**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Report - June 2021**SEND Co-Ordinator: Miss H Smith, SEND Governor: Mr M Smith

SEND Policy Reviewed: 19th May 2021

Dear Parents,

Since September 2020, before, during and after lockdown, the staff at Grimsargh St Michael’s have continued to support the needs of all learners in our school, including our 20 pupils with identified additional needs. To better assess the commitment to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, I encourage you to visit the school website and read the SEND policy, information report, accessibility plan and the local offer. The documents reflect our current SEND provision to children in more normal times.

**SEND activities and provision currently offered in school:**

* Miss Smith continues to update staff on any SEND reforms and updates, ensuring that they are familiar with the monitoring systems within school. She also cascades information to non-teaching staff during half termly CPD sessions and parents of SEND children during the half termly Parent Forums. Forum topics included; ‘Inclusion and catering for a diverse range of pupils in our school’, ‘An approach to lockdown and the impact on Mental Health’ and ‘Making sense of autism awareness’.
* The Online ‘Boxall Profile’ continues to be used to assess children with social and emotional difficulties. The program generates individual targets for children with suggested activities. The targets are incorporated into IEPs, learning plans and nurture group. In the future, all classroom teachers will be trained on how to assess children using the Boxall Profile.
* The school has continued to re-invest in new materials to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in our nurture groups and lessons. New activities include stories and resources to support children with anger/ social emotional and mental health targets, working memory games, Lego therapy and sensory fidget toys. We have also changed the function of a room (repurposed) to provide a space for children with complex social, emotional, mental health and behaviour needs. Over £1,000 spent on furniture for the room, sensory equipment including lights, bean bags and other multi-sensory resources.
* Three teaching assistants are skilled in the use of Social Stories for select children to improve their social skills and the help our pupils with emotional issues.
* The Lancashire tracking system continues to be used to monitor the progress of all children and Miss Smith carefully monitors the progress of the SEND children and reports the findings to the senior leadership team. The data is used to gauge the success of activities/ extra provision and will be used to assess the progress of pupils with Special Educational Needs over periods of time. It reflects the school’s commitment to the ‘assess, plan, do and review’ cycle.
* Our specialist inclusion teacher, Mrs Crook, continues to provide weekly visits to offer vital support to teachers with specific SEND assessments and she offers advice to parents of those pupils who need support. Teachers identify children who may have a specific difficulty or seem to be falling behind and Mrs Crook carries out relevant assessments. Mrs Crook works closely with Miss Smith and the other teachers to ensure that the Learning Plans reflect the needs of individual children. Miss Smith and Mrs Crook meet once each half term to evaluate the progress of individuals and set priorities for the next half term.
* Other specialists support children in school both in person or virtually (online). These include speech and language therapists, specialist behaviour teachers, specialists from Golden Hill Inclusion Service (GHIST), counsellors, occupational therapists and key workers from Child Action Northwest and the Children and Family Wellbeing Service. Staff from other outside agencies provides extra support, guidance, and plans/activities for teaching and non-teaching staff to use with specific children during extra provision time. Such targets and activities are included on IEPs and Learning Plans.
* There are eight nurture groups spread over six different year groups from Reception Class to Year 5. At present the Year 6 pupils access nurture via 1:1 sessions with Mrs Wilcock.
* School have employed a Learning Mentor (Miss Walwin-Holm). She will lead nurture groups with Miss Smith from September 2021.
* A wide range of extra-curricular activities resumed in the second half of the Summer term 2021 and they continue to be very popular.
* Miss Smith and Mr Fletcher were updated their training on positive handling, to enable them to safely support children with behavioural needs if required.
* Miss Smith (SENCO) received training for PIVATS 5 (a training tool to identify strengths/ areas for development for children with difficulties with social, emotional and mental health), autism awareness and good autism practice, speech and language and SEND local cluster updates.

**Additional COVID-19 SEND provision offered during home learning include:**

* Virtual nurture groups created for KS2 pupils (Year 3 and Year 4 and Year 5). Children who attended school were able to attend the groups with their peers who were learning at home.
* All pupils had access to three live sessions (using Zoom) per week including collective worship each Monday, a fun activity to support learning and rewards worship.
* Two families requested support with home learning.
* All parents of SEND children invited to SEND forum with HS (SENCO).
* Some pupils borrowed a laptop to enable them to access home learning.
* Some families request paper-based tasks to be sent out as they do not have the resources to print tasks/activities.
* Mr Booth, Miss Smith and Mrs E Towers distributed meals to the families too.
* Miss Smith and Miss Walwin-Holm prepared resources for teachers and parents to support targets on individual learning plans and IEPs. This enabled the children on our SEN register to continue to work on their own personal targets regardless of whether they were working at home or in school.
* During lockdown Miss Smith checked in with the families of children with SEN on a fortnightly basis and vulnerable families each week. She enquired about well-being and how the children were accessing home learning. When necessary, Miss Smith worked with colleagues and parents to meet the needs of individuals via support and/ or resources.

**Priorities for next year:**

* The SEND parent forums will continue to provide opportunities to pose questions about SEND within school.
* Teachers will work with Senior Leaders to analyse pupil data to help inform responses to better assess them using the ‘plan, do, review’ cycle.
* Further improve intervention by researching and investing ‘Better Reading Partners’ and bespoke interventions for Maths’.
* Further PIVATs 5 training to move forward to further help pupils with individual emotional needs.
* ELSA training for Miss Walwin-Holm to further improve provision in nurture groups.

At Grimsargh St Michael’s, we continue to aim to develop every child intellectually, socially, morally, spiritually and culturally within a caring, supportive and stimulating environment, based on the values of the Christian faith, taking into consideration each child’s different needs, abilities and interests. Please read the Single Equalities Policy on the school website to better understand how the school aims to achieve this. We encourage every child to let their light shine and our pupils continue to be recognised for a very wide variety of talents, including their academic progress, behaviour, attitude to learning and living out our Christian values.

Any parent who has concerns or queries about Special Educational Needs issues are invited to meet with Miss Smith, the SEND Co-ordinator to discuss the Individual Education Plans or Learning Plan for their child.

Matthew Smith

SEND Governor