



LIFTON COMMUNITY ACADEMY SEND INFORMATION REPORT (LOCAL OFFER)

Reviewed	Autumn 2022
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Approved by	Full Board

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Name of Education Provider	Lifton Community Academy

1. What special education provision is available at our setting?

What do we do here to meet your needs?

Within the Learning Academy Partnership, all teachers are accountable for the progress and development of all children in their class, including those identified with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND). All staff track those at risk of underachievement or slow progress so that rapid appropriate intervention can be put in place. Additional structured and tailored intervention is provided by trained members of staff in addition to high quality teaching. Specialist teaching assistants, within the LAP, deliver interventions to accelerate progress in targeted areas of need.

Such interventions include:

- Nurture Group
- All teachers and support staff are trained in the delivery of Read Write Inc
- Designated LSAs with responsibility for the delivery of Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) targets which are set by specialist Speech and Language Therapists linked to the Academies.
- Designated staff deliver Pastoral support groups
- Specialised interventions, devised to suit individual needs
- Access to a range of agencies and support services, when required, such as:
 - Educational Psychologist
 - Speech & Language Therapists
 - Social Care professionals
 - Early Years Advisory Support
 - Portage Workers (home-visiting educational service for pre-school children with additional support needs and their families)
 - SEN Advisory teacher of Bereavement therapy – children and families in grief
 - Primary mental health worker:
- CAMHS
- Hearing Impairment Support
- Visual Impairment Support
- Chestnut Behaviour Outreach Team
- Occupational Therapy

Furthermore, members of staff may receive additional training to enable them to support specific pupils with additional needs, for example, Makaton training to support children with communication needs.

2. What criteria must be satisfied before children and young people can access this provision/service?

What sort of needs would you have for us to be able to help you?

We are an inclusive partnership and consider placements for any child in our Multi Academy Trust. We adhere to the guidance laid out in the Equalities Act 2010. Children with SEND are offered full access to a broad, balanced and relevant education, including an appropriate curriculum for the foundation stage. In order for us to provide a successful provision for children with additional needs, we ensure we work in partnership with families and that families sign up to this agreement of building a team of support around the child. This may involve other outside agencies. We have clear induction meetings in order to ensure a child makes a successful start to our learning environments. Through the Academy's regular monitoring of attainment and progress, children who may require additional support have their needs identified and become part of our Assess, Plan, Do, Review process. Parents are consulted and encouraged to participate in partnership with the Academy.

3. How do we identify the particular special educational needs of a child or young person?

How do we work out what your needs are and how we can help?

We have a clear system in place across the Learning Academy Partnership to identify potential special educational needs for a child. We consider early identification of SEN to be vital.

- We follow the SEND Code of Practice (Jan 2015)
- All class teachers track and monitor the data of children's progress and attainment. Where a child is making limited progress, or achieving below age related expectations, we will monitor to ensure this is not due to any underlying special educational need.
- Classroom observations and learning walks by Senior Leaders is standard practice to ensure that children's barriers to learning are not an issue that can be dealt with through the development of teaching strategies. Any concerns will be shared with the SENDCO.
- The SENDCO will subsequently use appropriate assessment tools to further investigate concerns raised through the observation and monitoring processes.
- Where needed, we will refer to outside agencies to provide support in the identification and assessment of any barriers to learning.
- We may support parents in liaising with medical professionals where an underlying medical condition is causing barriers to learning to aid the process of identification.
- Where behaviour is causing barriers to learning, we will work closely with families to identify what the cause might be, such as parenting support, housing, bereavement or friendship issues.

4. How do we consult with parents and/or children and young people about their needs?

How do we find out about you and what you and your parents think you need to help you?

We recognise that it is essential we work in partnership with parents. We do this in many ways:

- Individualised processes in place between Nurseries and Academies to ensure smooth transition.
- Individualised transition processes in place between the Academies and Secondary schools.
- Home Visits on entry for children transferring from nursery
- Open days
- Tours of the school by senior leadership
- Staff visible and present on the playground at the beginning and the end of the day to communicate with parents and carers
- Termly parent consultations
- EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) Annual Reviews
- Termly Individual Support Plan reviews
- Family Support Team
- Home/school communication books, where required
- Regular 'check in, check-ups and check outs' (opportunities for teacher/pupil communication)
- Invite parents to observe and build awareness of the structured educational interventions their children are receiving e.g. Read Write Inc. and Numbers Count
- Subject leaders provide parent advisory/information sessions for key areas of children's learning e.g. approaches to calculation or reading development.
- Regular coffee mornings for parents to share information.
- SEND Clinics

5. What is our approach to teaching children and young people with special educational needs?

How will we teach you?

