



SEND Useful Information

Lockyer's Middle School

Updated: September 2023



Special Education Needs and Disabilities

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 scaffolded 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 SEND Pupils

- 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, provisions 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 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 SEND 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 parents' evenings
- Discussing identified targets
- Accessing their child's live Learning Plan on the platform Provision Map and helping their child with identified home support strategies
- Receiving written pupil reports
- Providing support with home learning and recording reading completed
- Taking up any invitations to discuss, plan and review future support for 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 tutors. 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 as part of whole class teaching
- Adaptations to planning
- Targeted use of TA support

In addition, in some circumstances, a time-limited, appropriately targeted intervention may also be put in place. The intention of this 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 that take place outside the classroom 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 that has been implemented for the pupil in question has continued for a reasonable period of time without success and that alternatives have been tried, it may decide to request the local authority to carry out an Education, Health and Care needs assessment. This replaces the statutory Statement of Special Educational Needs from September 2014.

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 25 (*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 and details of the school's local offer can be found by following the link in the 'Community', 'useful links' section of our school website before selecting 'Local offer'.

Contact Information

If a parent/carers has a concern the first port of call is their child's form tutor. An appointment can be arranged either by emailing the school office at office@lockyersmiddle.org or by calling the school on 01202 692779.

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

Mrs J. Adams (SENCO) through the school office, or email jadams@lockyersmiddle.org.