



## SEND Newsletter. St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

### Advent Term 2023

Welcome to our termly SEND newsletter. Addressing all things related to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The aim is to keep all parents/carers up to date with information regarding SEND at our school.

#### **Meet the team:**

Each term we will spotlight members of our SEND team. This terms team members are Mrs. Norburn and Mrs. Bradbury.



My name is Anita Norburn. I am the Special Educational Needs Disabilities Co-Ordinator (SENDCo) at St Mary's CVA. It is my role to oversee the provision made for children with additional needs and ensure staff are supported in all aspects of their work with children with SEND. I have a number of years' experience working with children with additional needs. I am a qualified dyslexia teacher and assessor and I have worked in the role of intervention support teacher across three Stockport primary schools for the past six years.

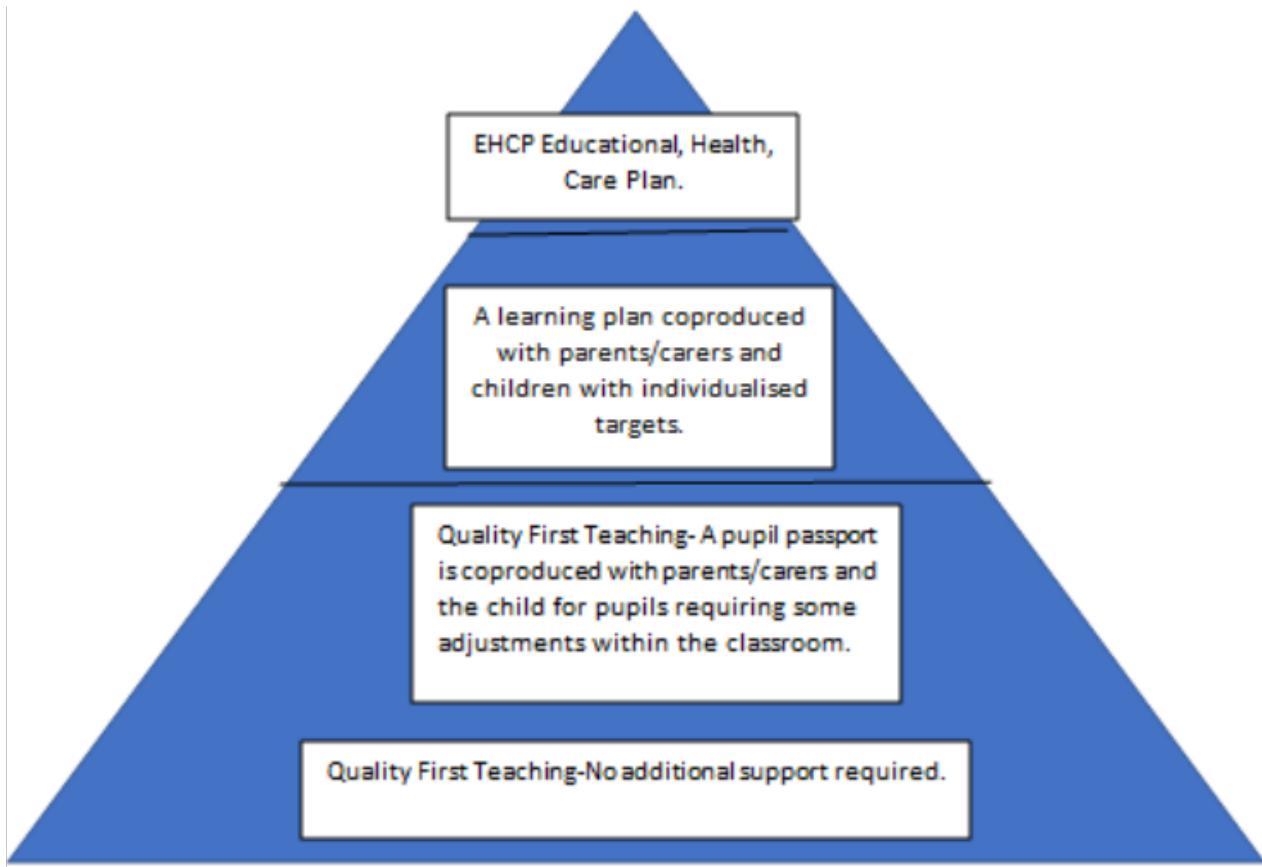
I am looking forward to working closely with both the parents/carers and children, creating targeted and inclusive SEND provision which ensures that all pupils reach their full potential. At different times in their school life children may need some additional support and if you have any concerns ,at anytime, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher or myself.



