, rooted in Christian values, whose culture has limitless ambition, professionalism, engagement and caring at its heart. Staff, parents and governors will work together closely to give every child the best possible education and life chances. The school will be viewed by the local Community as a centre of excellence.

## **Our Mission**

At Romsey Abbey CE School we believe that a world of opportunity lies at our feet. We see our role as a school as instilling in learners the confidence to enable success and relish challenge. We help children, families and staff to learn how to demonstrate love and grow in our ability to forgive each other, to aspire to be the best we can be. We feel it is important to both rejoice in our own success and equally in the success of others. As a church school our whole school life is based around our common values of, “walking in the footsteps of Jesus with love, trust and forgiveness.”

## **Our Aims**

Build a culture and ethos of support and respect, inclusive of language, ethnicity, ability and gender.

Create a healthy, safe environment through relationships, resources and opportunities which are accessible to all.

Provide an outstanding curriculum and learning environment that inspires, achieves the highest standards, creates a spirit of adventure, reflects culture and community and builds confident and independent learners.

Strive to build systems of communication that ensure all members of the school family have opportunities to contribute ideas and knowledge that will be valued.

## Purpose of Policy

The 2014 Code of Practice says that:

A person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. At compulsory school age this means he or she has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others the same age, or, has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools. *Taken from 2014 SEN Code of Practice: 0-25 Years – Introduction xiii and xiv.*

### SEND at Romsey Abbey CE Primary School

At Romsey Abbey we feel that our SEND provision works best when families and school work closely together. Class teachers keep families updated about the child's progress and they are the best people to contact if families have any queries about the child's learning as they know the child best. Other enquiries can be addressed to Mrs Julie Symonds Inclusion Leader or Mrs Hayley Coughlin SENDCo. Please make an appointment with the school office if you wish to speak to the SENDCo.

At Romsey Abbey we:

- Identify, at the earliest possible opportunity, barriers to learning and participation for pupils with SEND
  - Ensure that every child experiences success in their learning and achieves to the highest possible standard, making expected rates of progress
  - Enable all children to participate in lessons fully and effectively
  - Value and encourage the contribution of all children to the life of the school
  - Work closely with parents and children to ensure that we take into account the child's own views and aspirations and the parents' experience of, and hopes for, their child
  - Work with the Governing Body to enable them to fulfil their statutory monitoring role with regard to the Policy Statement for SEND
  - Work closely with external support agencies, where appropriate, to support the needs of individual pupils
  - Ensure that all staff have access to training and advice to support high quality teaching and learning for all pupils
  - Ensure all children are closely monitored, and their progress tracked five times per year by the class teacher, SENDCo and Head Teacher.
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- All children benefit from 'High Quality Teaching'. This means that all teachers expect to assess, plan and teach all children at the level, which allows them to make progress with their learning and become independent. In addition, we implement some focused interventions, either individually or in small groups, to target particular skills
  - We have high expectations of all of our children. Our aim is that all children on our SEND register make progress which compares well with the progress made by other children in school and also with children who have SEND nationally

**There are four broad categories of SEND:**

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

We have children in all of these categories of SEND. Around 14% of our children are currently at SEN Support or have EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans). This is broadly in line with the national average and it equates to approximately 3 children in a class, all teachers expect to have children with SEND in their classes and they have a good understanding of how to support them. All children are different and it is vital that we notice the challenges children of all abilities face and put strategies in place to support them. .

We currently have the following types of SEND needs within our school:

- **Cognition and Learning**
  - Dyslexia and dyspraxia
  - Moderate learning difficulties
  
- **Communication and Interaction**
  - Autistic spectrum and language delays / disorders
  - Speech sound delays / disorders
  - Social communication difficulties
  
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health**
  - ADHD
  - Emotional difficulties and attachment disorders
  - Mental health difficulties
  
- **Physical and Sensory**
  - Physical disabilities, including fine and gross motor difficulties
  - Sensory processing disorders
  - Neuromuscular disorders
  - Visual and hearing impairment

Our SEND register includes children with a formal diagnosis as well as those with learning profiles consistent with a diagnosis. We would not treat any SEND child differently if they have a diagnosis but we would always look at ways to support the challenges a child faces. A diagnosis may give us a more detailed picture of a child's needs but will not necessarily change the provision which is provided for them.

### **Identifying Children at SEN Support**

Children with SEND are identified by one of two main assessment routes, both of which are part of the overall approach to monitoring the progress of all pupils:

- The progress of every pupil is monitored and discussed at pupil progress meetings. Where children are identified as not making progress (using teacher assessment data and results from standardised tests) in spite of High Quality Teaching they are discussed with the SENDCo and Headteacher and where necessary, a plan of action is agreed
- Class teachers are continually aware of children's learning. If they observe that a child, as recommended by the 2014 SEN Code of Practice, is making less than expected progress, given their age and individual circumstances, they will seek to identify a cause. This can be characterised by progress which:
  - Is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
  - Fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
  - Fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers

If parents have concerns, they can also request that we look more closely at their child's learning. We take all parental concerns / requests seriously and investigate them all. Frequently the concern can be addressed by High Quality Teaching or additional parental support. If this is not the case, a period of monitoring will take place and the child may then be placed at SEN Support on our SEND register.