We are fully inclusive learning environment and value each child as an individual. All children are treated equally and we ensure that, when additional needs are identified, a team is built around the child. This team is inclusive of the parents/carers who know the child best, education (the class teacher and SENDCO) and any additional outside agencies who may be involved in providing specific objectives and supportive advice (including health and social care).

The information from the team provides a clear identification of the child's needs. Teachers then use this information to ensure child's needs are recognised and planned for within the classroom environment. Teachers are responsible for ensuring quality first teaching is differentiated to meet the needs of the SEND children.

Some pupils may require individual assessment by the SENDCO. The assessment will determine whether the pupil requires a bespoke programme of support. The programmes are devised to suit individual needs of the child. These may be delivered one-to-one with a designated LSA or within small group on a regular basis. Children identified with a higher level of need will also have an ISP (Individual Support Plan) with individualised targets.

6. How can we adapt our curriculum for children and young people with special educational needs?

What sort of things will you learn here?

We adapt the curriculum by:

- Differentiation in class teaching – quality first teaching – ensuring access for all learners
- SENDCO identifies children who are in need of tailored intervention, in liaison with class teachers and parents
- Individual Support Plans provide key targets
- Engaging parents in curriculum days and workshops to support home learning
- Resources and specialist equipment provided and tailored to support children with special educational needs to progress within the classroom.
- Work covered in 1:1/group sessions is reinforced and consolidated in the classroom

7. How will we ensure we get the services, provision and equipment that children and young people need?

How will we make sure that you get all of the help that you need from different people?

At times we need to call on the advice of professionals to ensure that we have identified and provided for a child's needs effectively, this might include:

- Gaining support from Devon's Early Years Advisory Teacher and other professionals throughout Devon for expert guidance and specialist equipment.
- There may be times when we may not always have the resources and facilities to meet the specific needs of an individual child. Where this occurs, although we make every reasonable effort to do so, we would take advice from the Special Educational Needs Team and signpost parents/carers for advice.
- Advisory Teacher for SEN
- Educational Psychology Service
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Hearing Impairment Service
- Visual Impairment Service
- School Nurse
- Paediatrics
- CAMHS
- Social Care

8. How is this provision funded?

Who pays for this?

At the Learning Academy Partnership, provision for meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs is funded by the academies' notional SEN budgets. Some pupils with special educational needs may also be eligible for Pupil Premium funding if they are in receipt of Free School Meals, are Looked After by the Local Authority or if their parents work in the Armed Forces. Pupils with complex special educational needs and/or a disability who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan may also receive additional Element 3 funding from the Local Authority according to the complexity of the child's needs.

9. What additional learning support is available for children and young people with special educational needs and how do they access it?

What else will we do to help you learn and how will this happen?

As outlined in section 12, we may need to draw on support from outside agencies. The SENDCo will signpost parents and carers to appropriate agencies and Early Intervention Parent Support can offer to support parents through the referral process.

10. How do we support and improve the emotional and social development of children and young people with special educational needs?

How can we help you learn about your feelings and relationships?

- A range of pastoral interventions based on the identification of need e.g. building positive relationships, mentoring, coping strategies for anxiety
- Professional Development for all staff focusing on behaviour management; a Trauma-Informed and Attachment Aware approach
- Mealtime Assistants training and support for lunchtime behaviour management
- The academy has a Positive Behaviour Policy which is the backbone for all our behaviour management with reasonable adjustments made where appropriate
- Guidance for parents in the emotional and social development of children (which may manifest as behavioural difficulties) with signposting to appropriate support through the Family Support team.
- A Nurture Group is available for children who require specialist SEND support. Young people are triaged for need and attend for a cycle of support as needed. (This provision is only currently accessible at Lifton Academy).
- Where social care is supporting a family, designated members of staff will liaison with the case workers.

11. How do we support children and young people with special educational needs moving between phases of education and preparing for adulthood?

How can we help you to get ready to change to a different place or to leave here?

Nursery to Key Stage 1

- Open day for potential parents
- Home visits from family support team and teachers
- SENDCo and Family Support Lead liaison with children who may require extended transitions
- Opportunities for nursery children to spend time at the setting, meeting staff etc.
- School Entry Plans will be implemented with children already identified with a high level of SEND need. These plans will be reviewed following entry to the Academy.

Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2

- Open day for parents to Transition day for children to spend the day with their next teacher prior to moving year group.
- Extended transition plans for children who may require additional transition days
- Class teacher handover to include sharing of SEN information

Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3

- Open day for parents and children
- Year 5 opportunities to visit local secondary schools
- Extended transition for vulnerable children or those identified who would benefit from additional transition time.
- Transition meeting between SENDCo and class teachers and child in both setting environments.

12. What other support is available for children and young people with special educational needs and how can they access it?

What other help can we give you or help you to get?

There are many avenues of support to explore in regard to Special Educational Needs. The SENDCo can aid parents and children in accessing the following (which is not an exhaustive list):

- When need is identified SENDCo will liaise with parents, class teachers:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health:

- Family Support Team liaise with Social Care and oversee Child Protection, Child In Need, Early Help, Child Looked After
- Pastoral interventions – identified by need
- Liaison with outside agencies for advice and support – Educational Psychologist, & Child Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Implementation of the Academy's behaviour policy
- Behaviour concern may be referred to SENDCo or PSED Team which may result in referral to Chestnut Outreach

Communication and Interaction:

- Speech & Language concern may result in referral for Speech and Language
- Therapy
- Liaison with Speech and Language Therapist. Recommendations implemented by specific Speech and Language support staff.
- Request to outside agencies for advice such as Mayfield – Makaton training
- Concern forms may be referred to SENDCo from staff with concerns for progress or achievement.
- Specific tailored 1:1 intervention: Read Write Inc, Numbers Count, Counting to Calculating and Success @ Arithmetic (Reading and Maths)
- Battery of 1:1 assessment may be undertaken by SENDCo to determine barriers to learning followed by the implementation of appropriate bespoke intervention

Physical and Sensory:

- Outside agencies for advice such as Visual and Hearing Impairment Advisory Teachers
- Implementation of recommendations by Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist by an allocated member of staff
- Outside agency referral to Occupational Therapist for assessment and intervention
- Provision of support resources as advised (wedges, specialised equipment) Medical
- Regular meetings with SENDCo, Family Support Team and School Nurse
- Liaison with medical professionals for children with ongoing treatment or Implementation of medical plans as advised by medical professionals.

13. What extracurricular activities are available for children and young people with special educational needs?

What other activities can you do here?

Our Learning Academy Partnership has many extra-curricular activities available to all pupils, such as:

- A wide range of afterschool clubs (fees apply)
- Regular school visits that are fully inclusive – we complete full risk assessments where children with specific difficulties may require additional support.
- Residential Visits for Y6
- Breakfast and After School Clubs available for all children (fees apply for Breakfast Club)
- Peripatetic teachers offer music tuition (fees apply)
- Family Support Team will signpost service to provide guidance on where parents could access extracurricular facilities outside of school.

14. How do we assess and review progress towards agreed outcomes, and how are parents, children and young people involved in this process?

How do we know that the help we are giving you is working? How can you and your family tell us what you think?
A graduated approach to SEND is used across the Academy, following the **QFT Assess, Plan, Do, Review process**.

As soon as a SEND concern is raised, the Academy will seek the viewpoint of parents and children involved. Your voice as a family is extremely important in ensuring we have a full and broad picture of your child and that we have all relevant information to support the assessment and support process.

We may use the advice of professionals such as Educational Psychologists and/or Speech and Language Therapists, to agree desired intervention that is recorded as part of a child's Individual Support Plan. If your child has an Individual Support Plan (ISP), Parents/carers will be invited to a review meeting at least 3 times a year and your views (Child and Parents) taken into consideration in planning next steps. Parents will be aware of outside agency involvement with their child and will be provided with relevant reports detailing intervention and progress.

Termly tracking of data and other evidence of progress is recorded on children's records to ensure we can monitor the impact of additional support and intervention.

An Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is reviewed annually, twice if the recipient is under five years of age. The Annual Review enables provision for the pupil to be evaluated and, where appropriate, for changes to be made. Parents and pupils are consulted and encouraged to give their views as part of this review process.

15. How do we assess the effectiveness of our special needs provision and how are parents, children and young people involved in this assessment?

How do we make sure that we are being the best that we can be? How can you and your family tell us what you think?

All intervention and provision implemented across the Trust is regularly reviewed to measure impact. If the intervention hasn't been effective in ensuring progress within the targeted area of need, the child's needs will be reassessed, and interventions modified accordingly. The review process varies depending on the area of need: Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Physical/Sensory and Social, Emotional and Mental Health. This may be in conjunction with outside agencies, for example, occupational therapy reviewing impact of a support plan they have provided, and the Academy has implemented.

