

Uffculme School
Special Educational Needs Information Report
Updated September 2021



School Policy and procedure

What kinds of SEND do pupils in the school have?

Uffculme School is a mainstream school set in the rural location of Mid Devon. There is a strong emphasis on inclusion and our students achieve above the national average in academic results. They leave our school to undertake the next step in their journey with the wide range of skills required to live a happy and successful life.

We successfully support students with a wide range of needs within the four main areas of communication and interaction, cognition and learning, social, emotional and mental health, and physical and sensory needs. These can include more specific needs such as: Dyslexia, dyspraxia, epilepsy, autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, hearing and visual impairments, social, emotional and mental health. This is not an exhaustive list and changes over time.

How do you know if a student needs extra help?

Uffculme School has strong relationships with its feeder primary schools, Devon County Council 0-25 Team, and other agencies and organisations known to our future and current students.

Prior to transition to the school, the SENDCo, Assistant SENDCo and Head of Year visit and meet with students and spend time with their teachers to find out more about how they like to learn and socialise.

The information gathered from transition visits supports the school to assess their need on arrival. Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) are undertaken at the beginning of Year 7, as is screening for reading and spelling. Students are observed in class by teachers, teaching assistants and the SENDCo and there is ample opportunity for student, teacher and parent feedback on progress and for concerns to be raised.

Weekly meetings are held between the SENDCo and Deputy Head, Pastoral, and representatives from their teams, so that any concerns are quickly acted upon.

As a parent/carer you will receive/have access to:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -school reports three times a year in November, March and June; -a tutor / parents afternoon/evening in which pastoral issues can be discussed alongside an update on academic progress; -Parent/Carer-Teacher evenings; -communication through the student planner; -information about rewards and sanctions. <p>In addition you may also be involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Annual Review or Transfer review meetings (held for identified high needs students – you will be informed if your child is included within this category), which includes opportunities for the views of parents/carers and the child; -student passports; -home contact book; -information from specific intervention programmes in end of year intervention reports. <p>At any time you may contact your child’s Form Tutor or the SENDCo or Assistant SENDCo for further information.</p> <p>The school SENDCo is Jo Hill, and she can be contacted at hillj@uffculmeschool.net. The Assistant SENDCo is Karen Bendall, and she can be contacted at bendallk@uffculmeschool.net. Alternatively, you can call reception and ask to speak with them on 01884 840458.</p>
<p>Day to day support</p>	
<p>How do teachers help pupils with SEND? How will the school support my child?</p>	<p>Teaching staff will support students at a level appropriate to their needs through effective differentiation in the classroom (high quality or quality first teaching). This is constantly reviewed by teaching staff and the SENDCo. Students requiring more specific intervention to access the curriculum may be supported in a range of ways, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Individual or small group literacy and numeracy programmes; -Individual or small group social and emotional development programmes; -Shared in-class support from a teaching assistant.

	<p>Uffculme School's graduated approach ensures that staff continuously assess, plan, teach and review the progress of students. This is overseen by the SENDCo and enables concerns to be acknowledged and addressed quickly whilst providing robust evidence of need to external organisations such as the Devon County 0-25 Team.</p>
<p>How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs? Is there any additional support available to help children with SEND?</p>	<p>The curriculum is matched to students' needs on an individual basis where the need is identified. Most students follow the same broad and balanced curriculum as their peers, perhaps with minor adjustments to ensure accessibility. Teachers support students by differentiating the lesson content to meet the needs of all. Where students have complex needs, teachers are supported by the Learning Support Team.</p> <p>Additional support can include teaching assistant support in lessons and extra or supplementary literacy and numeracy interventions. Students can also be referred to external agencies such as health, social care or specialist teachers and educational psychologists.</p> <p>Parents and carers will be notified if their child is receiving additional support and are welcome to contact the SENDCo or Assistant SENDCo at any time about the provision.</p>
<p>How will the school know how well my child is doing? How will I know my child is making progress? How do you check on this?</p> <p>How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom, including school trips?</p>	<p>Year 7 students complete CAT tests and are assessed twice in their first year for reading and spelling. There are a series of assessments undertaken in each subject per year and this data is analysed by Heads of Department, Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership Team including the SENDCo.</p> <p>Uffculme School will share this data with parents and carers at three points throughout the year – November, March, June and at Parent/Carer-Teacher evenings.</p> <p>Provision for students identified as having a special education need is reviewed on a termly basis. At the beginning of, and during, interventions for students, baseline data is gathered, and the effectiveness of the intervention measured on levels of progress. This is not always an academic measurement; social and emotional and mental health progress is also considered.</p> <p>Uffculme School prides itself on its extra-curricular offer and the inclusivity of the programme. There are a wide variety of clubs and activities available to students at both lunchtimes and after school. All students, regardless of need, are actively encouraged and supported to attend any activity of interest to them.</p>

How will you support my child's overall well-being?

All staff are aware of the importance of student wellbeing and always put the wellbeing of their students first. Each student has a Form Tutor who takes them through their five years at the setting. Tutors often run the extensive and time protected Personal Development sessions which ensures they build a strong relationship and understanding of their tutees. Weekly meetings are held with the Deputy Head, Pastoral and the Assistant Headteacher/SENDCo, Heads of Year and Tutors.

