

### **Legislation and guidance**

This information report is based on the statutory Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice and the following legislation:

- Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities.
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN co-ordinators (SENCOs) and the SEN information report.

### **What kinds of special educational needs does Brent Knoll make provision for?**

Brent Knoll is a foundation all age special school within a cooperative trust. We have provision to meet the needs of children with complex social, communication and interaction difficulties. The overwhelming majority of children at Brent Knoll have a diagnosis of autism.

### **How would Brent Knoll identify and assess my child's special educational needs?**

Every pupil has a Statement of Special Educational Need or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). These are reviewed annually. Pupils are assessed against their own prior learning and progress is monitored. The school works closely with a range of professionals including therapists, the educational psychologist and medical team to address the holistic needs of every child.

### **How does the school evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with special educational needs?**

We have a robust system for determining and evaluating school priorities using The Ofsted framework of self-evaluation which looks at:

1. Quality of education
2. Behaviour and attitudes
3. Personal development
4. Leadership and management

Governors play a vital part in this process and receive regular reports and feedback through the Governing Body committee structure. Any additional support and the pupil premium grant (PPG) are monitored to measure the effectiveness of impact.

### **How do you know how well my child is doing at school?**

Parents' meetings, annual reviews and other forms of communication are used to keep parents and carers well informed about their child's personal, social and academic progress and achievements. In addition a summary of achievement report is written each year acknowledging pupils achievements.

### **How will the staff support my child? How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?**

Every child has their own personal development plan (PDP) which identifies targets for personal and social development. There is a favourable staffing ratio where pupils have opportunities to work in small groups with appropriately matched learning tasks.

**How do you adapt the curriculum?**

All planning is highly differentiated within each class. Each class has a teacher and at least 2 learning support assistants. School staff are supported by the speech and language therapy service, the occupational therapy service and a number of other therapists or specialist interventions commissioned by the school. Our aim is to provide a curriculum that is relevant and broad and helps children to become as functionally literate, numerate, communicative and as independent as possible in an environment that promotes positive learning experiences and prepares young people for life in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain. Young people will be given every opportunity to achieve their potential and succeed in nationally accredited qualifications.

**How will my child be included in activities outside the school curriculum including trips?**

At Brent Knoll every child has the opportunity to access trips including residential trips.

**What support is there for my child's overall well-being?**

We have a robust safeguarding policy and protocol in place. Pupils' health and well-being is paramount. Personal Care is conducted discreetly and with dignity and fostering independence whenever possible. We work closely with medical practitioners if your child has a health need and will discuss with you a Health Care Plan and administration of prescribed medication. We also work closely with social services and the children with disabilities team. Within school we have our own psychotherapeutic counselling counsellors, art therapist, meditation practitioner, learning mentor and pastoral lead. We also work closely with the educational psychologist and CAMHS (child and adolescent mental health services) if your child requires more specialist support.

**What training is provided for staff supporting children and young people with SEND?**

Staff have opportunities to engage with continuing professional development (CPD). This includes Makaton signing, Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), Sounds Write phonics reading and spelling programme and positive handling Team Teach training in order to keep up-to-date.

**How accessible is Brent Knoll School?**

Our school is fully accessible with appropriate toileting facilities. We have a lift. We have changing facilities for children who require adult support.

**How are parents involved in the school?**

Parents attend an admission meeting when their child first starts school. Parents are invited to a number of events throughout the year to celebrate their child's achievements and to find out about their progress. There are parents' workshops and coffee mornings. The Parent Forum arranges a number of social and fun events for families. For further information, our website is regularly updated with upcoming events or alternatively please contact our school office.

**What do I do if I have a concern about the school provision?**

In the first instance contact is made through your child's class teacher. If you still have concerns then please make an appointment to speak with a member of the senior leadership team. In the unlikely event that your concern is not resolved then please see the schools Complaints Procedure on the school website.

**What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?**

We work closely with therapy services to support your child's needs. Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy are currently managed by Lewisham NHS. We also have access to specialist services including Educational Psychology services and CAMHS Services. We have a partnership with the Cassel Centre in Lewisham who provide art therapy services in school. We also have a safeguarding and pastoral Lead to help reduce barriers to learning – housing, financial, behaviour. All pupils have a Statement of Educational need or Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). Your point of contact to discuss any issues related to their EHCP should be addressed to the Local Authority Special Educational Needs team.

**How do you prepare my child for joining your school or transferring to another school?**

All pupils transferring to Brent Knoll are invited to attend transition events to support the smooth transition to school. If pupils transfer to an alternative provision they will take part in the receiving school's transition events usually supported by a member of support staff.

**When can I get further information about services for my child?**

The information in this report forms part of Lewisham's local offer which can be accessed at [www.lewisham.gov.uk](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk)