

St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

Our SEN Local Offer

Date 2025 - 2026

All the teachers in the school are teachers of children with Special Educational Needs. As such St John's Catholic Primary School adopts a 'whole school approach' to special educational needs which involves all the staff adhering to a model of good practice. The staff of the school is committed to identifying and providing for the needs of all children in a wholly inclusive environment. Inclusion is regarded as crucial to the policy, in line with that of the Local Education Authority.

Aims and objectives

• The governing body and Staff will do their best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs: where the head teacher, SENCo or the appropriate governor has been informed by the LEA that a pupil has special educational needs, these needs will be made known to all who are likely to work with them. We ensure the inclusion of all children.

• The staff and governors of the school are aware of the importance of identifying and providing for those pupils who have special educational needs, and those who are higher attaining. We support the professional development of all employees.

• The Head teacher, SENCo, staff and governors will draw up and report annually on the policy and effectiveness of the school's work for pupils with special educational needs. We provide a rich, stimulating, and creative learning environment in which all children aspire and are enabled to reach their potential.

• The staff will ensure that pupils with special educational needs join in the activities of the school together with pupils who do not have special educational needs, so far as that is practical and compatible with the pupil receiving the necessary provision, the efficient education of other children in the school and the efficient use of resources. We create a friendly, caring atmosphere where all are valued and listened to, adults and children alike, involving parents as partners in the learning experience of their children.

Name of the Special Educational Needs/Disabilities Coordinator: Mrs Frances Lobban Contact details: f.lobban@plymouthcast.com 01209 713944 Mrs Lobban is an executive SENDCo across 2 CAST schools. An appointment can be made via the school office





Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

The levels of support and provision offered by our school

1. Listening to and responding to children and young people

Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP.		provision
		•
The relationships between adults and children in school are based upon mutual respect. Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship, and Relationship and Sex education (RSE) is taught across the curriculum in conjunction to being a discretely taught subject. Circle Time provides an opportunity within the class to discuss issues of particular importance to children. Daily prayer, prayer journal and meditation provides an opportunity within the class to share and focus together on issues of particular importance to children	Each class has at least one teacher and teaching assistant. This enables group work and interaction to take place on a regular basis.	We have a pastoral mentor. Some of her time is dedicated to working with individual children using a Pastoral Support Programme Teaching assistants dedicate time at various times during the school day to listen to specific children's issues or problems. We have a member of staff who is a trained volunteer for Penhalligan's Friends, who is able to support children suffering from loss and bereavement. The school works with partner agencies to meet individual needs. It can also 'signpost' services (such as the family information service) to parents and



St John's Catholic Primary School

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
The Mini Vinnies identify, plan and carry out	carers. There is a SEN page on the school
community ventures	website, which offers generic information, in
Children's reading records are used as a	addition to information related to areas of
two-way communication between school and	need within the school. This is updates
home.	regularly.
Whole school dojo is an electronic	Children's views are sought to support termly
communication system linking parents and	IEP meetings.
class teachers. Information of learning and	Members of staff are trained to support
behaviour rewards and sanctions can be	pupils with emotional and social needs, in
shared. It also includes a two-way messaging	response to a specific need for a particular
service between parents/ teachers. Whole	cohort. There are 2 trained Thrive
school messages are shared using school	practitioners in the school, both continuing
dojo.	with Headstart until 2020.
Our curriculum includes an element of pupils'	Training is arranged annually to support a
choice whenever possible – e.g. a variety of	specific area of need, in response to priority
homework activities to choose from, choice of	of need at the time.
reading genres	Working with MHST (Mental health support
	team)



