

Buckton Vale Primary School Local Offer

Teaching and Learning

At Buckton Vale children with SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) will be provided for through quality first teaching and differentiation within a bespoke curriculum, allowing them to be educated alongside their peers in the classroom. We incorporate many teaching and learning styles and have a breadth of resources that are designed to match the individual needs of all learners. The classroom environment is where ever possible language friendly and uses visual support for learners. Within the classroom children with SEND are provided small group support from a teacher or teaching assistant.

On occasions it may be deemed necessary to withdraw the child from the classroom for specific teaching. This teaching would be in the form of individual or group interventions matched to the children's needs or in order to follow programs of work set by other professionals. We have a specialist speech and language teaching assistant who delivers personalised programs.

When a child is identified as having SEND they will be given a provision map. This will highlight the child's areas of need and the interventions that will be put in place to support and develop these areas of concern.

Staff Expertise

We have a team of highly trained and skilled staff who are experienced in working with children with a wide range of learning difficulties and disabilities. We seek and follow the advice of a wide range of agencies including speech and language, the educational psychologist, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, behaviour and learning support (BLIS), communication, language and autistic spectrum support (CLASS), hearing impaired services, visual impaired services and child mental health agencies (CAMHS).

Support and Development

There is a commitment by the school, to gain expertise in the area of Special Educational Needs & Disabilities. Current practices include training sessions for our teaching assistants (TAs); bespoke in-service training (INSET), and the reading and discussion of documents on SEND. The SENDCo attends network and moderation meetings.

Strategies to develop independent learning:

- Provision of individual and class visual timetables.
- Pre-teaching of new concepts and vocabulary.
- Implementation of specifically tailored support strategies and programs that are devised by the educational psychologist, speech therapist or physiotherapist etc.

SATs Arrangements

The school follows the government guidelines for adjustments to the SATs in Year 2 and Year 6. This may involve the child being given extra time, a reader being assigned for certain papers, transcripts of the child's work can be made if this is normal classroom practice, specific room for hearing impaired children and in the case of visually impaired children, larger print papers can be ordered. If children are below National Curriculum Level 3 when they enter Year 6 then they are not eligible to sit the SATs tests.

Annual Reviews

Children with a Statement of EHCP 2/3 will have a longer more detailed review (Annual Review) once per year or where needed bi-annually. This meeting will involve:

- The SEND Co-ordinator will contact parents/carers to invite them to attend, and support in thinking about questions they may wish to ask and discuss any issues that may arise.
- All professionals working with the child will be invited to the annual review. If they cannot attend, they will be asked to forward a report that can be shared at the meeting.
- The meetings are child centred when appropriate, taking into account of the child's wellbeing, so the child is invited to join the review and share their pupil booklets that includes what they like/dislike about school, what they have learnt so far, what they have enjoyed learning, what they would like to learn in the future and how they learn best.
- Parents and carers are invited to contact school at any time, if they need advice or support in regard to their child's education.

A register of children with SEND is regularly updated. The children's records will be regularly reviewed and updated. Reviews of provision and progress will normally take place termly. Parents will be informed of such meetings and will be invited to attend.

At Buckton Vale we review where we need to target support within class on a half termly basis. This is based on the needs of the children.

What Help and Support is available for the Family?

At Buckton Vale the SENDCo, Attendance Officer and Administration staff are all willing to help with the completion of any forms and paperwork. All information and guidance about the school can be found on the school website and in the entrance hall. Information, such as key dates, is also included on the weekly newsletter and the class bulletin. We also have Parent mail, where the admin staff can send out text messages to those parents that have signed up to this system.

The SENDCo has responsibility for writing a CAF (Common Assessment Framework), IEPs (individual Education Plan) and PEPs (Personal Education Plan). They also liaise with other professionals about an individual's needs.

Our Attendance Officer ensures that children attend school regularly and will meet with parents to discuss persistent absences. If travel plans are needed to be put in to place then our Attendance officer will also have a meeting with the parents to discuss the best options.

Parents also have access to the parent partnership scheme. More information about this service can be found at: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/sen/parentpartnership>

The service offers impartial information, guidance and support to parents of children who have special/additional needs.

Keeping Children Safe

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are planned for very specific reasons to keep children safe. Risk assessments are also completed at the threat of any risk by the Headteacher/SENDco.

They include:

- Individual pupil risk assessments for behaviour
- Individual pupil risk assessments for other handling and health care plans
- Curriculum risk assessments for PE, D&T and Science
- Risk Assessments for offsite educational visits
- Risk Assessments for the school premises including fire safety, electrical supply etc.

Handover arrangements

Children are collected from the playground at the start of the school day usually by each teacher and then responsibility is then handed back to the parent/carer at the end of the day. For children who have sought permission, special arrangements are made for them to walk home alone (Year 5 & Year 6). Individual arrangements in addition to this are agreed with parents on a 1:1 basis. Vulnerable children are brought to the main entrance at the end of the day where their parents/carers can collect them. Buckton Vale has a system whereby children who are arriving later enter the building through a monitored door.

Parking areas for pick up and drop offs

Parking is available on Buckton Vale Road and Moorgate Road. These can be used for vehicles bringing children to and from school.