The SENDCo and various staff members are trained to undertake a range of standardised tests with children. These assessments can be used by the SENDCo to add to and inform a teacher's own understanding of the needs of the child.

Although the school can identify special educational needs, and make provision to meet those needs, we cannot offer other diagnoses. Parents are advised to contact their GP if they think that their child may have ASD, ADHD, a mental health issue (e.g. heightened anxiety) or some other medical problem / disability.

### **Working with Parents and Children**

We aim to have good and informative working relationships with all of our parents. If a child is experiencing difficulties, parents will be informed either at parents' meetings or during informal meetings to discuss the child's progress. It should not come as a surprise to a parent to learn that their child is being identified as having SEND.

Once a child has been identified as having SEND, the class teacher will invite the parents to a meeting to:

- Formally let them know that their child is placed on the SEND register at SEN support
- Discuss the assessments that have already been completed
- Discuss the provision for the coming term, including some SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-specific) short-term targets to work towards

The provision put in place is then monitored at Pupil Progress Meetings and fed back to parents. Progress towards the targets set are monitored and, where appropriate, new targets and provision are set. This is part of the graduated approach cycle of 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' required in the Code of Practice.

### **Paperwork for Children at SEN Support**

Once a child has been identified as needing SEN Support, a Learning Plan is produced and/or reviewed. The plan records specific and challenging targets for the child to achieve in a phase, together with the personalised provision (which may be 1:1 or in a small group) put in place to enable the child to achieve these targets. We will liaise with any external agencies as appropriate during this time, ensuring that we follow their recommendations and advice.

### **Moving to an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan)**

If children fail to make progress, in spite of high quality, targeted support at the SEN Support level, we may apply for the child to be assessed for an EHCP. Generally, we apply for an EHCP if:

- The child has a disability which is lifelong and which means they will always need support to learn effectively
- The child's achievements are so far below their peers that we think it likely that the child may at some point benefit from special school provision
- The child is looked after and/or likely to move schools frequently (e.g. service families) and therefore additionally vulnerable

**Having a diagnosis (e.g. of ASD, ADHD or dyslexia) does not mean that a child needs an EHCP.**

### **Teaching and Learning**

We believe that all children learn best with the rest of their class. Our aim is for all children to be working independently, in class, with work that is suitably challenging. Children with SEND are entitled to be taught by their teacher, not always by a Teaching Assistant (TA). Teachers are responsible for the learning (progress and attainment) of all of the children in their class and aim to spend time each day working with all children, including those with SEND, individually or as part of a group.

When allocating additional TA support to children, our focus is on outcomes; we aim to put in sufficient support to enable the child to reach their challenging targets, but without developing a learned independence on an adult.

The school has a range of interventions available, which form part of the provision map within Edukey. When considering an appropriate intervention, we look first at the child's profile of learning in order to select the intervention that is best matched to the child. Where the needs are complex and there is more than one main area of need, the needs are prioritised and only 1 or 2 are addressed at a time. Targets for children at SEN Support are deliberately challenging in the attempt to close the attainment gap between them and their peers. Interventions are often crucial

in closing these gaps, so are monitored closely by both the class teacher, who monitors progress towards the targets during the intervention, and by the SENDCo, who monitors overall progress after the intervention.

- Interventions are planned in roughly 6 week phases but may run for a term enabling time to apply and embed the learning in class work
- At the end of each phase, children's progress towards their targets is assessed and recorded
- A decision is then made as to whether to continue the intervention, to swap to a new intervention, to allow a period of consolidation in class or to focus on another area of need
- Interventions will be adapted accordingly throughout the teaching phase to ensure they are challenging as well as achievable

The SENDCo monitors interventions to identify what works and therefore provide value for money.

### **Adaptations to the Curriculum Teaching and Learning Environment**

Romsey Abbey CE Primary School is easily accessible. The classrooms are on one level, there is a lift to allow access to the main hall, corridors are wide and we have an easy access toilet. Other adaptations to the physical environment can be made, as appropriate, to accommodate children with other disabilities.

All of our classrooms are inclusion-friendly. We aim to teach in a way that will support children with tendencies towards Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ASD etc. to achieve. It is good practice to support all children in this way, but it is vital for those who particularly need it. All of our children access the full National Curriculum and we recognise achievement and expertise in all curricular areas. As part of normal class differentiation, curriculum content and ideas can be simplified and made more accessible by using visual, tactile and concrete resources. Where children qualify for adapted access arrangements (e.g. for KS2 SATs tests - extra timing, having a reader or a scribe etc.) we apply for these and ensure they are provided, giving all pupils the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability.

