



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel

SEND Information Report- 2025-26

Review September 2026



Introduction

This report helps you to understand how we support pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN). It has some Questions and Answers that parents ask. You can also read our school's SEN Policy document and School Provision map. They have more information about SEN in our school. If you want to find out about how we support children with a disability or medical conditions, please read our Disability Policy and Medical Conditions Policy.

Who can I talk to?

Here are the names of people in charge of SEN at our school

- Our Headteacher is Mr. Shillabeer
- Our Chair of Governors is Mrs Toni Hael
- Our Governor with responsibility for SEN is Mrs. Groves. She is also a Parent Governor
- Our SENDCO (teacher with responsibility for Special Educational Needs) is Mrs. Bissett
- Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr. Shillabeer.

Here are the contact details for our school:

Tel: 01934 732391

Email: office@axbridgefirstschool.co.uk

Our school website: <https://www.axbridgefirstschool.co.uk>

About our school and SEND

Our school is a Mainstream Academy School for children aged from 4 to 9 years old. We have a Nursery that is for younger children, aged from 2 to 4 years old. We are a member of the Wessex Learning Trust (WLT) which is a group of Academy Schools

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From time to time, children need extra help to make progress because they have a 'barrier' (difficulty) that stops them from learning at the same speed as other children. When this happens, we have different ways to help them keep up. This is explained in more detail in our SEN Policy.

Sometimes, pupils still do not make progress. When this happens, they need extra help that is additional to, or different from other children of the same age. This means that they are falling behind and are not making progress. They will have had extra help to keep up. We know that this can happen to children at any time when they are at school. Some of these children need extra help that continues throughout their time at school. Other children may need this for just one or two terms.

Children with SEN need support for different reasons. These include:

- A Specific Learning Difficulty e.g. Dyslexia (difficulty in Reading and Writing) or Dyscalculia (difficulty in Maths).
- A mental health or emotional difficulty that stops them from making progress.
- A difficulty in communication and interaction e.g. Autism, Hyperactivity, ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyper-Activity Disorder).
- Speech and language delay that needs speech therapy.
- A disability that also means that they need support to learn e.g. hearing impairment, cerebral palsy or sight impairment.
- An illness that impacts on their learning.

What should I do if I think that my child has SEN?

Please tell us if your child is starting school and has one of the following:

- An Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP).
- A physical disability.

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- A specific learning difficulty such as Dyslexia or Dyscalculia.
- A School Entry Plan (SEP).
- Has been diagnosed with, or may have a communication difficulty such as Autism.
- A mental health diagnosis or is having support from CAMHS or a councillor.
- An Early Help Assessment (EHA) that has been started by another school, healthcare professional or Social Services.

This will help us to work with you and begin to plan to meet the needs of your child.

If your child is already at our school, and you think that your child has SEN, you can:

- Talk to your child's teacher straight away.
- Then, make an appointment to speak to our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO).

What will the school do if they think that my child has SEN?

Our school has a pathway called, '**Graduated Response**'. This shows how we help pupils to catch up who are not making enough progress. This is called, '**narrowing the gap**'. You can read about how this works in our SEN Policy, or you can make an appointment to talk to us about how this works.

- We will talk with your child to find out about what they feel they are good at and what they think they need more help with. We will talk about what they want to do when they grow up and help them to find ways to work towards their goal. This is called, '**Pupil Voice**'. It is one of the ways that we make sure that we are an '**inclusive**' school.

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- We will talk to you and listen to your views and hopes that you have for your child. This is called, **'Parent Voice'**. It is another way that we are an **'inclusive'** school.
- Together, we will plan support for your child. We will set targets as part of the **Assess-Plan-Do- Review (APDR) Education Support Plan (ESP)** that we use to help all of our pupils with SEN.
- We will review the targets with you at least once a term to see if they are working. We do this by looking at your child's work, using tests to see if they are making progress and by keeping notes about work that your child does. All of this is shared with you. We talk to your child to get their views on how they think they are doing and what they think they need help with. Together, we decide what the **'next steps'** in your child's learning journey should be and identify new targets.
- You can ask to see the SENDCO and class teacher if you are worried about something or have questions or information you want to talk about.