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

2. Partnership with parents and carers

		On a stallationalization of a supervised as a
Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		Î
We offer an open door policy where parents	The school website signposts parents to	If a child is on the Record of Need (priority
and carers are welcome any time to make an	specialised provision linked with specific	SEN) he or she has a provision map (PM)
appointment to meet with head teacher, the	areas of need. This is regularly updated,	which sets out individual targets. Parents,
class teacher or Senco to discuss how a	especially with updates of matters that link	child, class teacher and Senco discuss the
child is getting on. We can offer advice and	directly with the needs of children within the	targets and parents are given a copy of the
practical ways to help at home.	school, or County directives/ information.	PM if requested.
We believe that a child's education should	There is also a direct link to the school nurse.	Senco is across 2 schools Monday to Friday
be a partnership between parents and		An appointment can be made to see her via
teachers, Therefore we aim to keep		the school office or email.
communication channels open and		If advice is requested from outside the
communicate regularly, especially if a child		school – for example from an Educational
has special educational needs.		Psychologist or Speech and Language
Children take home a reading record book		Therapist – parents are informed, invited to
daily so that comments from parents and		complete a referral with the class teacher or
teacher can be shared and responded to when		Senco, and to meet the specialist and given
needed. Parents are also invited to comment		a copy of reports written.
in the homework books which all KS2 pupils		A list of services we currently work with is
have. All parents are asked to connect to		listed at the end of this report



((1 1 1 1



St John's Catholic Primary School

Class dojo, so that class and whole school	
communication can take place effectively.	
Formal parents'/carers' meetings are held	
towards the end of the autumn and spring	
terms.	
Other curriculum meetings may be held	
during the year.	
The school newsletter informs parents of	
information they need to know and it is	
published on the school dojo messaging	
system. It can be printed or emailed home if	
requested. This is a fortnightly publication.	
Each child receives a formal written report in	
July and parents are invited to respond to the	
teachers' comments.	
Parent governors seek to represent the	
views of parents on the governing body.	
Governors are available to parents on request.	
The school secretary is available to daily to	
respond to parents' queries.	
Technology is used to promote cohesion	
between parents and school e.g. the school	
website, Class Dojo.	



St John's Catholic Primary School

3.	The	curriculum

Whole school approaches.	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		R
The Early Years curriculum forms the basis	Within each class, there is daily targeted	Teachers and teaching assistants work
of work in the EYFS class.	support for groups of pupils in Literacy	collaboratively to make adaptations to the
From Year 1 we teach all subjects of the	and maths.	curriculum for individuals who may need it
National Curriculum and Religious Education	If required, social and emotional needs are	to enable the school to be fully inclusive.
to all pupils The RE follows a Catholic strategy,	supported so that all children's behaviour	Children with SEN are included in all areas
in line with our Academy directive. In the	and learning behaviours can be encouraged	of the curriculum wherever possible. For
mornings, we focus on	and nurtured.	instance, specific arrangements may be made
reading, writing and mathematics Our	EYFS and KS1 run a streamed phonics	for a child with autism who finds assemblies
curriculum is topic based according to the	program daily. Where required, pupils in KS2	difficult, so that he or she can participate
government's 2014 revised national	can access these groups at their level.	alongside peers. Individual arrangements
curriculum. This is taught supported in some	Following termly assessments, intervention	may be required when there are off-site
instances with the Cornish Inspire curriculum,	is provided to support pupils who need to	activities or residential visits (camps). For
although some subjects are	make accelerated progress.	example, special travel arrangements are
taught discretely. Each class covers 3 – 6	Pupil Premium money is used to support	made for pupils who require wheelchair
topics per year (this can be found on the	these children (allocation of funds can be	access. Guidance from
school website, in addition to half termly	seen on website)	relevant professionals is taken into
curriculum letters sent home to parents)		account. For instance, if the needs relate
During the year there are times when		to a physical or medical condition, health
national initiatives such as book		





Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

week or Fairtrade fortnight generate
activities throughout the school. There are also
religious events such as May procession, Lent
that generate a change to our curriculum. We
also celebrate Other Faiths, as a whole school
two terms a year, and Universal Church in the
third term Extracurricular activities on site
take place after school or during lunch times.
These change throughout the year and are
aimed at specific year groups.

specialists' advice is followed, and the curriculum is adapted to accommodate this. This can be identified on individual provision maps for all pupils with priority SEN.