### **Access to Extra-Curricular Activities**

All of our children have equal access to before school, lunchtime and after school clubs, which develop engagement with the wider curriculum. Where necessary, we make accommodations and adaptations to meet the physical and learning needs of our children.

Class trips are an important part of our curriculum and we aim for all children to benefit from them. No child is excluded from a trip because of their SEN, disability or medical needs. Risk assessments are carried out and procedures are put in place to enable all children to participate. On rare occasions health and safety cannot be met by reasonable adjustments and alternative provision will be made by the school in partnership with families.

### **Staff Expertise**

All of our teachers are trained to work with children with SEND. Some are very experienced and others less so, but all have access to advice, information, resources and training to enable them to teach all children effectively. We offer training and self-help opportunities regularly through access to in-house or Local Authority courses, provision of books or guidance towards useful websites. We utilise our, in house, coaching programme of training to enable teachers and support staff to observe and learn from more experienced members of the team.

If we identify information we cannot access without the aid of additional, more specialist help, the school is able to refer individual children to or buy-in additional expertise from the Local Authority. This includes access to Educational Psychologists, Advisory Teachers and Therapists (Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists).

### **Children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs**

Behaviour is not classified as a SEND. If a child shows consistent unwanted behaviours, the class teacher will assess the child's needs, taking into account family circumstances and the child's known history of experiences. If the child's behaviour is felt to be a response to trauma or to home-based experiences (e.g. bereavement, parental separation) we will organise a meeting with the family and support the child through that process. We can also refer to the Early Help Hub who can provide support and signpost additional services that exist in the local area.

If parents and school are concerned that the child may have mental health needs, we encourage parents to ask their GP for a referral to CAMHS. School can also initiate this process.

If the child is felt to have minor, but ongoing social or emotional needs (for example anger management issues), the school can offer a range of structured programmes to support in these areas. These programmes are generally delivered by our school ELSA and Family Support Worker who is trained and who develops good, trusting relationships with the children.

All children's behaviour is responded to consistently in line with our Behaviour Policy, although reasonable adjustments are made to accommodate individual needs.

The school has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, especially towards children with SEND and disabilities. We will actively investigate all allegations and, if there is cause, work with both the bully and the victim to improve their social skills.

### **Transition Arrangements**

We understand how difficult it is for children and parents as they move into a new class or a new school and will do what we can, according to the individual needs of the child, to make transitions between classes as smooth as possible. This may include, for example:

- Additional meetings for the parents and child with the new teacher
- Additional visits to the classroom environment in order to identify where the toilets are, where the lockers are etc.
- Opportunities to take photographs of key people and places in order to make a transition booklet.

### **Transition to Secondary School**

Transition reviews for Year 6 pupils with SEND are held in the Spring Term of Year 6. The secondary school SENCo is invited to Annual Reviews and other review meetings. Additional transition arrangements may be made at these reviews e.g. extra visits, travel training and summer school programmes.

### **Governors**

It is the statutory duty of the governors to ensure that the school follows its responsibilities to meet the needs of children with SEND following the requirements of the Code of Practice 2014.

The Governor with particular responsibility for SEND is Mrs Jemma Jones. She meets with the SENCo at least termly to discuss the actions taken by the school.

### **Complaints**

The school works, wherever possible, in partnership with parents to ensure a collaborative approach to meeting pupil's needs.

All complaints are taken seriously and are heard through the school's complaints policy and procedures.

### **Hampshire's Local Offer**

The purpose of the local offer is to enable parents and young people to see more clearly what services are available in their area and how to access them. It includes provision from birth to 25, across education, health and social care. Hampshire's Local Offer is available from the website <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/localoffer.page>

It is the One Stop Shop for Hampshire children and young people with additional needs and disabilities. It includes information about activities and breaks available for Hampshire children with SEND as well as information for parents about benefits, and explains how Hampshire aims to support children through education, health and social care.

### **Equal Opportunities**

The school is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, regardless of race, faith, gender or capability in all aspects of school. We promote self and mutual respect and a caring and non-judgemental attitude throughout the school.

## Further Information Sources

### Links to other policies/documents

SEND Report  
Accessibility Plan  
Behaviour Policy  
Complaints Policy

### Links to other websites

SEND Code of Practise <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

SENDIASS - impartial Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support (SENDIASS) in Hampshire. <https://www.hampshiresendiass.co.uk/>

Hampshire Local Offer  
<https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/localoffer.page>

### Role Holders

Names of all Role holders specified in this document can be found on the school website:  
<http://www.romseyabbeyschool.co.uk/>