How will my child be taught?

- All of our teachers have training to teach pupils with SEN in our school. This means that they adapt their lessons to meet the needs of pupils with SEN in their class. The SENDCO also helps teachers to do this. This is another way in which our school is **'inclusive'** because pupils with SEN can access lessons in the classroom.
- Your child will have an **A-P-D-R Individual Learning Plan**. You can find out more about this in the school's SEN Policy.
- We know that some pupils with SEN need individual support during the week so that they can have help with a specific difficulty. If this happens, we will discuss this with you. This is carried out by our teaching assistants. They are trained to work with pupils with SEN. They work with pupils during their normal lessons in the classroom and deliver programs outside of the

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classroom. They give feedback to the class teacher and make notes about how your child is doing. Sometimes, the SENDCO will ask them to carry out tests or assessments. This helps you, the class teacher and the SENDCO to make sure that your child is making progress. We make the tests fun and positive!

- We have a qualified teaching assistant who delivers Emotional Literacy Support (ELSA) to help pupils mental health and emotional difficulties.
- We have a School Provision map that shows you the different ways that we can work with your child. You can read about this in the school SEN Policy and see some examples of Provision Map support on the school's website.

Who else will work with my child?

- Sometimes, we will ask your permission to invite specialists to help us find ways to support your child. We do this by completing an **Early Health Assessment (EHA)** together.
- They visit the school to talk to you and work with your child. They tell us what else we can do to help your child learn. Here is a list of some people who visit our school: Educational Psychologist, Communication and Autism Advisory Teacher, Hearing and Visual Impairment Physiotherapist/Occupational Therapist, Physical Impairment team, Dietitian, Speech and Language Therapist.
- We also have other specialists who can help us with Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and behavioural and emotional difficulties.
- We work closely with medical specialists like the Community Nursing Team, G.P., Health Visitor and Paediatrician.
- We work closely with Social Services, CAMHS and the Police. Our Safeguarding Lead and SENDCO work together when a pupil with SEND has a Safeguarding need.

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What happens if my child makes a lot of progress?

- If your child makes lots of progress, this is called **'narrowing the gap'**. We will take your child's name off the school's SEN register. You will still have meetings with the class teacher and your child might still have some extra help in some areas. We will talk to you and explain how this works.

What happens if I think that my child is still not making progress?

- If we agree that your child is not making progress and needs more help, you can apply for an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP). We will help you to do this. There is more information about this in our School SEN Policy.
- If you are worried or want to complain, you can contact the school and ask to make an appointment. Use the contact details at the top of the report.

What if my child has SEN and is not able to attend school?

- Children with SEN still have to come to school. If you have problems with this, we will work with you to find ways to overcome this. Our aim is to always find a way to get your child back into school as soon as possible.
- If your child is ill, you must still tell the school.
- We have to share our concerns about attendance with other professionals. This might include Social Services or the Police.



What happens when my child leaves our school?

- We work with other schools to make sure that they know about your child's SEN. We have to share all of the information about your child's needs with the new school.
- We meet with you and talk about what the next school needs to know about your child; what works well, what help they have; who their friends if they are moving up the Middle School.
- We send a report and meet with the teacher or ring them.
- We make sure that all of your child's records are sent to the new school.
- If your child has help from specialist teachers, we tell them that your child is moving to a new school.
- We can organise extra visits for your child to visit their new school, if it is needed.
- If your child has an EHCP, we make sure that we follow the Local Authority Guidelines to help you find the right school for your child.

Where else can I find help for parents about SEN in Somerset?

You can find out more about SEN in Somerset from the **Somerset Local Offer**. This link is on the School's website.

[Somerset's SEND Local Offer](#)

We hope that you have found this information report helpful. If you have any other questions, please use the contact details at the top of the report to speak to us. Thank you.



Declaration

This information report is updated annually by the Head teacher, SENDCO, parents of pupils with SEN and the SEN Governor.

Signed



Dominic Shillabeer

Head teacher



Sarah Bissett

SENDCO