St John's Catholic **Primary School**

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

4. Teaching and learning 1.4/1

Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		<u>Î</u>
All work within class is pitched at an	In EYFS and Key Stage 1,	Children who are priority SEN
appropriate level so that all children are	children are divided into groups for the	will have specific provision aimed at their
able to access according to their specific	daily streamed phonics learning.	needs; for example:
needs and abilities. Typically this might	In Key Stage 2 Phonics sessions are taught	Precision teaching, Daily reading,
mean that in a lesson there would be three	where appropriate. Spelling, Punctuation	Dyslexia-supportive resources. The provision
different levels of work set for the class;	and Grammar lessons (SPaG) are also	is flexible and could be long-term and
however on occasions this can be individually	taught, and there is some ability grouping	on-going or for a limited period. In cases
differentiated. Lessons are adapted to enable	at these times.	where the need is greatest (those with a
curriculum access for EAL pupils. Teachers	We offer a wide range of reading support. In	statement of SEN or an EHC Plan), children
follow a continuous cycle of planning,	addition to our core scheme, we offer	will have additional support in the form of
assessing and reviewing lessons to ensure	supplementary reading material to support	teacher or teaching assistant time. This may
progress of all pupils.	pupils who find learning more challenging,	be 1:1 or small group, usually within but
The benefit of this type of differentiation	and a graded free reading books selection	sometimes outside the class. Advice and
is that all children can access a lesson and	for more able readers.	guidance from outside agencies is taken into
learn at their level. Regular assessments are	Funfit – a programme to develop gross and	consideration when meeting the needs of
made to track progress. Pupil progress	fine motor skills - is provided for specific	these pupils.
meetings are held termly, to discuss strategies	children, selected by teachers – if school	We have a sensory and quiet room, in
to support progress for pupils who are causing	concerns, parents – if there are specific	addition to other quiet spaces. This is set up
a concern.		to meet the specific needs of a pupil with





The marking of children's work in Key Stages 1 and 2 gives clear indication of successful learning, and guidance for next steps needed to make progress. Building Learning Power is a whole school initiative, to promote and encourage successful learning skills.	issues identified at home, or following specialist advice.	 complex and severe needs, following advice from specialists. This can also be a calm/ quiet area for pupils with emotional or other needs that would benefit from this space. We have a lift or ramps to facilitate mobility for wheelchair users to all areas on site, inside and outdoors. We offer an adapted cloakroom for personal care for pupils who require this. Specific resources may be provided such as sensory cushions, coloured reading overlays, sloping desks or computers.
		We have created a variety of learning zones/ areas, to support small group/ individual
		learning situations.



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

5. Self-help skills and independence

	-	
Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
We aim for children to become independent	Social skills sessions may be held for	We recognise that children who have
learners, well prepared for the secondary	particular groups of children. Trained staff	particular needs – linked to learning,
phase of education when they leave	are available within the school.	physical, behaviour or emotional
St John's School in Year 6. Children are	Within the class, teachers and teaching	difficulties – will need additional and
expected to take more responsibility for	assistants encourage independence,	specific support. Nevertheless, the
their own learning, their behaviour and their	especially if there is a danger of children	expectation is that children learn to be as
possessions as their age increases. Within	becoming over reliant on support.	independent as possible. This is achieved
each class, monitors take responsibility for	We offer a life skills intervention (linked to	through clear guidance as to what is
different jobs. A vote is taken for	areas of the curriculum) to support children	expected and emphasis on the child's use
representatives from each on the School	who have difficulties managing age-related	of strategies which will help to achieve
Council and eco warriors (KS2). In Year 6	self-help/ independence.	this. We have skilled learning mentors to
children	We offer a communication intervention to	support individual children within the
a Head boy and Head girl are voted by staff.	support effective speaking and listening (for	classroom as much as possible. During play
Children fulfil the role of servers at lunch	pupils with EAL, and for children with social	and lunch breaks members of staff
Times and support EYFS at playtimes.	and emotional barriers to effective	monitor children who find these times
Trips and camps, especially residential	communication)	particularly difficult.
visits, promote the skills of independence.		Some children are given additional
Good behaviour for learning in classrooms is		technology support such as laptops and
		adapted computers to facilitate





Emphasised, and encouraged via 3 simple and encompassing whole school rules. There are monitors in each class and other responsibilities around the school undertaken by pupils. Children contribute to the selection of charities to support throughout the year, and contribute to the organising of fund-raising. We are a Fairtrade school, and annually participate in Fairtrade fortnight, with close liaison with the local Fairtrade lead for the	independence. Back chaining is used and offered as support for parents to support independent dressing. We have an intimate care policy and intimate care plans for children who require support with this.
town.	





Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

6. Health, wellbeing and emotional support

Whole school approaches The universal offer to all children and YP	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and provision



St John's Catholic Primary School

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Personal, Social and Health Education	The 'Friendship Bench' is set up to help	There are teaching assistants and
(PSHE) and Citizenship is taught across the	children to mix socially at break times.	teachers in the school who have an
curriculum and isn't necessarily taught in a	Healthy eating is encouraged.	expertise in supporting children with
separate subject or in isolation.	Parents are asked to provide a healthy	emotional and social difficulties, and
All classes have 'Circle Times' when children	packed lunch, and new parents are provided	bereavement. Some of
listen to each other and make feelings	with information of how to provide this.	these children may be offered 1:1 or small
known.	A trained member of staff is available to	group opportunities to help them with
All children have access to meditation/ prayer	support children suffering from loss.	specific difficulties.
journal daily, and access to this as required	Bereavement. This information is available on	We have staff trained in Draw and Talk to
The School Council is a forum when children's	the school website.	support individual children with significant
views can be expressed by their peers.	A trained Pastoral support worker is	behaviour difficulties due to social and
We have a weekly celebration assembly in	timetabled to support children weekly, and	emotional difficulties.
addition to prayerful liturgical whole school	some informal opportunities can be provided	The school nurse is available to discuss
gatherings.	when the need arises.	health issues with a family. This is on the
A Parent Support Advisor, is	An experienced member of staff leads social	SEN page of the website.
Available to all parents, and this information is	stories sessions, to support children with	If a child has a specific health need, we
available on the school website.	difficulties in everyday situations.	make special arrangements for this if
A healthy lifestyle is embedded in the	We have two trained Thrive/ TIS practitioners	possible.
curriculum.	to support children with social and emotional	Working with MHST
Extra curricular clubs encourage children to	difficulties.	We have 2 SMHL and 3 TIS practitioners
lead a full and active life.		



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

7. Social Interaction opportunities

Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		<u> </u>
Residential opportunities take place for	Play leaders from older KS2 classes	For the minority of children for whom
Y 4, 5 and 6 pupils.	organise lunch time games and activities.	there is a significant and different need,
Extra-curricular activities can offer	Social skills groups may take place when the	outside agencies are involved.
opportunities to interact with children from	need arises.	1:1 supervision at break times and trips
all classes.	Play leaders interact with younger children.	may be employed.
Circle time allows children to raise social	Participation in the local schools multi-skills	2 members of staff trained Lego play therapy
issues.	sport event, and an extra-curricular annual	Social stories
Daily activities in each class involve social	sports event for fellow academy schools in	
interaction – e.g. paired or group discussion	the diocese provides opportunities to join	
is an integral part of many lessons.	other schools, in competitive and	
Events which involve school, community and	non-competitive contexts.	
Parish events (such as Trevithick day, harvest	Life Skills is an intervention that takes place	
festival and Parish events) promote interaction	every week: whereas this is linked to the	
across the age groups.	curriculum, the focus is to support positive	
We recognise the importance of anti-bullying	and effective social interactions.	
strategies at all times but these are		
particularly highlighted during Anti-bullying		
Week.		





The pros and dangers of internet safety are recognised and particularly highlighted during Internet safety week, or when national concerns are raised. Parents and grandparents are invited to	
share school events, such as end of year	
social, sports day, harvest shared supper	



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

8. The physical environment (accessibility, safety and positive learning environment).

Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		R
The school is single storey. There is a lift and	Children are encouraged to start the year	Specific resources and adaptations to
ramps which make all areas on site – indoor and	setting out a class charter, aimed at keep all	the school are made in the case of
outdoor - accessible to everyone including	children safe and happy in school	individual need.
people in wheelchairs. The outdoor	Children's concerns are responded to –	Specific arrangements are made for
learning classroom in the school grounds is an	e.g is raised with School Council	individual pupils – e.g in the case of
alternative environment to the main school.		allergies or other medical conditions. All
There are 2 toilets adapted for disabled people: 1		staff are aware of pupils with medical
for adults, and one for pupils. The latter also is		needs: photos and information is available
adapted for personal care.		within each class.
The outside area is accessible to all as a play and learning environment. There is a		Specific risk assessments are made for some individual pupils – e.g. when
playground, gardens, soft play area, wooden		swimming or when going on trips outside
adventure play area and seating. A variety of		the school.
resources such as large construction		
equipment can be used for imaginative play on		
the school field. We also provide music (classical		
or pop) at lunchtimes		
Rules about behaviour and risk assessments		
make the building and grounds as safe as		





