

Below are a number of questions that are frequently asked with the answers. You may find them useful.

1. What is a special educational need (SEN)?

The Code of Practice 2014 states that a child or young person has a special need if they “have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age”

OR

“have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools”

There are four broad areas of need:

- *Communication and Interaction*
- *Cognition and learning*
- *Social, Emotional Mental health Difficulties*
- *Sensory and Physical Difficulties*

2. Who are the best people to talk to in the Academy about my child’s difficulties?

The SENDCo – Mrs H. Loughlin loughlinh@ianramsey.org.uk

The SEND Department:

- Mrs H. Loughlin – Assistant Head Teacher & SENDCo
- Mrs S. Darnbrook – Higher Level TA
- Mrs A. Watson – Lead Mentor and TA
- Mrs H. Gordon – TA
- Miss H. Hill – TA
- Miss E. Judge – TA
- Mr M Lupton - TA
- Miss L. Marchant –TA
- Mrs S. Reay – TA
- Mr J. Shail – TA
- Mrs M. Stacey – Literacy Teacher

The Pastoral Team:

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ▪ Mr Kesterton – Head of Y7 | Mrs Featherstone – Pastoral Manager of Y7 |
| ▪ Mr C. Irving – Head of Y8 | |
| ▪ Miss Twomey – Head of Y9 | Mrs Howard – Pastoral Manager of Y8 & Y9 |
| ▪ Mrs Dack – Head of Y10 | |
| ▪ Miss Cook – Head of Y11 | Mrs Proudman - Pastoral Manager of Y10 & Y11 |

3. Who is responsible for the progress of all the young people, including those with SEND?

The Head Teacher – Mr B. Janes janeseb@ianramsey.org.uk

Responsible for the day to day management of all aspects of the school which includes the support for pupils with SEND.

Classroom Teachers – Responsible for the day to day teaching, learning and progress of all students in their classes, including those with SEN needs.

Diocese Director for SEND - The Rev Canon S. Bain

Ensuring that statutory provision is made for pupils with SEND

The SENDCo – Mrs H Loughlin loughlinh@ianramsey.org.uk

- Overseeing the day-to-day operation of the SEND department
- Developing and reviewing the SEN Policy
- Updating the SEN Register so that staff are aware of pupils' needs
- Monitoring and reviewing the progress of pupils on the SEND Register
- Overseeing the planning and delivery of additional help that pupils may need
- Informing staff about pupil's needs and giving them strategies that might help
- Liaising with parents so that they are fully informed
- Liaising with outside agencies that support our pupils
- Providing support for teachers and support staff in school to enable all pupils to make progress
- Identifying pupils and then carrying out the required access arrangements for GCSE exams to meet individual pupil's needs
- Working with local schools/colleges to ensure a smooth transition into the Academy and when pupils leave at the end of Y11.

4. How will we measure the progress of your child in the Academy?

- Progress is monitored continually by subject teachers, Heads of Area, Heads of Year and the SENDCo
- Progress Reports are sent to parents every term and an Annual Report is also issued.
- A Parents Evening is held every year for each year group where parents can discuss their child's progress with subject teachers.
- If A child has an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP), there is a formal review meeting every year with all relevant adults and the pupil invited to the meeting

5. How do we identify that a young person has a special educational need?

- The SENDCo and/or the Pastoral Team liaise with all Primary Schools to ensure that information on pupils is shared in line with the Local Authority Transition Protocol
- At the start of Y7 all pupils undertake various assessments to ascertain their abilities and their difficulties. This information alongside the information from primary school identifies the pupils who need additional support and the level of support.
- Throughout the year, pupils are taking assessments including literacy tests which identify pupils who need interventions
- If subject staff are concerned about a pupil, they will contact the SEND Team who will assess the need and offer support if needed.

