

SEND Report

Highfield is proud to be an inclusive school. At Highfield we believe that every child has an equal opportunity to succeed and reach their potential. We follow local authority admissions procedures and fair access arrangements.

SEND formed part of the school improvement plan in 2014 -15 ensuring the SEND school policy was in line with the SEND reforms of the Children and Families Act of 2014. Staff training, following the introduction of the new Act was led by Rachael McVeigh the school SENCo in the autumn term. The SEND policy was reviewed and updated to reflect this and approved by the Governing Body. The school local offer was published on the website for parents to access.

As part of the new act, Special Educational Needs Statements are being phased out and replaced with Education and Health Care Plans. EHCP are written jointly by all the agencies who work with the child. They also provide the opportunity for a pupil to have a voice and be involved in the development of their EHCP. Highfield is successfully implementing the new EHCPs, having converted 62% of the statements in 2014 -2015

As part of our commitment to supporting pupils with SEND, staff training has included sharing effective classroom SEND resources and strategies, Down Syndrome awareness, Visual Impairment support and Makaton signing. Highfield achieved its status as a Makaton friendly school in 2014.

In the classroom, teachers and support staff offer an inclusive learning environment to support all pupils. The curriculum is taught to enable all learners to achieve and children are provided with resources to meet their needs. Examples of supportive equipment purchased in 2014 -2015 include specialist computer mouse, coloured overlays for reading, reading material, laptops and tablets.

During this academic year, the Governing Body has been responsible for reviewing the Accessibility Plan (available on the school website). The plan sets out the school's aims under the Equality Act of 2010, to increase access to education for pupils with a disability.