

## **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Useful Information Lockyer's Middle School**



Lockyer's Middle School has high aspirations for all pupils, including those identified as having Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). The Academy Committee Members and staff at Lockyer's Middle School are committed to offering an inclusive curriculum to ensure the best possible progress for all pupils whatever their needs, abilities and learning differences.

We strive to ensure that all pupils achieve their best, that they become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and make a successful transition into adulthood, whether in employment, further or higher education or training.

For the majority of pupils, their needs will be met by our provision of a well-balanced, carefully planned and differentiated curriculum in which skilled and diverse teaching strategies are employed. Some pupils will require some degree of extra support in their learning for varying periods of time, according to their level of need. Lockyer's Middle School recognises that some pupils will need more specialist and targeted support to engage fully in school life and meet their full potential if they are experiencing emotional or mental health difficulties, or have a specific learning difficulty or physical disability. These pupils will be offered a more personalised programme to learning.

Pupils with SEND are included in all areas of our school life wherever possible; including all activities before and after school and every chance is taken for pupils with additional needs and those without to work alongside one another. Discussion with parents/carers always takes place if school staff consider that a pupil cannot take part in an activity due to health and safety reasons.

### **The Role of Lockyer's Middle School in Supporting Pupils with SEND**

- At Lockyer's Middle School we believe that all pupils should make the best possible progress. Where there are barriers to learning, we aim to remove them through a variety of strategies and interventions.
- In consultation with staff, parents/carers and outside agencies we aim to identify all pupils with SEND as quickly as possible so that we can ensure appropriate provision.
- We seek to create an atmosphere of encouragement, acceptance, and respect of achievements and sensitivity to individual needs, in which all pupils can thrive.
- Pupils with SEND will generally be taught alongside their peers in mainstream lessons, with appropriate scaffolding or differentiation and support to enable pupils to access the curriculum. There will be occasions when it will be more beneficial to withdraw the pupil for additional support. Every effort will be made to offer access to the whole curriculum.
- At Lockyer's Middle School we do our best to ensure that pupils with SEND take part in and contribute fully to school life wherever practically possible.
- We work in partnership with parents/carers to support pupils with SEND and ensure that pupils and their parents/carers are involved in the decisions that affect their education.
- We work to promote effective partnerships with outside agencies and feeder schools.

### **The Role Parents/Carers have in Supporting their Child**

At Lockyer's Middle School we believe that parents/carers are the essential support that pupils need to reach their full potential. Therefore, we encourage parents to speak to staff as regularly as required. As well as engaging in school events parents are involved in their child's education by:

- Attending parent's evenings
- Discussing identified 'Challenges to Learning'
- Contributing to their child's 'SEN Support Plan'
- Receiving written pupil reports
- Supporting their child to complete daily deliberate practice through homework tasks
- Invitations to discuss, plan and review future support for those pupils with additional needs.

### **The Role of SEND Pupils in their Education**

Pupils have opportunities on a daily basis to discuss their feelings, thoughts and any concerns with their form tutor. They also have a Head of Year to support them if needed. Teaching assistants are assigned to each year group and provide important daily support. Pupils are made aware of the level at which they are working at and where they are expected to be. Pupils with SEND are given the opportunity to review their support and discuss with staff how they feel they need to improve further.

### **SEN Support**

In accordance with the Code of Practice (*July 2014*), Lockyer's Middle School adopts a 'graduated response' to SEN, which recognises the importance of early identification and a timely, effective response. The Code of Practice describes this response as SEN Support.

### **What Happens on SEN Support?**

When the need for some intervention is identified, teachers will ensure that learning remains accessible through adaptations to their class teaching including:

- Additional scaffolding or differentiation as part of whole class teaching
- Adaptations to planning
- Adapted resources
- Targeted use of teaching assistant support

In addition, in some circumstances, a time-limited, appropriately targeted intervention may also be put in place. The intention of the intervention is to:

- Increase rates of progress
- Put pupils back on course to meet or exceed national expectations
- Support whole class lessons, or be built into mainstream lessons as part of guided work

Interventions can take place in or outside of the classroom. They provide structured one-to-one or small group support, which are monitored and evaluated for impact, and delivered by teachers or appropriately skilled teaching assistants.

If following a period of intervention significant concerns remain about the pupil's progress or development, a discussion will be held with the parents/carers and class/subject teachers. If it is found that the pupil continues work at levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age, this discussion is likely to result in a decision to involve professionals from outside agencies. These may offer to:

- Support and advise teachers on different approaches
- Provide more specialist assessments that can inform planning and the measurement of a pupil's progress
- Give advice on the use of new or specialist strategies or materials

## **Education Health and Care Plans**

Where the school has evidence that any strategy or intervention has been implemented for a reasonable period of time without success and that alternatives have been tried, it may be decided to request the Local Authority to carry out an Education, Health and Care needs assessment.

## **Further Information and Policies**

For further information about SEND at Lockyer's Middle School please view our SEND Policy. The SEND Policy complies with the statutory requirement laid out in the SEND Code of Practice 0 to 24 (*July 2014*) and has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (*DfE May 2014*)
- SEND Code of Practice 0 to 25 (*July 2014*)
- Schools SEN Information Report Regulations (*2014*)

Additional documents that may be of some interest and can be viewed in the policies section of the website include:

- Administering Medicines
- Equality Policy
- SEND Policy

Further information regarding the support and opportunities Dorset County Council offer can be found at [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com) and details of the school's local offer can be found by following the link in the 'Key Information' - 'Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information' - 'Useful Links and Documents' before selecting 'Dorset Local Offer.'

## **Contact Information**

If a parent/carer has a concern the first port of call is their child's form tutor. An appointment can be arranged in the form of a telephone call or face-to-face meeting.

The Special Educational Co-ordinator (SENCO) is happy to meet parents by appointment to discuss the individual needs of their child. If a parent/carer has questions or concerns relating to SEND they should contact:

Mrs J. Adams (SENCO) through the school office, or email: [j.adams@lockyersmiddle.org](mailto:j.adams@lockyersmiddle.org)