

**Welcome to  
St John's Catholic Primary School's  
SEN INFORMATION REPORT**



What is St John's School like?

How does St John's know how effective its provision for SEN is?

How does St John's know if a child needs extra help?

How does St John's know how well my child is doing?

Who should I contact at St John's?

What should I do if I think my child has special educational needs?

# What would you like to know?

How will I know how well my child is doing?

What are the different types of support available at St John's?

How will St John's help me support my child?

How will the curriculum and learning environment be adapted to meet my child's needs?

How will St John's ensure that my child is included in all aspects of school life?

Who will support my child at St John's?

How will St John's decide what, and how much, extra support my child needs?

**Find out more**



# What is St John's School like?

St John's School is a mainstream primary academy trust school, within Plymouth CAST. There are 120 pupils on roll who are taught in mixed age classes.

At St John's we aim to provide a Christian, caring and secure family environment where each child is valued as a unique individual who is able to benefit from and contribute to the life of the school.

We value the trust placed in us by parents of the children in our care and we strive to ensure that all our children prosper and thrive. The environment we create is one where the children feel confident, secure, valued and able to express their views and opinions whilst understanding the importance of listening to others.

We work hard to ensure that all children's needs are identified and fully supported through quality first teaching and intervention to ensure progress.

# Who should I contact at St John's?

The Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is Jodie Veen.

She can be contacted via the school office 01884 253630 or by email [senco@stjohnstiverton.co.uk](mailto:senco@stjohnstiverton.co.uk)

The governor responsible for Special Educational Needs (SEN) is **Antonia Ryan**

She can be contacted via email [aryan@stjohnstiverton.co.uk](mailto:aryan@stjohnstiverton.co.uk) or via the school office.

# How does St John's know if a child needs extra help?

At St John's, we may notice that a child is **not making progress** or has a **significantly greater difficulty in learning** than the majority of their peers.

Concerns may be raised by staff about **difficulties with social interactions or communication**.

Parents may tell us of concerns or difficulties.

At St John's, provision is discussed between class teachers, the headteacher and SENCo at regular pupil progress meetings. This ensures we identify children who may need extra provision, monitoring their progress carefully.

# What should I do if I think my child has special educational needs?

**Please talk to us.**

Firstly, talk to your child's class teacher. They know your child best and can talk to you about learning and progress.

If further action is required, the SENCo will investigate the concerns and arrange to talk with you to feedback and problem-solve together.

We have your child's interests at heart and we want your child to succeed. Working in partnership and communicating about your child's needs is a proven recipe for success.

The SENCo is always available should you wish to make an appointment.

# What are the different types of support available at St John's?

St John's ensures that **quality teaching** is our first priority, with **scaffolding** to meet the needs of our children.

Support is given in many ways:

- Scaffolded **resources** or **equipment**
- Specific **learning programmes**
- **Intervention** (1:1 or small group work on specific targets for a set period of time)
- **Outreach** support from specialist units or schools
- **Thrive** action plans
- **Teaching Assistant** support at playtimes and lunchtimes
- **Early Help Assessment** and Team around the Family meetings (**TAF**)
- **Specific targets** are set to meet the child's needs. Together, parents and teachers plan next steps.

# How does St John's know how well my child is doing?

We measure your child's progress against national expectations linked to the national curriculum.

Your child's class teacher will be continually assessing your child, and identifying areas where they are improving and where further support is needed.

Class teachers meet regularly with the Headteacher and SENCo to discuss pupils' progress and any concerns.

The SENCo will also check that your child is making good progress and monitor the effectiveness of any interventions they are involved in.



# How will I know how well my child is doing?

Your child's class teacher will discuss any concerns or successes with you throughout the year.

Communication between home and school can be made easily using 'Class dojo' messaging. Your child may have a separate Communication Book.

You will also have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at termly Parent Consultation evenings. However, you are welcome to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher at any time beyond these evenings.

If your child has a SEN support plan, these will be reviewed at least termly.

The progress of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is formally reviewed annually with parents and all adults involved in the child's education.

Your child's Annual Report will detail progress and attainment.

# How will St John's help me support my child?

We would like you to talk to your child's class teacher regularly so that we can work in **partnership** to support your child both at home and at school.

There may be **Thrive** targets or learning targets to practise at home.

The SENCo is available to meet with you, by appointment, to discuss your child's progress or any concerns or worries you may have.

The SENCo may talk to you about how an Early Help Assessment could support your child and yourself.

We may make referrals to **outside agencies** who can provide advice to you.

Click on the logos below to link to the websites for more information.



**NEXT  
PAGE**

# Who will support my child at St John's?

Your child's class teacher is responsible for ensuring that all needs are met. Sometimes your child will receive targeted support from a Teaching Assistant or Play Therapist.

