



Norton Fitzwarren Church School Special Educational Needs (SEN) Information Report



This report was originally developed in consultation with our School Governors, a group of parents of pupils in our school and representatives from our school council. It is reviewed annually.

Our job is to help your child achieve the very best they can at school. You know your child best and you may feel that they need some additional help or support for some or all of their time at school.



This report is to inform you of the types of support available to your child at Norton Fitzwarren Church School. It will help you to understand who can help and how this support can be accessed.

How do you know if your child needs extra help?

All children at Norton Fitzwarren Church School are monitored closely by their class teachers. This is done through regular observations and assessments, as well as through termly Pupil Progress Meetings which are planned to discuss individual needs and progress.

We use this information to identify and support children with additional needs in any of the 4 broad areas of need:

- Communication & Interaction
- Physical and Sensory
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health.

Initially, it is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure needs are being met within the classroom. If the class teacher feels the child still isn't making the required progress, they will discuss this with parents first and then with the Special Education Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) if needed. Assessments may be carried out and, if necessary, a referral can be made to external agencies (with your consent).



How will the school support my child?

The class teacher is responsible for your child's education. They will plan and provide more individualised work for your child if needed, or adapt class tasks to enable your child to access the learning. Class teachers will use the [Somerset Graduated Response Tool](#) to support them when planning for your child's needs.

Our SENDCo, James Smith coordinates the support and progress of any child on our SEN register. You should know if your child is on this register, and it simply means that Mr Smith, our SENDCo is overseeing their provision. Any intervention/support that your child is receiving will be explained to you at your parent consultation meetings. Three times a year, you will also receive an individual pupil passport detailing interventions and support your child is receiving that term.



James Smith, SENDCo

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

As a school we are committed to providing quality first teaching. Observation, marking and assessment inform teachers' planning to ensure all work is accurately pitched at an appropriate level. It also ensures that any barriers to learning are considered to ensure all children are able to make individual progress within lessons.

Where SEN support is needed, an individual pupil passport will be created with your child. The child will be asked about what they enjoy and feel they are good at as well as the areas they find challenging. They will also be asked about what helps them with their learning.

How will I know how my child is doing?

The school uses a system named Arbor to record progress and attainment within core subjects. Interventions are also tracked and monitored for impact.

If a class teacher is concerned about a child's progress, they will arrange a meeting with you to discuss their concerns.

You will be updated on your child's progress at parents' evenings which are held twice a year as well through your child's annual school report.

Children with complex needs or in those with an [Education, Health and Care plans \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education/education-health-and-care-plans/) will also have a SEND Support Review/Annual Review meeting to inform and plan for next steps. These meetings will provide you with the opportunity to discuss your child's pupil passport or medical care plan if they have one.

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

In addition to the support received for academic subjects, there is a range of pastoral support available.

We are a THRIVE school and this is reflected and embedded in all we do. As well as whole class support, we also work with children either individually or within a small group to support them with any social, emotional, mental health needs. Our qualified Thrive Practitioner is Mrs Gemma Hill.



Mrs Gemma Hill

You can find out more about Thrive [here](#).



As well as her Thrive Practitioner role, Gemma is also our Pastoral Engagement Officer. She is able to offer advice/support/signposting to help with any of the following:

- Parenting support
- Financial advice/support
- Housing advice/support
- Links between home and school

If you feel your family would benefit from support, please email the school office and someone will get back to you for an initial discussion.

What are the specialist services that the school can access?

When a child has a specific need, we seek advice from external professionals such as Educational Psychologists and the Somerset Advisory Teachers. We also access advice for children with physical impairments and medical conditions, including hearing and vision support through the Access and Assistive Technology Team.

In addition to these, we refer children to Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, the School Nursing team, CAMHS and the school Mental Health Support Team via the NHS when needed.

Who might work with my child?

A range of outside professionals may be consulted to provide support or advice to help us to meet your child's needs. For further information on the services available, please look at this link on the Somerset Council website: [Find SEND services](#)

What training is provided for support staff who work with children with SEN?

Adults who work with individuals or groups of children on interventions in school will have received training to deliver the sessions. These sessions are overseen by the class teacher and the SENDCo to monitor the progress of the children. The extent and level of training provided depends on the nature of a child's needs and the intervention being provided.



How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children's SEN needs?

We ensure that all children who have additional needs are supported to the best of the school's ability with the funds available. This may include specialist equipment and/or facilities. We have a team of teaching assistants who are funded from the SEN budget to provide support and to deliver interventions where needed.

A small number of children are eligible for high needs top up funding which the school can use to provide additional support/resources within the child's setting.

How accessible is our school?

The school site is wheelchair accessible and there are changing facilities and accessible toilets. All children have the right to access class trips and after school clubs where it is safe for them to do so.

For those children with additional needs, adaptations can be discussed, for example, additional adult support, alternative travel arrangements, or alternative arrangements for the administration of medicines to support them in taking a full part in school life. For more information, please see our separate Accessibility Plan.

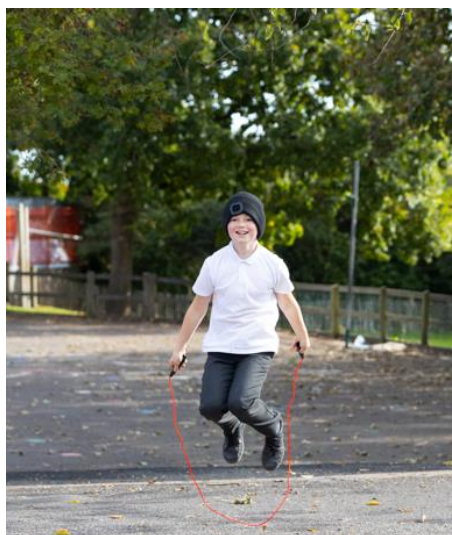


How will the School support my child's transitions to a new setting?

Prior to starting in Reception, children previously identified as having a high level of Special Educational Needs will have a School Entry Planning meeting. This will be attended by parent/carers, pre-school staff, school staff and any external professionals involved in supporting your child. Through discussion, an action plan is devised to make the transition to school as smooth as possible.

For children with a medical condition, this will include identifying staff training needs to ensure your child's needs are fully met. The Reception teacher, and/or the SENDCo, will also visit pre-schools to meet the children in a familiar setting. All children will be invited to attend settling-in sessions to ensure they are familiar with the staff and the setting in advance. Home visits are carried out by our Reception class teachers and teaching assistants and/or the SENDCo.

When moving to Secondary School, children in Year 6 with additional needs are discussed with the Secondary SENDCo once places have been allocated. Additional visits can be organised by the Secondary School for children with additional needs. If your child has complex needs, a SEND support Review meeting will take place and a representative from the secondary school will be invited to attend.



What should I do if I am concerned about my child?

- Speak to your child's teacher in the first instance.
- If you are still concerned, you can make an appointment to meet the SENDCo (James Smith) via email or phone through the school office.
- If you feel you need further support, please make an appointment with the Headteacher to discuss your concerns.
- If you still have concerns, you may contact Rosemary Maskell, our Chair of Governors via the school office.

For more information

Contact James Smith (SENDCo) on: 01823 276611 or email via:
enquiries@norton.bwmat.org

You can also view our SEN and accessibility policies on our website: [Norton Fitzwarren Church School - Home](#)

You can also contact [Somerset SENDIAS](#) (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support) on 01823 355578. They can give children, young people and their parent/carers information, advice and support about SEND. The service is free, confidential and impartial.

Signed by:

James Smith - SENDCo
Kelly Birt - Headteacher

Date: 23/09/2026