As Mental Health and Wellbeing lead across St Mary's I have an overview of social emotional and mental health provision and needs. Here at St Mary's, we hold this area of development in high esteem. All children can access support when needed at any time through their journey with us. This also extends to our wonderful parents/ carers too. For the children we have daily check ins, wellbeing hub drop ins, gardening, Nurture and ELSA groups, all of which provide support and guidance around SEMH (social, emotional and mental health). I am on hand to guide and signpost parent's and carers to support in and outside of school. For any concerns or queries please email me at [sbradbury@mmbsrscmat.co.uk](mailto:sbradbury@mmbsrscmat.co.uk). I look forward to meeting you if you are able to attend our half termly coffee and cake school community meetings.

#### Levels of SEND Support at St Mary's.

I would like to take this opportunity to share our approach to supporting pupils with SEND with you. As with all schools, we work in line with the SEND Code of Practice and our Local Offer (please find links to these at the bottom for further information).



We are proud of the fact that staff at St Mary's know all children, particularly those with SEND, incredibly well. Levels of support for children with SEND will vary depending on the individual needs of each child and will form part of our graduated response. For the majority of children in school, including some with SEND, quality first teaching strategies are sufficient for them to make good progress against the age-related expectations of the national curriculum. However, some children will need additional support in place in order for them to thrive.

We can map out what additional strategies a child needs in the classroom on a pupil passport (for example a sloped writing board, ear defenders or a wobble cushion). If, despite Quality First Teaching and additional strategies, we are concerned about a child's progress, we will implement a Learning Plan. This is a working document that is co-produced by the child, their parents/carers and the class teacher, and has termly targets for the child to work towards. Progress against these individual targets is reviewed at Parents evening in November and March and in the summer term at a meeting which will also include your child's next class teacher.

The highest level of support available is an Educational Health Care Plan (EHC Plan) An EHC plan can only be issued after a child or young person has gone through the process of an Education, Health and Care needs assessment. An EHCP is for children and young people who have complex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). It is available from birth to the age of 25.

## **Further resources and support.**

You can find further information about our provision for SEND in our SEND Information Report which is available on our school website: [http://www.stmarysmarplebridge.srscmat.co.uk/information/send/](https://www.stmarysmarplebridge.srscmat.co.uk/information/send/)

Every local authority produces a SEND Local Offer. The purpose of this is to enable you as parents and carers to see clearly, from a single and regularly updated source, the services available to local families and how to access them so please remember to check out Stockport's Local Offer, where you will find information and support for SEND across Stockport.

It shows families what they can expect from a range of local agencies including education, health and social care.

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/showcase/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send-local-offer>

Guidance on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25, from 1 September 2014 can be found in the Code of Practice:

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

## Having a clear out?



If anyone is having a clear out, we are looking for small (palm sized) squishy toys and *quiet fidget toys to add to our sensory boxes.*

## Coffee and Cake.

Each half term Mrs. Bradbury and I hold a coffee and cake session, we invite members of our school SEND support team, this may include the inclusion team, school nurse, an educational psychologist and/or Primary Jigsaw team members. Parents and carers are welcome to pop down and meet the team, ask any questions or just have a catch up with other parents/carers.



Everyone is welcome so please keep an eye out for the next date in the school newsletter, we will be sure to advertise which of our team members will be available at each coffee and cake session.

## Would you like to be a SEND Parent/Carer Champion?

I am looking to start a group of SEND Parent/Carer Champions. The group will meet once a term over a cup of coffee to support each other by sharing information and advice based on their own experiences. Some of the group may be interested in exploring the local services available to our families in Stockport's Local Offer and sharing your findings with other parents in our meetings. We can also share your findings with our wider school family by including your findings here in our newsletter.

If you would be interested in joining this group or have any questions please let me know.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you in advance for your support and for working with us over the next academic year.

Best wishes,

Anita Norburn.

SENDCo

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