As part of our practice, we collect information and feedback from parents and pupils using parental and pupil termly reviews.

Expertise is shared across our Trust. We carry out cross-academy moderation, which ensures that we have secure assessments of all children in the Partnership.

16. How do we ensure that teaching staff and other staff have the expertise needed to support children and young people with special educational needs?

How do we make sure that everyone that works with you has the right skills and can do the right things to help you?

Quality First Teaching is the key to ensuring the best progress for all children. We invest in our staff to provide a learning environment where high quality interventions are run by trained staff, rather than deploying a Teaching Assistant in each classroom.

- Class teachers and Learning Support Assistants are trained in the delivery of the systematic phonics programme Read, Write Inc.
- Staff Trained in the mathematical intervention programmes: From Counting to Calculating and Number Sense. Each of these is a well-researched intervention programme for different key stages of the primary curriculum.
- Staff working alongside specialist advisory teachers to update skills.

- SENDCo attends regular SENCo Forums held in Devon where there are opportunities to network and share good practice with local SENCos in Devon and beyond.
- The SENDCo holds the National SEN award
- Termly SEND Clinics/Inclusion Meetings held with class teachers and SENDCo to share expertise.
- The SENDCo works with advisory teachers and professionals from medical outreach where required to ensure children with additional needs are best supported with recommendations from all professionals involved with the child.

17. How do we keep parents informed where children and young people have special educational provision but do not have an Education Health and Care Plan?

How do we make sure that your parents know how we can help them?

Pupils with more complex and significant needs will have Individual Support Plans (including those with an EHCP). These documents are produced in consultation with parents and the pupil. A summary of the SEND need is recorded, and targets set. A review meeting is held to measure the impact of the support provided and to consider whether changes to that support need to be made. These meetings are held termly and the pupil, their parents, the class teacher, and a member of the SENDCo can all contribute to the review.

Where staff are concerned about a potential Special Educational Need, parents will be involved fully in the process of assessments and any outside agency involvement.

Once a barrier has been identified through liaison with teaching staff and other professionals (such as Speech and Language Therapists or Educational Psychology) an Individual Support Plan may be put in place. We recognise that families hold a wealth of information, and it is essential we work as a team to ensure best outcomes for children.

- Parents are able to request appointments with teachers
- Regular coffee mornings are held with the Family Support Team who support any concerns or celebrations raised
- Parent Consultations are held termly, where progress and concerns are shared.

Other communication documents may be used, based on the child's individual needs, such as: home/school reward or behaviour chart and medical care plans.

18. How can parents, children and young people make a complaint about our provision?

What can you do if you are not happy about something that has happened here?

We endeavour to work with parents at every opportunity, with staff available to speak to before and after school and a visible presence on the playground to build a collaborative relationship.

However, at times a complaint may be raised. If this is the case, there are many ways of gaining a positive resolution.

- Initially, parents/carers should seek a consultation with the class teacher and see if matters can be resolved
- If the concern persists or is unresolved, an appointment to see the SENDCo can be arranged through the school office.

19. How can parents, children and young people get more information about the setting?

How can you find out more about us?

If you would like to gain more information about our academy and what we can offer children and families, please:

- Contact the school office directly via phone or email
- Arrange a parent tour (please contact the school office)
- visit our website, to view up to date newsletters and information www.Lifton-lap.co.uk

20. How the Academy involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting children and young people's SEN and supporting their families?

How do we work with everyone else to help you?

The academies have regular visits from the School Nurse Team to discuss pupils' medical needs. Drop-in sessions are arranged for parents to discuss any health concerns.

If a pupil has been referred to the Paediatric team the academy will be contacted for information and consultation.

The Family Support Team and Designated Safeguarding Leads have access to Devon Education Safeguarding Service (TESS) and Social Care Team.

The academies have access to Devon SEND Team and the Educational Psychology Service. Meetings are held termly to discuss pupils with SEND prior to engaging their involvement or to discuss progress. SENDIASS is available to attend meetings to support parents. The Partnership could access the services of a bereavement counsellor to support bereaved children.

21. Arrangements for supporting children who are looked after by the local authority and have SEN.

How do we help children who are looked after by Devon Council?

The Looked After Children Coordinator will liaise with the SEND Team with regards to accessing appropriate support and provision for identified SEND children. This will follow the **QFT Assess, Plan, Do, Review** model.