

Support for your child at

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Primary School



At Our Lady of Mount Carmel our aim is for all children to reach their full potential. Teachers plan exciting engaging lessons that take into account a variety of learning styles and aim to meet the children's individual needs. For a wide variety of reasons, some children need additional help or support during their time at school.

This information aims to make you aware of the support that is available for your child at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and how that support can be accessed.

Supporting Children in School

All pupils in school receive Quality First Teaching. This means that a range of teaching and learning styles are used and that appropriate learning objectives are set for all children with a curriculum matched to their needs.

All our classes are supported by Learning Support Assistants (LSAs) and where needed pupils are provided with additional one-to-one, small group work and catch-up programmes aimed at raising the child's Literacy, Phonics or Numeracy skills.

Some children also need support at break/lunchtime - this is arranged to support a children who may need different provision at these times.



Support can also be arranged so that our extra-curricular activities are inclusive.

We also provide short term support to help children develop their Personal, Social and Emotional skills. Pastoral support on a one-to-one basis, provided by our LSAs, can help children cope with difficult and personal circumstances (separation, bereavement). This helps to minimise the effect of the experience on their learning progress.

Identifying Children's Needs

At Our Lady of Mount Carmel the progress and attainment of all pupils is reviewed every half term by the Staff Team. The Head and SENCO meet to discuss the provision in place and make adjustments to meet identified needs.

If a child continues to have difficulty after intervention or has a high level of need when they join us, they may be considered to have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and are placed on the SEN register (ref: SEN Policy). Parents will always be involved in this process.

The full governing body regularly monitor the provision and progress of children in school and those identified as having SEN.

Special Educational Needs

The Staff and Governors at Our Lady of Mount Carmel are committed to the provision of high quality educational opportunities for all regardless of race, gender and disability. An estimated 20% of children experience difficulties during their time at school and are identified as having a Special Educational Need (SEN).

Children with SEN have learning difficulties and/or physical disabilities which make it harder for them to learn compared to other children their age.

They may have difficulty with:

- some or all of the work in school understanding information
- reading, writing or mathematics
- expressing themselves
- understanding others
- listening and concentrating
- organising themselves
- sensory perception and processing
- physical mobility
- managing their behaviour
- making friends and relating to adults



Children with SEN need extra support or different strategies to help them. To ensure children who have a SEN fulfil their potential, school works closely with outside agencies and seeks professional advice from:

- Speech and Language Therapists
- Educational Psychologists
- Support Service for Education of Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Health Professionals/ Specialist Teachers
- Visual/Hearing Impairment teachers

Additional SEN Support

- The Special Education Needs Code of Practice gives guidance to schools in meeting the needs of pupils. It sets out how help should be given in a step-by-step approach. You will be consulted at all stages of this graduated approach and staff will inform you of the additional work they do with your child.
- Class teachers will liaise with the SENCo and other advisory agencies to assess your child to identify their strengths, needs and the extra help they require. If they need extra help or different support from most children of their age, they will be placed on the SEN register under the category 'additional SEN support'. Staff will work with you to put together a support plan that shows the provision that your child will receive in school with clear targets, support strategies and the planned outcomes of the support.
- The support plan will be reviewed with the class teacher, parent and child each term to ensure the support put in place is meeting the needs of the child and is enabling him/her to make progress.
- **AS OF SEPTEMBER 2014 the government have replaced the two categories 'School Action' and 'School Action Plus' with the one single category 'additional SEN support' which is a more simplified, rigorous approach that focuses the system on the impact of the support provided for that individual child, rather than how children access support according to the category they fit. Children who are already on the SEN register will now be categorised as receiving 'additional SEN support'.**

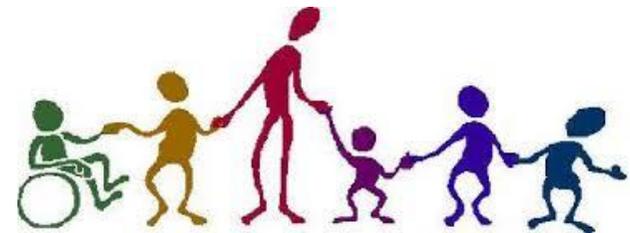
Education Health and Care (EHC) Plan

(Previously known as a Statement of Special Educational Need)

If your child's needs are complex or severe we may suggest that we ask the local authority for an assessment. As of September 2014, all children and young people from age 0-25, who have significant Special Educational Needs will undergo an Education Health Care (EHC) Assessment. This will lead to an EHC plan (previously known as a Statement of SEN.) This document will describe your child's needs and the special help they should receive. It may involve the Local Authority providing extra resources to help your child. These could include money, staff, time, special equipment and attendance at a school with specialist resourced support.

This EHC plan will be reviewed annually or sooner if required and would include a meeting with parent, class teacher, SENCo, other professionals involved in supporting the child, a representative of the LA, and the child.

FROM SEPTEMBER 2014, for children and young people who already have a Statement of SEN, the transfer of statements into EHC plans will be a gradual process.



We have a highly experienced team of staff who may be involved in supporting you child at OLMC. These include:

- Your child's **Class Teacher**, who will always make sure that tasks set are appropriate and accessible for your child
- **Learning Support Assistants**, who support all pupils in class.
- **Learning Support Assistants**, who support individual children or small groups of children with specific needs
- **The SENCo** (Mrs Poncia) who co-ordinates the provision of SEN in school
- One of the **School Governors** who works with the SENCo in leading SEN in school
- **Health and Education Professionals** who work very closely with school to identify children's specific needs and advise on the appropriate support or interventions needed. These include: Educational Psychologists, School Nursing Service, Occupational/Physio Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Specialist Teachers for Behaviour and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Training

To ensure our staff have the skills and knowledge to support children with SEN there is a programme of on-going training.

Transition

Every effort is made to plan in advance for times of transition as we recognise this can be an anxious time for both the pupil and their family. Transition from home to school, Year Group to Year Group or from school to school needs to be as smooth as possible so that the support that has been put in place continues to meet your child's need as they move through their education.



Multi-Agency Meetings

As part of our support for ALL children in school we have regular opportunities to consult with support services and health agencies through a multi-agency approach which sometimes includes completing the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) to support the family as well as the pupil.



Mrs Gamble our Head Teacher or Mrs Poncia, our SENCo, will meet with you to discuss the needs of the individual/family in school. A Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is completed and then working closely with parents they plan together the best use of advice and support from other agencies in a Team Around the Child (TAC) Meeting.

If you would like to know more about the provision that is available in school for your child or if you have any concerns that your child might have additional needs, please speak with your child's class teacher.

You are also very welcome to make an appointment with Mrs Poncia our SENCo. She can be contacted at school on 01302 349743

If you require advice outside of school you may find the following agencies helpful:

School Admissions: 01302 736754

Parent Partnership: 01302 862176

School Nurse: 01302 384138