St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

Child Friendly Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy 2026-2027

Grow Achieve Belong
Together,
Nurtured in God's Love

St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

Mission Statement

Together, nurtured in God's love, we grow, achieve and belong

Together we grow in our love for Jesus and one another

Together we aspire to achieve the very best in all that we do

Together we belong to the community and share our gifts with everyone





Child Friendly SEND Policy

SEND = Special Educational Needs and Disability

2025-2026

We know every child is unique and special, but everyone should be treated fairly and kindly. Our teachers and learning helpers work hard to make sure we feel happy, supported, and included. They help us learn in ways that suit us best, giving extra support when we need it so everyone can do their best, no matter their strengths or challenges.

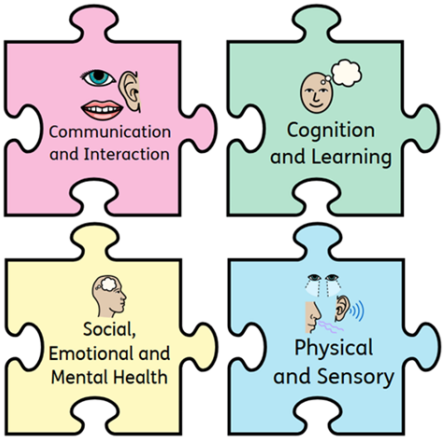
What are Special Educational Needs and Disabilities?

Special Educational Needs (often called SEN or SEND) means that some children need a little extra help with their learning. This might be because they find certain things harder, like reading, writing, understanding instructions, or making friends.

Everyone learns in different ways, and children with SEN just need some extra support to help them do their best. Teachers and helpers are there to make learning easier, fun, and right for each child.

What are the four areas of SEND?

The four areas of SEND help teachers understand the different ways children might need extra support at school.



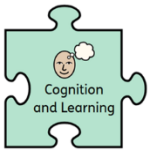


1. Communication and Interaction



This is about talking and listening. Some children might find it hard to understand what others say, or to share their own thoughts and feelings. They may need help with speaking, listening, or making friends.

2. Cognition and Learning



This is about learning new things. Some children might need extra time or different ways to help them read, write, count, or remember things.

3. Social, Emotional and Mental Health



This is about feelings and behaviour. Some children might feel worried, upset, or find it hard to manage their emotions. They may need support to feel calm, happy, and ready to learn.

4. Sensory and Physical Needs



This is about the body and senses. Some children might have difficulties with movement, sight, hearing, or how they experience things like sounds, lights, or textures. They may need special equipment or support to help them in school.

What do we want for our children at SJV?

Our aim is to make sure every child feels happy, safe, and included in our school. We want all children to enjoy learning and feel proud of what they can do. We will support each child in the way that works best for them, helping them grow in confidence, learn new skills, and achieve their very best every day.

- We listen to every child and value their ideas and feelings
- We help children learn in ways that suit them best
- We give extra support when it is needed
- We celebrate everyone's achievements, big or small
- We help children build confidence and independence
- We make sure everyone feels included and part of our school community

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Who can help?

If you need help, there are lots of kind people in school who are here for you!

You can talk to:

- **Your teacher** – they help you learn every day and can support you if you're finding something tricky
- **A teaching assistant or learning helper** – they work with you in class and give extra help when you need it
- **The SENCo** – this is a special teacher who makes sure children who need extra support get the right help
- **The Pastoral Manager** – this is a special person who you can share your worries and ask for help
- **A lunchtime supervisor** – they help keep you safe and happy during break and lunchtime
- **Any adult you trust in school** – they are always there to listen and help you feel safe

You can also talk to your friends or tell someone at home, like a parent or carer.

Remember, you are never alone. There is always someone ready to listen and help you.

Who is the SENCo and what do they do?



Mrs Mills is the SENCo at SJV.

A SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) is a teacher who helps make sure all children get the support they need to learn and feel happy at school.

Mrs Mills will help by:

- Making sure children who need extra help get the right support
- Talking to teachers about the best ways to help you learn
- Listening to you and your family if you have worries or need help
- Working with other adults to make school easier and more comfortable for you

The SENCo is there to make sure everyone has a fair chance to do their best and enjoy school.

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How can you help and be involved?

At SJV, you are an important part of your own learning adventure! You know yourself better than anyone, so telling your teachers and helpers how you feel or what's tricky can make a big difference. You can share your ideas about what helps you learn, try new ways of doing things, and set little goals to reach step by step. Your thoughts and feelings are important, and when you join in, learning becomes easier and more fun for you!



Here is how you can be involved:

- Tell adults if something is tricky or confusing
- Share what helps you learn best
- Try new ways of learning that are suggested to you
- Set small goals and celebrate when you reach them
- Give feedback about what is helping and what could be better
- Be involved in writing this policy

How can help you with changes and transitions?

Change and moving from one class to another, or starting something new, can feel a bit worrying. At SJV, we want to help you feel happy, safe, and ready for these changes. We can give you extra support so that moving to a new class, teacher, or school is easier.

We can help by:

- Talking to you about what will happen, so you know what to expect
- Showing you around your new classroom or school before you start
- Giving you a visual plan or timetable to see your day clearly
- Introducing you to your new teachers or helpers so you feel familiar with them
- Checking in with you to see how you're feeling and help if you're worried

Remember, it is okay to feel a little nervous, lots of children do, but we will be there to support you every step of the way.



How do school and families work together to support you?

At SJV, we know that children do best when school and home work together. Teachers, helpers, and your family all join forces to make sure you get the support you need. By talking to each other, sharing ideas, and working as a team, we can help you learn, feel happy, and reach your goals.



Here's how school and families work together:

- Teachers and parents talk to each other about what helps you learn best
- Families share information about what you like, what's tricky, and what makes you happy
- Everyone makes a plan together to give you the right support at school and at home
- We celebrate your achievements together and see how you're getting on
- Families and school check in regularly to make sure the support is helping

Remember, you are part of the team too and your thoughts and feelings are very important, and everyone wants to help you do your best.

How do we help children who have SEND at SJV?

At SJV, we help children with SEND learn in ways that suit them best. Everyone learns differently, so we make sure each child gets the support they need to understand lessons, join in with activities, and feel confident.

Here's how we help:

- Extra help in class – a teacher or helper can work with you on tricky things
- Different ways to learn – we use games, pictures, or hands-on activities to make learning easier
- Special equipment or resources – things like writing tools, computers, or visual aids can help you learn
- Working in small groups – sometimes learning in a small group makes it easier to focus and ask questions
- Listening to you – we ask what helps you learn best and use your ideas in your lessons

Our goal is to make sure every child can learn, have fun, and do their very best!

What happens if a child needs more help and support?

Sometimes, a child might need a little extra help to learn or feel happy at school. When this happens, teachers and helpers work together to make sure the child gets the right support.

Sometimes, this means asking other people outside of school who are experts in helping children.

We can ask for help from lots of different people and services. One of these is called TESSA, and they give our school advice on the best ways to help children learn and feel happy.



This policy was written together by the **teachers, helpers, and children at SJV**. That means the children helped write it, shared their ideas, and told us what is important to them, so it shows how everyone can work together to learn, feel happy, and get the right support.

The children involved in writing this policy are:

Skyler, Kaden, Isla, Reuben, Mason, Renesmee, Sienna, Elis, Tommy, Dylan, Ruby and Koby.



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