Your child may be assessed and reviewed in school by a number of agencies, including:

- Educational Psychologist
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Communication and Interaction team Advisory Teacher for Autism or Speech Language and Communication needs.
- Advisory Teacher for Physical/Visual Impairments
- Outreach Teacher for Speech and Language
- Occupational Therapist
- Play Therapist
- Physiotherapist

# How will the curriculum and learning environment be adapted to meet my child's needs?

At St John's we aim to provide a Christian, caring, secure family environment where each child is valued as an unique individual who is able to benefit from and contribute to the life of the school.

We value the trust placed in us by parents of the children in our care and we strive to ensure that all our children prosper and thrive. The environment we create is one where the children feel confident, secure, valued and able to express their views and opinions whilst understanding the importance of listening to others.

Our Accessibility Plan shows how St John's Catholic Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school, learning environment and curriculum for disabled pupils, staff, parents, carers and visitors.

**Accessibility Plan**

**NEXT  
PAGE**

# How will St John's decide what, and how much, extra support my child needs?

This will depend on your child's needs and the type and level of support will ensure that your child's needs are met so that they can make progress. Often our decisions are directed by advice from outside agencies.

Decisions made about additional support are based upon the 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle of the graduated response for SEND support (Code of Practice 2014, SEND policy). Additional support will be recorded in a SEN Support Plan and the child will be placed on the SEN register.

When a child has made sufficient progress and they no longer require any additional support, they will be removed from the SEN register in consultation with parents.

All support is reviewed termly and monitored by the SENCo to ensure that the provision is effectively meeting your child's needs. Provision is also discussed between class teachers and the Headteacher at termly progress meetings. Where, despite relevant and purposeful action to meet a child's educational needs and/or disabilities, the child has not made expected progress the school and/or parents may consider requesting a statutory (EHC) assessment from the Local Authority.

# How will St John's ensure that my child is included in all aspects of school life?

St John's is an inclusive school. We want all our pupils to benefit from the education we offer. This is the same with trips and clubs. When activities outside the classroom, such as trips, clubs and sports days are arranged, a full risk assessment is carried out to ensure all children's needs are safely met, including appropriate supervision and one-to-one where necessary.

Within the classroom we are SEND-friendly, and are always looking for ways to develop this further. We are supported by specialist teams from Devon to help us meet the needs of individual pupils.

What support does St John's offer for my child's overall well-being?

What training have the staff at St John's had to support my child?

What specialist services and expertise are accessed by St John's?

How are parents involved in the education of their child?

How accessible is St John's both indoors and outdoors?

Where can I find contact details for support services for parents of pupils with Special Educational Needs?

**What would you like to know?**

What steps should I take if I have concerns about provision for my child?

How are my child's views taken into account in deciding next steps at St John's?

What outside agencies are involved in meeting my child's needs and in supporting me and my family?

What is the Devon Local Offer?

Where can I get further information?

How will St John's prepare and support my child to join the school or transfer to a new school?

**NEXT  
PAGE**

# What support does St John's offer for my child's overall well-being?

We have adopted the **Thrive** approach at St John's, through which we assess, develop and review children's emotional well-being.

All classes are assessed and action plans are set for groups of children to work on areas of difficulty.

Sometimes a child has greater difficulty socially and emotionally, so we offer them a tailor-made Thrive programme to help meet their needs. This may include small group work with a Teaching Assistant or one-to-one sessions.

We are supported by our Educational Psychologist and Behaviour Support Advisor.

All children are valued and loved at St John's.

**NEXT  
PAGE** 



# What specialist services and expertise are accessed by St John's?

Educational Psychology

Behaviour Support Team

Speech and Language Therapy

Occupational Therapy

Communication and Interaction Team

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

Visual Impairment Advisory Teacher

School Nurse

SEN 100 Outreach

General Practitioners

Physiotherapy

Place 2 Be

**NEXT  
PAGE**

# What training have the staff at St John's had to support my child?

All staff at St John's are highly trained. We work closely with specialists who train, guide and advise us, so we can deliver the best support for a child with SEND.

We have two licensed Thrive Practitioners. Thrive training is updated annually for our practitioners.

The SENCo attends relevant training each term and has achieved the National Award for SEN Co-ordination.

The SENCo attends SEND Devon Network meetings and termly Plymouth CAST SEND network meetings.

# How accessible is St John's, both indoors and outdoors?

St John's is across 2 levels: EYFS is on the lower level with KS1 and KS2 being on the upper level. There are steps from the hall to the classrooms, but all classrooms can be accessed without steps.

The main entrance is fully accessible. There is a disabled toilet.

The outdoors is accessible down a ramp. There are no steps to any area of the outside area.

We ensure that equipment used is accessible to all children regardless of their needs.