possible. There are trained first aiders in case of injury. Opportunities to use the outdoor environment	
are taken.	
Our creative curriculum reflects the world	
around us and displays reflect a range of	
people, religions and cultures.	
We are fortunate in having spacious and well laid out grounds. 'Small equipment 'activities at	
lunch times allow children to make the most of	
them.	



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

9. Transition from year to year and setting to setting

Whole school approaches	Additional, targeted support and provision	Specialist, individualised support and
The universal offer to all children and YP		provision
		· •
The EYFS Teacher liaises with pre-school	For groups of children who need	The Senco liaises with pre-school staff
staff prior to transition, and other settings.	additional transition support, this will be	and with the Sencos of secondary schools
The EYFS and Year 1 teachers	organised with the receiving school.	to which children transfer. If children
provide structured opportunities to make	Sports events and festivals (e.g. Inclusion	transfer to or from St John's school
transition smooth.	events) prepare children for secondary	during the year, contact will be made with
'Meet the teacher' sessions at the beginning of	school.	relevant Sencos of those schools.
each academic year give parents the	The EYFS teacher, and when appropriate,	For individual children who need
opportunity to ask questions.	the Senco visits children in	additional transition support, this will be
Children meet and spend time with their new teachers during the summer term.	settings other than the on-site preschool, prior to admission.	planned with the receiving school or within our school.
The Y6 teacher liaises with representatives of		For children who have a statement or
all secondary schools to which children		EHCP, particular focus at Year 5 and
transfer.		Year 6 is given to transition
Pre-school children have planned opportunities		arrangements, during their annual review.
to come into the EYFS class prior to		A teacher from the receiving school is
formal entry. Parents are involved in this		always invited to take part in the process.
process.		Possible transition difficulties may be
Planned transition activities take place during		addressed through a child's PM.
the summer term with each receiving school.		





Parents are informed about these and may	SENCo and next class teacher end of year
have the opportunity to become involved.	meetings for all children with PM



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

10. The SEND qualifications of our SENDCo

To enable all children to have access to the curriculum, information and guidance, physical	To enable targeted support and provision	To enable specialist, individualised support and provision
environment, school and wider community		
Mrs Frances Lobban	Mrs Frances Lobban	Mrs Frances Lobban
"The National Award for SEN coordination" 2012	"The National Award for SEN coordination"	"The National Award for SEN coordination"
	2012	2012
TIS	TIS	TIS
SMHL	SMHL	SMHL



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

11. Services and organisations that we work with:

Service/organisation	What they do in brief	Contact details
Early Help hub	Advice for referrals to multi-agency support	earlyhelphub@cornwall.gov.uk
MARU (multi-agency referral unit)	Concerns for safety and wellbeing of children	0300 1231 116
Educational Psychology Service	Educational Psychologists assess and observe children and assist school with meeting the needs of identified children on the Record of Need. They may write reports following a visit. When an Educational Psychologist sees a child in school, parents are informed and usually invited to a meeting. Educational psychologists also give training to teachers.	Zadie Cohen jennifer.zaidi-cohen@cornwall.gov.uk
Speech and Language Therapy Service (SaLT)	Speech and Language Therapists assess children to determine their speech and language difficulties and review progress. Goal sheets and advice are provided for schools and parents.	Tessa Welsh tessa.welsh1@nhs.net
Occupational Therapy Dept, RCH	Occupational Therapists observe and assess the needs of specific children and give advice as to the support needed at school and at home. Sometimes they provide specialist equipment.	Royal Cornwall Hospital Treliske Truro TR1 3LJ
CDC	Children with early Age diagnosis of SEND	Dolphin House, Royal Cornwall Hospital Treliske Truro TR1 3LJ
Physiotherapy Dept, RCH	Physiotherapists observe and assess the needs of specific children in terms of physical development and	Royal Cornwall Hospital Treliske