Supervision at break and lunchtimes

During break times the children are supervised by 2 members of staff in a predefined area on the playground. Children are not allowed in to the building as a matter of health and safety. During lunchtimes we have a team of midday supervisors whose role it is to ensure the smooth transition between recreation time and learning time. They ensure that the children eat their lunches and that they are safely returned to the classroom at the end of lunchtime. The midday supervisors are clearly visible to all children as they are required to wear a high visibility jacket. The midday supervisors have undertaken relevant first aid and child protection training as part of their professional development. Buckton Vale has a senior midday supervisor who is responsible for the vulnerable children within our school. She liaises with senior member of staff on a daily basis.

Safety outside the classroom

Risk assessments are completed before any out of school activity and the safeguarding policy is followed by all members of staff.

Policies

The schools policies can be found on the school website or they can be printed on request.

Health (including Emotional Health and Wellbeing)

Where children have health issues there will be an initial meeting with the school nurse and the parents of the child to establish what their child's needs are and, where appropriate, draw up a care plan.

Administering medication

Where it is necessary for a child to take medicine during the school day, Buckton Vale's policy states that a member of staff can administer the medication if needed four times a day. Parents will need to fill out a medical form to give their consent.

Staff training

Regular staff meetings take place providing training on the administration of certain medication for conditions including epilepsy, diabetes and epipen use. Appropriate members of staff liaise with medical professionals, e.g. GPs, hospital consultants and mental health practitioners. We have three First Aiders on site. We also have two members of staff who are trained in paediatric first aid.

Photographs of individual children with medical needs are displayed in the classroom, in the school kitchen and in the office. These give details of the child's condition and/or needs.

Where there is a medical emergency, this is dealt with through the medical needs policy.

Parents are informed of any incidents throughout the day. This can be by telephone, speaking to the parent at the end of the day or by a letter sent home.

Transition to High School

We work closely with all relevant high schools to ensure children with SEND and other vulnerable children have extra transition visits. On these visits the children are supported by known staff. The significant staff members from the high schools visit the children in Year 6 to provide them with all the information that is needed.

The SENDCo will meet with the SENDCo and Head of Year of the feeder schools to discuss the identified children, share relevant information and plan for this transition. The children's records will be passed on to the high school so that they have a full picture of the child's need and the support they have received. Depending on the needs and confidence of the SEND children the number of extra visits will be personalised to the child.

Transitional for emotional and behavioural difficulties will be supported through BLIS, who will work with the child in year 6 and then follow them into high school to continue the support. Speech and language will also be ongoing when the children move.

Communication with Parents

All teaching staff meet and greet parents/carers at the start and end of each day. Parents may consult the website for a detailed profile of staff and their responsibilities. Parents are welcome to speak to staff before or after school, but where this may not be possible, parents are asked to ring school to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher, SENDco or Headteacher.

When school seeks advice from other agencies, parents will be informed and parental consent will also be required. Parental information about the child may also be required.

Feedback to and from parents is communicated at parents evenings, which are held termly at Buckton Vale. Feedback is also given after any events that are held in school, E.g. VIP forms in the EYFS and regular questionnaires.

Parents are invited to attend a Welcome Meeting at the start of the school year. This is where the teacher will explain what is expected of their child for that certain year. They are informed of all the requirements within this class, e.g. swimming in Year 5, Robinwood in Year 6 and when homework is set and due in. Each class has a weekly bulletin that each child receives on a Friday to take home to their parents. These are also put on to the school website on each class page. There is also a weekly newsletter that is emailed to parents, unless they have requested a paper copy, and this goes out on a Friday afternoon. The newsletter is also put on to the school website.

Parents are updated with their child's progress by receiving two mini reports, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term, and a final full report in the Summer term. Parents' evenings are then held after the parents have received these reports in case there is anything that they wish to discuss.

Working Together

Parental Say

At Buckton Vale we send out home/school agreements to those children that begin school. The parents are also asked to complete a parental questionnaire regularly and additionally they have the opportunity to use Parent View on the Ofsted website to express their views of the school. We also have an 'open door' parent forum and workshops that are based on parental requests.

PTFA

Friends of Buckton Vale are an active PTFA who meet regularly to organise events to raise money for our pupils. These include discos, summer and Christmas fairs, Toasty Tuesday etc.

Pupil Voice

Children have many opportunities to have their say at Buckton Vale through:

- School Council
- Eco Committee
- Peer Mediators
- Termly pupil questionnaires based on the School Development Plan
- Child centred review meetings

Life of the school

At Buckton Vale we hold community events which include summer and Christmas fairs, car boot sales and coffee mornings. We welcome all parents to volunteer their services within the school community and environment. When a vacancy for a parent governor arises then the Headteacher follows Tameside's guidelines.

Governors

The school's SEND Governor is Ms Wendy Jackson who regularly meets with our SENDCo and feeds back information to the rest of the governing body. The Headteacher's report comments on SEND provision and the involvement of other agencies. This is presented termly to the Full Governing Body. The Curriculum and Standards Committee monitor SEND children's progress on a termly basis.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Children have the opportunity to attend lunch time and after school clubs. These clubs are:

- Young voices
- African Drumming
- Phonics
- Art
- Cooking
- ICT
- Textiles
- Percussion
- Photography
- Recorders
- Football
- Netball
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Gardening
- Cheerleading

These are free clubs and are run at some point throughout the year.

Martial Arts Club runs on a Thursday morning before school and there is a charge for this club. This can be subsidised using pupil premium funding for eligible children.

Activities to Promote friendship

- Peer mediators
- Reading buddies
- Talk partners during whole class sessions
- Play leaders