6. What different types of support are available for young people with SEND in our Academy?

- SEN Support will be a graduated response and is a four part cycle – Assess, Plan, Do, Review.
- All teachers of pupils receiving support will be made aware of their needs via a student profile – Pupil Support Data sheet (PSD). Parents and carers will also receive a copy and will be invited to make amendments/additions and meet with the SENDCO to discuss their child's needs. The PSD will give details of the pupil's needs and recommend strategies that staff should use to support them.
- Class Charts will be used for homework so that parents know exactly what the pupil has to do.
- If needed, the SENDCo will request the support of specialist professionals such as Educational Psychiatrists and ASD specialists
- The Amanah Room – this is a room which is staffed throughout most of the day. Pupils can be given passes to go in at break and lunch time, and in some circumstances during lessons, if appropriate. Literacy group interventions are held there, pupils can complete homework, do tests or occasionally have their subject lesson in there if they are upset. Send Department staff have to give permission for the pupil to be in Amanah, pupils cannot use the room without permission.
- Primary schools will discuss the needs of their pupils with the SENDCo and /or Pastoral staff. All pupils will attend the two Transition Days but pupils will also be offered extended transition if it is felt necessary.
- During the 6 week summer break all pupils will be invited to the Academy's summer school for a week to take part in a variety of different activities

It is the responsibility of all staff to liaise with the SENDCo if they have concerns that a pupil may have an unidentified SEND.

7. What external support can we access to support a young person with SEND and their families?

- Educational Psychologist
- CAMHS
- Alliance Counselling
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Visually Impaired service
- Hearing Impaired service
- Preventions
- Family Support
- ASD Specialists
- Eastern Ravens
- Early Help Team – this is a service that can access many agencies to support families and pupils who are facing challenges
- Stockton Parent Partnership – this is an impartial, independent service which will support parents with statutory assessments, prepare and attend meetings with them or accompany parents when they are visiting schools. Their telephone number is 01642 526123

8. What training or specialist expertise do our Academy have in SEND?

- All staff are given professional development in SEN
- A TA has specialist training in supporting pupils with a hearing or visual impairment
- EAL specialist TA
- Attachment Training for SEN TAs
- ASD support
- Dyslexia support
- Safeguarding
- Mentoring

9. How do parents/carers and young people share their views and concerns and work together with the Academy?

- The tutor, Head of Year, pastoral manager, subject teacher or SENDCo will meet with parents/carers to discuss progress or any concerns that parents may have.
- All information from external agencies will be shared with parents and discussed with them if requested.

10. How is Ian Ramsey Academy accessible to young people with SEND?

- The building is accessible to all pupils.
- There is a lift to access the first floor
- There are disabled toilets on the ground floor and on the first floor
- There are changing facilities in the PE changing rooms for disabled pupils

- All corridors are clearly labelled with the subject area and are also colour coded on the floor
- Induction loop in halls to support pupils with a hearing impairment
- Access to MUGA area
- Wheel chair access to both receptions
- Wheel chair point on both Bleacher seating areas in the Halls
- Step less automatic doors to main entrance
- Dropped kerbs to parking spaces
- Disabled refuge points and communication to stairwells
- All fire safety signs are luminous
- The school provision is accessible to all pupils including those with SEN.
- Extra-curricular activities are accessible to pupils with SEND.

11. What is the Academy's policy if I have a concern or need to make a complaint about the SEND?

- In the first instance, any complaint about the SEND provision within the school should be addressed to Mrs H. Loughlin, who will then consider the complaint and, if the complaint cannot be dealt with satisfactorily, she will request the support of Mrs J. Cook, Deputy Head Teacher. If it cannot be resolved, it will be referred to the Head Teacher, Mr B. Janes, and the Executive Head Teacher Mrs G. Booth.

12. What is the Academy's Admissions Policy?

- Parents and carers of pupils who have an EHCP have the right to request a particular educational placement to be named in the Plan and pupils have a personal budget for their support.
- Advice from the Local Authority or other professional agencies may be requested to ensure that the Academy can meet the needs of the pupil adequately.
- Ian Ramsey is committed to inclusion and to meeting the needs of all pupils including those with SEND. Parents and carers are asked to inform the Academy of their child's needs at the Induction Meeting so that appropriate support can be planned and implemented.
- Full details of the admission arrangements can be found in the Primary and Secondary Admissions brochure produced by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. In addition, information can also be found in the admissions section of the Academy's web-site.
- To appeal against an admission decision visit – school admissions-appeals

Information will continue to be added on the web-site and we would welcome any feedback.