St John's Catholic Primary School

	give advice as to the support needed at school and at home. They may provide a programme of exercises to follow.	Truro TR1 3LJ
School Nurse team	Medical support for children	01872 322779
Vision Support	All children in the Reception Year have a vision screening test. Professionals offer. advice to overcome barriers to education caused by loss of vision.	Through Cornwall Council's Children, Schools and Families department <u>http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and</u> learning/speci al-education-needsdisabilities-inclusion-(sendi)- services/vision-support-team/ Vision Support Team: <u>vision.support@cornwall.gov.uk</u>
Augmentative and Alternative Communication Team	Support for children who need support communicating	Augmentative and Alternative Communication Team: <u>aacsupport@cornwall.gov.uk</u>
Cognition and learning	Support for pupils with learning difficulties, including Downs syndrome, duslexia	Cognition and Learning Service: cognitionandlearning@cornwall.gov.uk
Physical and Medical Needs	This service offers support for children who have a physical disability and may provide special equipment.	Physical and Medical Needs Advisory Service: <u>physicalandmedicalneeds@cornwall.gov.uk</u> Melinda Leishman <u>melinda.leishman@cornwall.gov.uk</u>
Hearing Support	All Year 1 children have a vision screening test. Professionals offer to work with children in school and provide advice linked to educational issues arising from hearing difficulties. Pupils with auditory difficulties are supported by a named teacher of the deaf	Through Cornwall Council's Children, Schools and Families department http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-andlearning/speci al-education-needsdisabilities-inclusion-(sendi)- services/hearing-support-team/ Hearing Support Team: hearing.support@cornwall.gov.uk



St John's Catholic Primary School

		Luke Wilkes Teacher of the Deaf Sensory Support Service Children's Health and Wellbeing Together for Families Cornwall Council luke.wilkes@cornwall.gov.uk
The ASD Team	Support for children with a diagnosis of ASD and their families	Katie Frampton kframpton@cornwall.gov.uk
Autism Advisors	Assess and observe children and assist school and families in meeting the needs of children with autism.	ASD assessment team Royal Cornwall Hospital Treliske Truro TR1 3LJ
Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS)	Professionals assess children who have been referred to them for an emotional or health need. They diagnose conditions such as ADD or ADHD. Support is sometimes provided for schools and families following diagnosis.	Children's Services Care Management Centre Truro Health Park Infirmary Hill Truro TR1 2JA
Medical professionals	GPs and paediatricians may provide reports for schools which give information and sometimes guidance.	
Social Care	Children and families may have a family support worker who can offer support at home and/or at school.	
Healthy Schools Team	Provide INSET/ resources to support Healthy Schools	Healthy Schools Partners: Kate Pordage and Jilly Parkinson The Kernow Building Wilson way Pool TR15 3QE
SEN Assessment and Provision Team	EHCP and annual Reviews for children with SEND	Rupert Lawler (Area Casework Officer) rupert.lawler@cornwall.gov.uk





Cornwall SENDiass SCIP	Parent partnership for parents of children with SEND Support for children with difficulties at home	01736 751921 07511 633935
Mental Health Support Team (MHST)	Support for children with emerging SEMH difficulties	Heather Neville heather.neville@nhs.net
Cornwall Association of Primary Heads (CAPH) SEND	Updates for SEND in Cornwall, networking with support	Ian Bruce Strategic Leadership Support
group	agencies and other SENDCos	Cornwall Association Of Primary Heads (CAPH)
		Tel: 01726 212892 Mob: 07860 146774
		ian@caph.org.uk



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

Answers to Frequently asked Questions

1 How does your school know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

Teachers continuously assess pupils' progress, through their performance in class on a daily basis and through more formal means such as tests. Children whose level of attainment is below that which is expected and is a cause for concern are identified. Some children arrive at school with a diagnosis of a specific condition (e.g. Down Syndrome or Asperger's Syndrome). If it is felt that the child's difficulties need to be addressed through an individual education plan, this will be discussed with parents/carers. If parents/carers have concerns, they are encouraged to discuss these with the class teacher, sence and/or headteacher.

2. Who is responsible for the progress and success of my child in school? Class teachers, supported by teaching assistants plan for and monitor the progress of pupils.