# How are parents involved in the education of their child?

Parents of children with SEND will be asked to contribute their views termly as part of the SEND Support Plan review meeting.

All parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's education. Working in partnership always has the greatest impact on a child's progress.

We may ask you to: write in a Communication Book; hear your child read daily; practise spellings and number work; use consistent rewards to meet behaviour targets.

Parents are always welcome to help in school. It may not be best for your child to help in their class, but there are always other teachers who would love some parent helpers.

# How are my child's views taken into account in deciding next steps at St John's?

Children are always involved in target-setting and reviewing the success of their work. Teachers regularly meet with children to discuss their next steps.

When children have a SEN support plan or EHC Plan, they are involved in the review process and the setting of new targets.

# What steps should I take if I have concerns about provision for my child?

If you are ever concerned about provision for your child, please talk to us. Talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance. They may direct you to the SENCo. Smaller issues can usually be dealt with swiftly by the SENCo.

St John's School has a Complaints Policy, found on our website, which should be the starting point for any formal concern.

The SEN governor is Antonia Ryan who can be contacted by email <mailto:aryan@stjohnstiverton.co.uk> or via the school office on 01884 253630.

# What outside agencies are involved in meeting my child's needs and in supporting me and my family?

We will often seek advice and support from a number of outside agencies , particularly if there is insufficient progress being made.

(Educational Psychology; Behaviour Support Team; Speech and Language Therapy; SEN 100 Outreach; Communication and Interaction Team; Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS); Visual Impairment Advisory Teacher; General Practitioner; School Nurse; Occupational Therapy ) These agencies ensure we are meeting your child's needs and can also providing you with advice and support.

We may offer your family an Early Help Assessment, to assess your family's needs and gather agencies at a Team Around the Family (TAF) meeting. At this meeting we will set an action plan called an 'Early Help Plan' and where necessary a SEN support plan. These will be reviewed at least termly.

Sometimes you may need support with issues outside of school. We work closely with Social Services and local Children's centres to ensure you have the help and support you need.

# Where can I get further information?

The SENCo may be able to signpost you to further information.  
There are a number of places to get further information about SEN.



Devon Information Advice and Support service provides independent advice and information to parents and carers of children and young people with SEND.



The Devon Local Offer details what you can expect to be available for children and young people with SEND in Devon across education, health and social care services.



These pages will help you to understand what 'safeguarding' is, who is responsible for keeping children safe and what will happen if your family needs professional help.

**NEXT  
PAGE**



# How will St John's prepare and support my child to join the school or transfer to a new school?

In order for your child to be happy at school, they must feel safe and secure. We ensure that plans are made for a child transferring to our school.

We would welcome you to make preliminary visit to us and meet with the SENCo to discuss your child's transition needs. A suitable transition programme will be set up depending on their needs. Usually this will be part of their SEN support plan.

Likewise, when a child moves on to another school from St John's, we would ensure that you, your child and the SENCo from the next school are involved in making a transition plan.

# What is the Devon Local Offer?

CLICK BELOW TO VISIT THE DEVON LOCAL OFFER WEBSITE



**Special Educational Needs and Disability**

Devon County Council is committed to ensuring that all children and young people have a good start in life. Some children and young people have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and these differing needs mean varied levels of support may be required at different times.

In Devon, we believe that children and young people with SEND should have the expectation to be part of their local community and to be included and educated alongside their peers. We aim to provide a range of support and opportunities to enable this to happen and these can be described as the 'local offer'. This sets out what you can expect to be available to support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities aged 0-25 along with Devon's approach and underlying principles.

# How does St John's know how effective its provision for SEN is?

We measure the quality of provision through a range of systems which include:

- Monitoring from the senior leadership team of staff expertise through classroom observations, discussions with pupils and staff and learning walks. In addition, book monitoring takes place each term by the senior leadership team.
- Ongoing formative and summative assessments.
- Tracking systems ensure that teachers report on a termly basis about their vulnerable groups of children, including those children with SEND.
- Termly Pupil Progress Meetings (teacher, SLT including SENCo);
- Parent Meetings, including SEN support plan reviews and informal meetings with parents, teachers and the SENCo evaluate the impact of SEN provision on the progress, attainment and well-being of SEND pupils.
- The Head Teacher reviews attendance and exclusion data for SEND pupils on a termly basis and this is reported to the Governing Body. The SENCo tracks the progress of children with SEND.

# Where can I find contact details for support services for parents of pupils with Special Educational Needs?

In the school entrance, there are leaflets of support services available for parents, including information on Devon Information and Advice Support Service- [www.devonias.org.uk](http://www.devonias.org.uk) and Children and Family Health Devon - [www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk](http://www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk)

If you have any concerns or worries or require further information, please contact the SENCo via the school office.