



What can I expect at Castle Vale Nursery School if my child has Special Educational Needs?

We will ensure that your child is happy and safe at school.

We will work in partnership with you.

Open and honest communication.

We will provide appropriate and effective teaching and learning to meet your child needs.

Helen Brennan and Debra Norman are the Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinators (SENCo)



Helen Brennan



Debra Norman

They work with children, staff , parents and agencies to ensure that all pupil needs are met.

You can contact them by telephone: **0121 675 7578**

What should I do if I have concerns about my child?

If you have any concerns please speak to your child's key worker or ask to speak to
Helen Brennan or Debra Norman (SENCo team)

What will happen if the Nursery has concerns about my child?

We will speak to you directly and arrange a meeting with the SENCo team to discuss any concerns.

Prior to any intervention we ensure that we have given the children time to settle , feel safe and happy and build positive relationships and attachments. We spend time getting to know each child.

What will happen next?

Our friendly SENCo team will gather as much information as possible about your child. This will be information from you, from Nursery staff and by doing observations.

We may complete a 'One Page Profile' with you. This will show information about your child that is important for all staff to know on a daily basis and will be updated with you regularly.

We will share information honestly and the door is always open for you to talk to us.

We will then discuss and agree with you what will be put in place to help your child to move forward and achieve well.

One Page Profile

I Like

doing lots of building and lego.

I like being outside and going to the park as we don't have a garden. The swings are my favourite.

I like dinosaurs.

Mr Tumble on the telly.

Hi! My name is Joe.

I am 3 years old.



Things I find difficult

I find it hard to concentrate and find it very difficult to speak. This makes me frustrated and I will scream.

Unexpected loud noises.

Busy places and crowds

Change without warning.

Getting dressed and undressed.

I would like staff to know

that I struggle to talk and will use gestures instead to communicate with you.

I need you to use very simple language and always say my name.

I struggle when children are too close to me and want to share the toys I am playing with. When this happens I will get very upset and scream.

Food and drink

My favourite foods are

Fish fingers

Grapes and bananas

Chicken and chips

Toast with jam.

Scrambled eggs

I do not often get upset but when I do you can help me by

Giving me a cuddle. I may point to your lap if I want to sit there for a while.

Sharing bubbles or putting on some music helps me.

Support Plans

You will be involved in making plans and setting targets for your child's learning at school and sometimes at home. This information is called a Support Plan.

We will use the Support Plan to deliver activities which will help your child to achieve well in school and make progress.

We will regularly review the Support Plan and your child's progress. You will be invited to join us to discuss the plan, give your views and discuss any progress or concerns from home.

Outside Agencies.

Sometimes children need a bit more support. When this happens we may need, with your consent, to ask other professional agencies to help us support your child further.

We will always involve you in discussions about how other professionals may be able to offer support.

We will always ask for your permission before we invite other professional agencies into school to work with your child.

We work closely with:

Heather Ball
Educational
Psychologist

She supports children with a wide variety of needs, writes reports and advises on children's teaching and learning.

Catherine Steele
Speech and
Language
Therapist

She gives support for children with speech and language difficulties.

Anne Seymour
Communication and
Autism Team

She supports children who are being assessed for, or already have, a diagnosis of Autism or communication difficulties.

Karen Vincent
Lead for Early
Support

She supports parents and coordinates their child's needs via an "My SEN and Early Support Plan."

We also work with the Child Development Centre, Health Visitors, Physiotherapists and Sensory Support Teams.

With the support of other professional agencies we offer a range of learning opportunities through high quality and effective teaching.

We might use

Visual
Timetables

Now and
Next boards

Picture or
photo
symbols

Makaton
signs

1:1 support,
or small
group work

We will adapt learning to help your child.

We will make reasonable adjustments to our environment, to the activities offered and to the ways in which we teach.

Requesting an Education, Health and Care Plan?

An Education, Health and Care Plan is a legal document that outlines and supports all of your child's needs. It is a little like a passport of need that travels with them.

When the needs of a child dictate that he or she requires an EHCP, the SENCo will liaise with external professionals and the child's parents to begin the process of making a request and a Team around the Child (TAC) meeting will be organised.

Parents always attend these meetings so that their wishes and views can be recorded and all professionals that are working with your child are invited to attend or to submit relevant advice and information. All this information is collected and submitted with a completed Request for EHCP form to the Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Service (SENAR.)

An Education, Health and Care Plan is needed for children who require specialist provision, a special school or a resource base.

This can appear a complicated process but our SENCo Team and the external professionals working with you and your child will always fully advise and support parents in every part of the process .

Help is always at hand.

What happens if an Education, Health and Care Plan is not needed?

For the majority of children, their Special Educational Needs can be met in mainstream schools with additional support given in the classroom. For example by having some one to one time with an adult or by being provided with different or additional resources.

At Castle Vale Nursery School, our SENCo Team will ensure that the receiving school is fully aware of the level of support that has been given to a child with SEND. This will be achieved via meetings, visits, the sharing of information, reports, profiles, plans and assessments.

Any external professionals who have been working with your child will also share information.

This transition process will be tailored to the needs of the individual child and adapted accordingly.

Again, Parents will be fully involved with this transition process and supported throughout.

Appropriate and Effective Personalised Teaching and Learning.

At Castle Vale Nursery School we are committed to supporting every child. To ensure we can do this effectively our staff attend a wide range of training and regularly seek advice from outside agencies and professionals in other settings.

The training that the Nursery Team receive is based on the individual needs of the children who attend.

At Castle Vale Nursery School you will be kept fully informed of all the support and care your child is receiving and you will be involved at every stage of the process.

How can I find out further information on what Birmingham Local Authority can offer to help?

Useful Documents found on My Care in Birmingham

My Care in Birmingham

<https://www.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk/>

SEN Code of Practice

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SENDCode of PracticeJanuary2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SENDCode_of_PracticeJanuary2015.pdf)

EHC pathway

<https://childrens.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk/media/97959/cdp3499bhomehcsena54pp.pdf>