The headteacher takes an active role in ensuring all pupils do as well as they can in school and the Senco has

a particular responsibility for monitoring the progress of those designated as having special educational needs. Success at school also depends upon the nurture given by parents and carers.

3. How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

The the Curriculum 2014 school follows National set the Department for education out bv https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum. The school follows the God Matters strategy for religious education as directed by CAST. Teachers take account of the range of abilities and individual needs when planning

for their class so that appropriate support can be put in place where it is needed – for instance a child with a physical disability may need a supporting adult during a p.e. lesson. In literacy and maths and other lessons where needed, work is differentiated by the teacher to suit different abilities. Teaching assistants are deployed to give additional support to groups or individuals.

4. How will school staff support my child?



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

The type of support given will depend on the age of child and his or her particular need and circumstances. All school staff do their best to help children to become confident and independent – academically and socially.

5. How will I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

Annual written reports are sent out at the end of the summer term. There are formal meetings in the autumn and spring terms. Parents and carers of children who are on the school's record of need are invited to meetings each term to review progress and set new targets. The school's website includes ways to support children at home. Parents or carers who wish to discuss specific issues relating to their children are welcome to make an appointment to see

the class teacher, headteacher or senco.

6. What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

The school motto is 'in Jesus we live, love and learn together'. This encompasses the whole of the school community. All staff, including lunchtime supervisors, co-operate and collaborate to ensure

that every child thrives. We respond to parents'/carers' concerns. Where a specific need has been identified – e.g for emotional support, a mentoring programme can be put in place.

7. How do I know that my child is safe in school?

Health and Safety is a school priority. Statutory checks are made of the building and equipment. Fire drills are held regularly. Policies on bullying and safeguarding are implemented. Governors make routine investigations.

8. What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by your school?

Please refer to the relevant section of the school's offer

9. What SEND training have the staff at school had or are having?

Senco has achieved the national award for SEN coordination. Termly SENCo networks provide updates and sharing of good practice. Staff training is annually updated. During the last two years, whole staff training has included positive behaviour management

10. How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

As an inclusive school, we expect every child to take part in all the activities planned for the class. If adaptations need to be made – e.g for an extra adult to be included to support a pupil, the school puts this in place. If participation in an event or activity outside the school is likely to put



St John's Catholic Primary School

Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

the child or others at unacceptable risk (for instance because the child is likely to disobey safety rules), parents or carers will be consulted as to the course of action.

11. How accessible is the school environment?

Please refer to section section 8 of the school's offer

12. How will school prepare and support my child through the transition from key stage to key stage and beyond? Please refer to section section 8 of the school's offer

13. How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?

Decisions are made by the headteacher, in consultation with senior management team and governors.

12. How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?

Children who have a Statement of Educational Needs (currently being phased out) or Education Health and Care Plan will normally have a number of hours teaching assistant support, depending on the level of need. Children who have been identified as having special educational needs receive additional support from the teachers, teaching assistants or senco. Decisions about deployment of staff are made at classroom level by the teacher. The headteacher, in consultation with senior management team, makes decisions about staffing within the budget available. A collaborative approach is employed

about the type and level of support. Each half term, every pupil on the record of need is discussed by staff. Adaptations to the support is flexible and may be increased or decreased. Programmes such as Funfit run for a specific number of weeks for a limited number of children most likely to benefit.

13. Who can I contact for further information?

Acting Headteacher (Nicky Teixeira), Senco (Fran Lobban), SEN Governor (Charles West)

14. What should I do if I feel that the Local Offer is not being delivered or is not meeting your child's needs?

Please contact the headteacher or a governor to make your concerns known. Alternatively, contact Parent Partnership on 01736 751 921

15. How is your local offer reviewed?

The school's local offer will next be formally reviewed by staff and governors annually. Parents and carers are welcome to contribute to this review. If matters arise before the date of the formal review, please contact the Headteacher or SENCo.





Interim Headteacher: Mrs N Armstrong

Cornwall's Local Offer can be found on The Cornwall Family Information Services (FIS) website: <u>http://cornwall.childrensservicedirectory.org.uk</u>

The Governing Body approved this SEN Local Offer in summer 2025