There is an extensive Personal Development curriculum that encourages students to learn the skills to manage their own wellbeing and to support others to do the same. Representatives of the Student Council focus on fellow student wellbeing and there is an annual wellbeing week to raise awareness amongst the wider student body, alongside regular assemblies and weekly Personal Development sessions.

Each student with an identified special educational need has a keyworker and all students with identified wellbeing concerns will be offered additional interventions such as:

- Support from the School Nurse;
- support from the Student Welfare Officers;
- clubs;
- Flexible Learning Centre;
- Careers Advice;
- support from other agencies as required.

Involving families	
<p>How will you help me to support my child's learning? When will we be able to discuss my child's progress?</p>	<p>Parents and carers will receive a report three times per year. If a student is on the SEND register parents and carers can obtain more detailed information from the SENDCo. There are Parent/carer-Teacher evenings held throughout the year as well as multiple information opportunities to meet with staff at open evenings and School events.</p> <p>Uffculme School actively encourages parents and carers to contact the School to discuss their child's progress or any concerns they might have. Form Tutors should be contacted in the first instance but if the student has an EHCP please contact the SENDCo.</p>
<p>How will my child be able to share their views?</p>	<p>Students at Uffculme have their voices heard every day and in a variety of ways. A year council is democratically elected, and all students are encouraged to apply to represent their peers. We also encourage 'Action Teams'. These are groups of students who have an idea and pitch their plan to SLT. Any student in the school can form an action team, it just requires the backing of one member of staff in support.</p> <p>Students who require additional SEND support or who have an EHCP are asked for their views on a regular basis. They are encouraged to attend meetings about their progress and provision, but we also recognise that some students would like to discuss this with their keyworker and have their views passed on by them to professionals.</p>
<p>How will you support my child when he/she joins your school or moves class or transfers to a new school?</p>	<p>As part of the Y6-Y7 transition process, all primary schools with children that have SEND are contacted and information is shared. Both the SENDCo and Head of Year work closely with the SENDCo and teachers in the primary schools to ensure a positive transition. All students that require extra support with transition are offered additional settling in days.</p> <p>When transitions occur within school, there is an extensive handover of information between staff and opportunities for students to meet their new teachers where appropriate.</p>

Staff skills and wider support

What skills do the staff have to meet my child's needs?
What specialist services are available at or accessed by the school?

Jo Hill is the SENDCo and has completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Special Educational Needs (NASENCo). Karen Bendall is the Assistant SENDCo. We have a team of Teaching Assistants, including two Higher Level Teaching Assistants who are trained to deliver SEN provision.

Staff training has included but is not limited to:

- Lego Therapy;
- Attachment Based Mentoring;
- Dyslexia support;
- Numeracy support;
- Autism Awareness;
- Access Arrangements.

Specialist expertise is secured in the main through Devon County Council and Babcock when required, and can include:

- Speech and Language Therapy;
- Educational Psychology;
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services;
- Occupational Therapy;
- Early Help;
- 0-25 Team;
- School Nursing team;
- Physiotherapy Team;
- Visual Impairment and Hearing Impairment;
- Educational Welfare Officer.

What happens if my child needs specialist equipment?	If a student requires specialist equipment the SENDCo will discuss their needs with parents/carers and external agencies as appropriate.
How accessible is the school and how does it arrange the facilities children need?	The school is wheelchair accessible with disabled changing and toilet facilities. The School accesses support from Babcock specialist teachers when appropriate.
How will my child manage tests and exams?	Teaching staff and the Access Arrangements Coordinator, overseen by the SENDCo, assess children regularly to see if access arrangements for formal examinations are required. If this is the case parents and carers will be formally notified.
Accessing advice and support	
What should I do if I think my child may have a special educational need or disability?	Jo Hill is the SENDCo and can be contacted at hillj@uffculmeschool.net . Karen Bendall is the Assistant SENDCo and can be contacted at bendalk@uffculmeschool.net . Alternatively, you can speak with them by calling reception on 01884 840458.
What do I do if I'm not happy or if I want to complain?	The governor with responsibility for SEND is Cameron Tonkin who can be contacted at tonkinc@uffculmeschool.net . The staff at Uffculme School come to work every day with the aim of supporting students to achieve their very best. However, if a parent or carer ever felt the need to complain about the provision or the policy, they should, in the first instance, raise it with the SENDCo, Jo Hill, who will try to resolve the situation. If however the issue cannot be resolved, the parent or carer can submit a formal complaint under the School's Complaints Procedure. The complaint will be investigated and managed under the process described in this policy. You can obtain a copy of the Policy from the School's website.
Where can I get information, advice and support? Where can I find out about other services that might be available for our family and my child?	If you require further information, advice and support please contact Jo Hill, SENDCo in the first instance. Alternatively, or in addition to, please access the Devon Information, Advice and Guidance Service (DIAS) at www.devonias.org.uk or the Devon County Council website www.devon.gov.uk/education-and-families/send-local-offer/about-send-and-the-local-offer/ .